



Boys & Girls Club Services
of Greater Victoria

Position Posting - Youth and Family Counselor Youth and Family Life Skills Coach

Posted: June 16, 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.

The Role: The Youth and Family Life Skills Coach addresses the supported learning of life skills that a youth requires to experience a healthy pregnancy, develop positive parenting skills, and make healthy lifestyle choices. They will take the lead on crafting the guidelines, procedures and assessments that will ensure the practical needs of the youth and their child are met and monitored while growing the new parent's life skills. Within this role, there is also a component of developing and delivering facilitated group presentations and learning opportunities.

Key Duties and Responsibilities include:

- Support the development of independent living skills including planning and preparing healthy inexpensive meals, cleaning and maintaining the suite to ensure safety of baby and good hygiene practices, childproofing, etc.)
- Support the development of infant care skills, and self-care skills
- Support residential stabilization and help young moms gain independent living skills
- Support learning the rights and responsibilities of tenants and understand Landlord Tenancy Agreements
- Provide information about prenatal health, stages of pregnancy and birth, infant development, life skills and parenting skills
- Be prepared to roll up your sleeves and teach by showing skills like cooking and cleaning
- Make necessary referrals to community health partners
- Support the youth's motivation to change by teaching life skills in natural teaching situations
- Support the youth to develop coping skills, problem solving, improved communication and pro-social skills

- Assist the youth to access community supports as needed
- Take a lead role in planning and share in the facilitation with the YP3 team to provide youth groups and parenting groups
- Utilize appropriate crisis management strategies in the event of a crisis

Qualifications and Requirements:

- University degree, Child and Youth Care, Social Work, or equivalent combination of relevant experience and education
- Life Skills Coaching training an asset
- 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, the change process while using trauma informed practice
- Experience working with youth at risk of sexual exploitation
- 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 mandatory
- Clean and current driver's license abstract and reliable vehicle

Terms of Employment:

- Satisfactory criminal record check
- Start Date: July, 2017
- Hours: 35 hours per week requiring flexible hours
- Wage: **\$34,580 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@bgcvc.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.*