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Mental Health – Addictions Treatment Specialist

Boyle McCauley Health Centre's Pathways to Housing Program in Edmonton ends homelessness for people who suffer from serious, persistent mental illness (such as schizophrenia and bi-polar disorder), usually co-occurring with addictions and medical and social problems, by:

- providing access to permanent independent housing without requiring treatment or sobriety as a precondition for housing; and
- providing outreach community support and treatment with a philosophy that is founded in the principles of consumer choice and harm reduction, using both evidence-based Best Practices and innovative approaches.

The Mental Health-Addictions Treatment Specialist is part of an inter-disciplinary Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team that:

- provides comprehensive wrap-around treatment, support and rehabilitation/recovery services;
- uses a team case management model to form treatment/recovery plans as a team using a person-centred approach;
- spends half of their time providing generalized supports that may not be part of their professional discipline, such as providing assistance with housing, life skills and tasks of daily living.

The Mental Health-Addictions Treatment Specialist:

- is responsible for providing specialized and integrated mental health and addictions treatment/therapy for individuals and groups;
- develops and delivers specialized and targeted program components, such as psycho-educational addiction information and depression management, for Clients in each of the stages of change; and
- collaborates with allied community agencies and services as required to assist the clients in meeting their recovery goals.

Our current Team wants prospective candidates to know why they like working at Pathways to Housing and BMHC:

- Working on a truly interdisciplinary Team, with daily case planning meetings that include Nurses, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, a Family Physician, a Psychiatrist, and others. Lots of focus on Team health – including fun Team building.
- You get to know Clients well and get to see progress over time, so you feel you are making a real difference in their health, wellbeing and quality of life while treating everyone with dignity and respect.
- Great educational opportunities – funding available to support training such as ASIST, Motivational Interviewing and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and lots of opportunities to participate in Conferences, courses, and training specific to your discipline.
- The work is challenging, with a lot of variety – in one day, your work may include supporting Clients with Harm Reduction, mental illness, trauma, addictions, community integration, lifeskills, and/or physical health issues. There is never a dull moment, you are out and about in the community, and you get a chance to learn a lot of great skills.
- You get to work independently (i.e. not micro-managed) but support is there when you need it.
- Employee policies are flexible, and Management is accommodating to staff needs.

This is a permanent, full-time position. Regular hours of work are 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday to Friday. However, some flexibility around actual work hours is required, and each Team Member is on 24/7 on-call, approximately 7 weeks per year. There is a lot of driving involved in the position, and all Team Members must have a valid driver's license and use of a reliable personal vehicle.

Salary Range: \$70,870 to \$90,450 and comprehensive benefits package.

Qualification Requirements

- Masters Degree in Social Work, Psychology, Psycho-Social Rehabilitation or allied field, or a Psychiatric Nurse Specialist, and qualified to register to practice in AB. (An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered).
- Experience in developing and delivering individual and group recovery directed programs
- Experience in one of more of following areas:
 - acute psychiatry and crisis intervention/emergency services;
 - mental health services in a community treatment setting;
 - Assertive Community Treatment;
 - working in addictions, concurrent disorders and/or Housing First; and/or
 - providing outreach services in a 'street/inner city/chronic homelessness' environment or equivalent.
- Knowledge of best practices in
 - working with people with complex co-occurring serious mental illness, addiction and medical issues;
 - client centered, strength-based and trauma focused recovery treatments/rehabilitation strategies;
 - Housing First/Pathway to Housing models; and
 - Harm Reduction philosophy.
- Successful experience in inter-disciplinary teamwork.
- Experience in community allied service networking
- Knowledge and practice in integrating cultural contexts into practice and service delivery.
- Responsible, organized and efficient; solid communication/literacy skills (written, oral, computer/technology)
- A continuous learner
- Required: Valid driver's license and use of personal car and physical capacity to perform job duties (including climbing stairs, carrying groceries, etc.)

This posting will remain open until filled. Please submit all inquiries and applications via email to:

Wendy Bouwman Oake, Program Director
Pathways to Housing Program
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