



# Job posting: Counsellor, Families in Transition

---

## **Counsellor Families in Transition**

### **Permanent Part-time (0.6 FTE or 3 days per week) position.**

**3 days per week - Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, including one evening per week (no flexibility on days).**

We actively encourage applicants from all equity seeking groups especially those with lived experience from racialized and/or ethnic communities. Our goal is to attract, develop, and retain highly talented employees from diverse backgrounds allowing us to benefit from a wide variety of experiences and perspectives.

**November 24, 2016**

Family Service Toronto (FST) helps people face a wide variety of life challenges. For over 100 years, we have worked with individuals and families destabilized by precarious mental health and/or socioeconomic circumstances, to achieve greater resilience and stability in more just and supportive communities. We achieve this through our direct service work of intervention and prevention which includes counselling, peer support and education; knowledge building; and system-level work including social action, advocacy, community-building and working with partners to strengthen the sector.

**Families in Transition (FIT)**, a program of FST, provides services for families with a focus on separating/separated, divorcing/divorced and blended families. The core of FIT's work is to support child adjustment and adaptation to their family changes through counselling, group work and educational programming.

### **Key responsibilities:**

- Providing evidence-based interventions, including psycho-therapy, that focus on adult/child adjustment to significant changes in the family including:
  - individual and family counselling
  - leading or co-leading therapeutic/psycho-educational groups for children or parents
  - developing and leading educational workshops on topics such as reducing parent conflict, co-parenting relationships, child grieving, child-parent relationship
  - responding to urgent situations identified by clients (e.g. child welfare concerns, transfer issues, potential for harm to self or others, etc.)
- Provide brief and medium term counselling services
- Provide culturally competent counselling to a diverse population
- Provide abuse trauma specific counselling
- Provide general counselling that includes trauma
- Advocating for individual clients as well as identifying systemic issues that may arise
- Conducts community outreach related to the work of FIT and the wider organization

- Contributing to program development initiatives within the team and across programs
- Working collaboratively within the team and colleagues across the organization
- Preparing written clinical assessments, case notes and related data, and correspondence in accordance with agency expectations
- Ensuring the regular and timely recording of data as per agency and funder requirements
- Keeps the Manager informed of matters of potential risk to FST (e.g., clinical, financial, reputational, legal risks)

### **Qualifications:**

- MSW, MA (psychology), M.Ed or equivalent combination of education with a minimum 5 year period of experience. Foreign credentials and relevant experience will be considered
- Registration in relevant college or eligible to register in appropriate regulatory body with the designation of ability to practice psychotherapy e.g. OCSWSSW and CRPO
- Minimum of 3 years post-graduate clinical experience including therapeutic interventions, group work, and provision of educational programs for adults
- Must be knowledgeable about trauma informed counselling
- Demonstrated skills and experience in the following areas:
  - Child and family assessment and counselling
  - brief psychotherapeutic interventions (group and individual) with children and adults
  - Working with parents or adults who care for children
  - Group work with children (4 years old and up)
  - identifying and managing ethical dilemmas (particularly in the context of families with children experiencing at times high levels of exposure to parental conflict),
- Experience/Ability to deliver psycho-educational workshops for children and/or adults
- Strong assessment, intervention and written documentation skills
- Demonstrated ability to manage multiple tasks and set appropriate priorities in a challenging environment
- Excellent (listening, written and verbal) communication skills
- Good computer skills
- Good knowledge of community resources and supports
- Demonstrated commitment to principles of cultural competency, social justice, anti-oppression, equity and inclusion
- Lived experience as a member of a racialized or ethnic group
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team and independently
- Experience providing clinical support to volunteers and students
- Flexibility in hours of work, including working one evening per week and up to 12 Saturdays per year
- Satisfactory criminal reference check with Vulnerable Sector Search completed within the past 12 months

### **Location:**

700 Lawrence Avenue West (Lawrence Square Mall) with potential for occasional assignments in other agency or community locations. Families in Transition will be relocating to 128A Sterling Road in 2017.

### **Salary range:**

\$53,940 - \$66,437 - Salary Grade 8, Bargaining Unit (pro-rated to time worked)

### **Deadline to apply:**

**No later than 5 p.m. December 8, 2016**

Interested applicants are invited to submit a letter of application and resume, quoting **FIT #33-16**:

**E-mail:** [hrdep@familyservicetoronto.org](mailto:hrdep@familyservicetoronto.org)

**OR by mail:**

Human Resource Services

Family Service Toronto

202-128A Sterling Road

Toronto, ON M6R 2B7

<http://www.familyservicetoronto.org>

We are committed to developing a diverse service team that reflects the diversity of the population who live and work in the City of Toronto.

In accordance with Ontario Human Rights Code, Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, and FST's Equity and Inclusion policy, accommodation will be provided in all parts of the hiring process. Applicants need to make their needs known in advance.

We thank all applicants and will contact the individuals selected for an interview. No phone calls please.