



YWCA Toronto is an association of diverse and caring women dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls through dynamic leadership, advocacy and a range of unique and essential services that promote personal growth and economic independence.

Internal and External Job Posting

Shelter Support Worker- Employment and Education Counsellor, 1st Stop Woodlawn

There are five main components to the service delivered by 1st Stop Woodlawn Shelter. The program provides 22 shelter beds to young women (16 – 25 years of age); 22 shelter beds to women 26 years and older; 6 rooms in Second Stage Supportive Housing for mature and/or senior women and 6 second stage rooms for young women not ready for independent living. The Housing Help program provides advocacy referral and support to residents in the shelter and to those who have moved into the community. The Transitional Support program provides aftercare to residents and their children providing support through group work, counselling and connecting women to supports. The Ministry of Health Rent Supplement Program provides housing and support for women with mental health issues.

Reporting to the Manager of 1st Stop Woodlawn Shelter, the Shelter Support Worker-Employment and Education Counsellor, as a specialist in the assessment, support and referral to employment and education and barriers that homeless women face to reach their goals, is responsible for working within a collaborative team to provide meaningful and relevant services within a theoretical feminist framework that includes a working knowledge of the dynamics and effects of trauma and oppression. She acts as a resource to staff and clients and is responsible for providing a full range of services which includes crisis counselling and the development, implementation and evaluation of workshops.

You will have: in-depth knowledge of an academic discipline normally acquired through completion of a clinically supervised undergraduate degree (e.g. BSW); an analytical framework that identifies clients' relation to social systems and the demonstrated practical application of this framework; completion of workshops and courses pertaining to employment and education counselling; 1 to 3 years experience in client centered counselling to at risk and/or homeless women with a focus on employment and educational support and motivational techniques; completion of Toronto Hostel's Training Certificate (T.H.T.C.) or equivalent; demonstrated knowledge of harm reduction principles and practice; demonstrated knowledge of community resources and supports focused on employment and education; in-depth knowledge of the dynamics of woman abuse and trauma within an anti-oppression framework; Life Skills Certificate or equivalent; demonstrated experience in the development, delivery and evaluation of employment and education workshops and groups; experience delivering culturally sensitive services in a multicultural environment; excellent communication and interpersonal skills; proficiency in Microsoft Word, e-mail and Internet skill; knowledge and understanding of mental health, substance use/addictions, advocacy, refugee and immigration issues and homelessness; a certificate in trauma counselling would be an asset; knowledge of a second language and/or culture would be an asset. **Core Competencies:** engage in a self reflective and collaborative practice that is non-judgmental and compassionate and reflects the mission of YWCA Toronto; incorporate principles of anti-oppression and equity in responding to the service needs of women and children and work toward removing systemic barriers to independence and wellbeing; demonstrate respect, consideration and acceptance of the opinions of others while expressing her own expertise and effectively utilizing relevant resources and specialists; consistently collaborate with team members, sharing ideas and differences openly; be receptive to new ideas and adapt to change as necessary; value the contribution of others and take action to strengthen partnerships and support others to achieve effective outcomes; take action to avoid or solve problems and create opportunities for positive change; demonstrate commitment to ongoing personal and professional development.

The hours of work for this position are 35 hours per week, rotating shifts; on call responsibilities (may be required to work occasional overnights). The salary for this position is \$45,201 per annum (Level 6), plus comprehensive benefits.

Please note: A police reference check is required by the successful candidate prior to hiring. YWCA is a unionized workplace. Staff are represented by CUPE Local 2189. This position is within the Bargaining Unit. For internal applicants, this position is not secondable.

Submit cover letter and résumé to: Pam Gawn, Manager of 1st Stop Woodlawn Shelter. YWCA Toronto. 80 Woodlawn Avenue East, Toronto, ON, M4T 1C1. FAX: (416) 923-1950

Internal Deadline: Thursday, May 8, 2008

External Deadline: Monday, May 12, 2008

YWCA Toronto promotes the principles of anti-oppression and adheres to the tenets of the Ontario Human Rights Code. We encourage applications from women of all races, colours, ethnic origins, religions, abilities and sexual orientations. While we thank all candidates for their interest, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. No telephone enquiries please.

YWCA Toronto is a perfume free environment.

Posting Date: April 29, 2008