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Mental Health Support Worker

Student Services

Location: Cold Lake campus

Position type: Full-time term until June 2020

Salary: \$51,576 to \$66,900 per annum

Job number: 17-MHB6-49-PC

Posting date: October 6, 2017

Closing date: Until suitable applicant is found

ABOUT THE POSITION

We are actively hiring a Mental Health Support Worker for the Cold Lake campus. This position works directly with students in connecting them with external mental health and addiction resources and supports. The Mental Health Support Worker also provides short term case management to assist students in developing living and academic skills. Key responsibilities include:

- Build rapport and trust with students while focusing on quality of life; Assist in the creation of short term individualized case plans with participant identifying service goals that relate to stability of their mental health.
- Refer program participants to appropriate counselling/support professionals for mental health concerns and addictions services.
- Support and consult with medical, psychiatric and psychological professionals to ensure maintenance of medication regimes and clarification of issues that arise.
- Empower participants' ability to maintain and manage student life with mental illness or addiction.
- First point of contact for Portage College counselling staff when a participant is having a crisis due to mental illness, addiction or family issue.
- Develop and maintain appropriate mechanisms for assessment, service plan development and service delivery.
- Implement and monitor the Community Helper Program.
- Provide latest mental health program information, update statistics and good news stories as required.
- Maintain accurate and current case notes and statistics.
- Provide emotional support, counselling, advocacy and after-care plans.
- Develop and network with community services for ongoing referral services.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Degree or diploma in social sciences. Equivalencies may be considered.
- Minimum of one year mental health experience with high-risk populations.
- Preferred certification in Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), Non-violent Crisis Intervention and Mental Health First Aid.
- Counselling and crisis intervention skills and experience would be beneficial.
- Strong case management and advocacy skills and experience; strong dedication to providing highest quality of client care.
- Empathetic with an effective ability to build rapport with clients.
- Strong networking skills and knowledge of resources and services available in communities we serve.
- Experience working with rural, northern and Indigenous communities will be considered a definite asset. Applicants should have a clear understanding of issues facing Indigenous students.
- Must be proficient with computers, especially MS Office.
- Must have excellent organizational and problem solving skills.
- Effective verbal and written communication skills.
- Class 5 driver's license as this position requires some travel to other campuses.
- Successful applicant will be required to provide a satisfactory police information check and driver's abstract.

ABOUT OUR COLLEGE AND WORKING HERE

Portage College has been serving the region for nearly 50 years and is a first choice post-secondary institution for learners in northeast Alberta. You will find that we are a college that combines quality with innovation. In fact, Portage College is considered a leader when it comes to providing students with a flexible first-class educational experience. We offer a wide range of programs in business, health and wellness, human services, university studies, food sciences, trades and technical, native arts and culture, and in academics for career and education.

As an employee at the College, you will benefit from generous paid time off, participation in the College pension and benefits plans and have access to a strong professional development fund that allows employees to grow and develop professionally by taking college or university courses, or attending conferences or workshops. Our employees' dependants can also apply for tuition bursary discounts if they enroll in a program at Portage College.

HOW TO APPLY

Portage College is committed to building a skilled, diverse workforce reflective of Canadian society.

If you have the right qualifications, experience, and motivation to do extraordinary things at Portage College, we would love to hear from you. Email your cover letter and resume to hr@portagecollege.ca. If you have any questions, call us at 780-623-5747.

Please note we don't accept third-party resume and cover letter submissions.

The College appreciates the interest of all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.