

JOB POSTING

Community Mental Health Worker – Violence Recovery

Full-time, one year contract - 35 hours per week

\$58,334 to \$69,103 per annum (commensurate on experience and education)

Unison Health and Community Services is a non-profit, community-based organization that serves neighbourhoods in North West Toronto. Operating out of six locations, Unison offers core services that include primary health care, counselling, health promotion, Early Years programs, legal services, harm reduction programs, housing assistance, adult protective services, Pathways to Education™ and a Diabetes Education Program. Unison's mission is working together to deliver accessible and high quality health and community services that are integrated, respond to needs, build on strengths and inspire change.

Unison Health and Community Services is committed to working from an inclusive, pro-choice, sex positive, harm reduction, anti-racist, anti-oppression and participatory framework.

We are seeking a full-time Community Mental Health Worker – Violence Recovery (Guns and Gangs) to support Toronto residents and community members impacted by incidents of gun and gang-related violence. This position is a part of the Community Wellness and Recovery Pilot, in partnership with the City of Toronto's Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP). Unison, in partnership with the Community Crisis Response Program, will co-lead the Community Violence, Wellness, and Recovery Pilot and implement a range of comprehensive recovery supports in response to critical incidents (such as shootings, stabbings, and gang affiliated activities) in the west and north of Toronto. Working collaboratively with the CCRP, Unison will provide community wellness and recovery supports that are culturally appropriate and trauma informed.

Job Specific Responsibilities:

- Provide culturally appropriate and trauma informed care to individual clients, including assessments, treatment planning, warm referrals, advocacy, case support, community treatment, and education
- Provide both brief and ongoing counselling, grief counselling, and trauma counselling to clients who have been impacted by gun and gang-related violence
- Facilitate support groups for youth, children and parents, and adults that focus on psychoeducation, grief and loss support, trauma support, and coping skills
- Facilitate healing conversation events for communities who have recently experienced gun or gang-related violence
- Maintain case notes and statistics, as per Unison and City of Toronto requirements
- Help clients identify and use appropriate health resources, including those available in the community and from community agencies
- Participate in Gun Violence Prevention and Recovery team meetings and find opportunities for collaboration
- Provide input and support to pilot planning and evaluation activities
- Work with City's Community Crisis Response Team and other partners to share back findings of Community Violence, Wellness, and Recovery Pilot with community
- Liaise with local agencies for the purpose of raising public awareness, education and information sharing and participate in community-based networks
- Provide assistance and support for the management of internal crisis situations at Unison
- Apply supportive 'de-escalation' techniques to help clients manage strong emotions and potentially dangerous behaviours

Organizational Responsibilities:

- Participate in team meetings, initiatives, and events.
- Develop work goals in conjunction with supervisor, identifying action plans, learning objectives and professional development needs.
- Participate in performance appraisal process including self-evaluation component.
- Adhere to all policies and procedures of the organization.

- Submit encounter data and/or statistics, administrative forms, and reports in a timely fashion.
- Participate on external committees as relevant to job position.
- Maintain and develop competence through appropriate continuing education methods.
- Identify, report, and debrief on client safety incidents, good catches, occupational health, and safety incidents and near misses.
- Other duties as required.

Job-Specific Qualifications:

- Undergraduate degree/diploma or equivalent experience in related field such as Bachelor of Social Work
- Demonstrated experience working with clients who have experienced gun and gang-related violence
- Skill working with groups and individuals using a recovery approach to care
- An understanding of the nuanced contributors to gun and gang-related violence in Toronto
- Familiarity with the different neighbourhoods in North-West Toronto experiencing high levels of gun and gang-related violence; experience working in and with these communities; and an understanding of the similarities, differences and unique needs of these communities
- Familiarity with harm reduction philosophy and principles
- Excellent interpersonal, communication and organizational skills, including computer literacy
- Knowledge of a second language and culture is an asset
- Availability to work flexible hours including some evenings and weekends

Interested candidates are asked to submit a résumé with covering letter by 9:00 am on March 12, 2021 to:

Hiring Committee – Community Mental Health Worker – Violence Recovery
Unison Health and Community Services
Toronto, ON
hirings@unisonhcs.org

Please cite UN_2021_001 in the subject line of the email

We welcome applications from people who are reflective of the diverse communities we serve, including those who might need accommodation.

Where needed, accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided, on request, to support their participation in all aspects of the recruitment process.

While we thank all applicants for their interest, only those selected for interview will be contacted.