



Position Posting - Youth and Family Counselor Youth Prenatal and Parenting Program

Posted: June 13, 2017

The Boys & Girls Club Services of Greater Victoria's mission is to provide safe, supportive places where children, youth and families experience opportunity, overcome barriers, develop skills, positive relationships and confidence for successfully leading their lives and communities. We provide social, recreational and developmental services to children, youth and their families that support all aspects of our mission. The Agency supports practice through a trauma informed lens, placing priority on participant safety, choice and self-determination.

All Boys & Girls Club programs support participant empowerment and skill development. We acknowledge the Lkwungen, W̱SÁNEĆ, T'sou-ke, M̱Álexeł and Scia'new people, whose traditional territories we live and work upon each day. The Boys & Girls Club operates accredited programs approved by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

The Program: Youth Prenatal and Parenting Program (YP3) provides intensive programming to pregnant and parenting youth in contracted Care Family Suites. The Youth and Family Counselor addresses the youth's needs to ensure a healthy pregnancy, develop positive parenting skills, reduce relationship violence and substance use, lowering the risk of harm to herself or her baby. YP3 staff also provide the Best Babies Program in our Westshore location to support pregnant and parenting moms (until baby reaches 2 months) in a weekly educational and supportive group setting.

Key duties and Responsibilities include:

- Support the development of parenting skills, infant care, self-care, home care and reduction of substance use
- Support residential stabilization and ensure collaboration with other community professionals
- Provide information about prenatal health, stages of pregnancy and birth, infant development,
- Make necessary referrals to community health partners
- Support the youth's motivation to change, develop a relapse and safety plan and teach life skills such as budgeting and problem solving in natural teaching situations
- Support the youth to develop healthy partner relationships, positive peer interactions, coping skills, improved communication and pro-social skills
- Assist the youth to access drug and alcohol counseling, educational and community supports and financial assistance as needed
- Plan and facilitate with the rest of the YP3 team to provide youth groups and parenting groups
- Help young moms gain independent living skills (i.e.: cooking, cleaning, childproofing, etc.)
- Utilize appropriate crisis management strategies in the event of a crisis
- Provide support and mediation between youth, Care Home Family and natural family where appropriate
- Provide ongoing support service to youth and family after the youth leaves the Care Family

Qualifications and requirements:

- Post-secondary degree in Child and Youth Care, Social Work, Education or Nursing, or equivalent combination of relevant experience and education

- Experience working with high risk young women, pre and post-natal care
- Experience in provision of services regarding youth and family substance use issues, harm reduction, understanding the change process and incorporation of trauma informed practice
- Experience in group development and facilitation, with youth and adults
- Excellent communication skills, competent computer /data base and file management skills
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team
- Current first aid certification and infant CPR (within 3 months of hire)
- Clean and current driver's license abstract and reliable vehicle

Terms of employment

- Satisfactory criminal record check
- Start Date: June, 2017
- Hours: 40 hours per week requiring flexible hours
- Wage: **\$41,600 as a starting salary**
- Benefits: Generous vacation and benefits package includes: health, dental, vision, life insurance, critical illness insurance, healthy living bonus and training funds

To Apply:

Submit resume and cover letter by end of day, June 26, 2017 by email only

- Email: employment@bgcvic.org
- Please include the job title in your email topic line
- Only applications provided electronically will be accepted
- We thank all who apply. *Only short listed candidates will be contacted.*