



SHORE CENTRE

SEXUAL HEALTH • OPTIONS • RESOURCES • EDUCATION

Counsellor/Advocate - Job Description

Reporting to the Counselling Lead, this role provides direct client care for people seeking support related to pregnancy options, perinatal mental health, and reproductive healthcare. This role may support clients in our Counselling, Empowering Pregnancy, and Stork Secrets programs. Based on our client demographics, this role involves significant support of newcomer and refugee populations.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide client centred, non-judgemental, non-directed, culturally competent, counselling sessions generally focused on but not limited to perinatal mental health, unplanned pregnancy, pre/post abortion support, pregnancy options exploration, adoption, parenting and other reproductive healthcare and pregnancy related topics;
- Engage in ongoing case management for clients;
- Provide systems navigation and advocacy support for clients;
- Facilitate and/or provide individual and group counselling;
- Supervise student interns;
- Complete charting using electronic medical records system (EMR) in a timely manner;
- Track and enter relevant statistics in applicable programs and forms;
- Participate in regular staff and team meetings;
- Participate in regular one-on-one meetings with manager;
- Participate in work planning processes and tasks which advance SHORE Centre's Strategic Plan;
- Work collaboratively with all counselling staff as well as with broader SHORE team where appropriate;
- Identify relevant professional development opportunities;
- Adhere to all SHORE Centre policies and procedures;
- Provide cross-coverage for intake and other appropriate clinic positions;
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Committed to SHORE Centre's mission, vision, and values and to building an inclusive workspace, including striving to be anti-racist, accessible, 2SLGBTQIA+ positive, aware of class dynamics and power/privilege;
- Explicit support for reproductive and 2SLGBTQIA+ rights;
- Strong knowledge of social issues impacting reproductive healthcare, pregnancy, abortion, adoption and parenting;
- Language skills in Arabic, Tigrinya, or Mandarin would be considered an asset;
- Experience working with newcomer populations;

- Experience navigating issues related to immigration and settlement, provincial/federal health insurance, social assistance programs, housing and food security;
- Eligible for registration as a Social Worker with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers;
- Exceptional communication skills;
- High ethical standards and strict adherence to confidentiality;
- Clear professional boundaries;
- Skilled in using technology including but not limited to client databases, email, Microsoft suites, statistics tracking, video calling platforms;
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment and adapt in a growing organization;
- Ability to apply work on a team as well as independently;
- Excellent initiative and self-motivation skills.

Working Conditions

Regular office hours are 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM with a half hour unpaid lunch. Some flexibility is required for after-hours meetings, however there will be advance notice.

This position requires long periods of sitting, although there are opportunities to stand and stretch. There are also long periods of focused attention while counselling clients, as well as significant use of screens.

The primary working location for this position is based out of our Kitchener office. Our office is on the first floor of an accessible building and we have an in-suite accessible washroom. We are a low/no scent environment however we use cleaning agents regularly for our in-house clinic. While counselling appointments can be delivered virtually, many will be in-person and require applicants to be located/relocated within or near Waterloo Region.

This position is eligible for in-office and remote work in accordance with SHORE Centre's Hybrid and Remote Work Policy.

Compensation

The salary for this position is \$50,960 - \$61,880 annually. The position also includes group health benefits (after 3 months of employment) and four weeks of annual vacation (vacation is prorated to reflect start date).

To Apply

Please email your resume and cover letter to **Kayla Orr at korr@shorecentre.ca** by **Tuesday, July 30th at 11:59 PM.**

Your application must include a cover letter highlighting your counselling philosophy and why you are interested in working with SHORE Centre as a Counsellor/Advocate.

If you require any form of accessibility throughout this application, please let us know. If an applicant or a successful candidate requests an accommodation, we will discuss their needs with them and make adjustments to support them. You can inquire about accessibility options by calling 519-743-9360 ext.808 to speak to Kayla Orr, Executive Director or emailing korr@shorecentre.ca.

We thank all candidates for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. No phone calls or email inquiries on application status please.