Position: Housing Support Worker

Status: Temporary Full Time (date of hire up to September 4, 2020)

Employee Group: CUPE Local 4700

Salary: $24.13 - $30.13 per hour (under review)

Division: Health and Social Services

Department: Social Services and Housing

Reports To: Program Manager, Homelessness Prevention

Location: Gilbertson Administration Building

Posting Period: May 23, 2019 – June 7, 2019

How to apply:

Follow the link below for the application process:

https://workable.com/j/E1B0EC3749

Scope of Position:

- To provide support to individuals and families who have been identified, based on the approved assessment process, as requiring housing stabilization supports.

- To support individuals and families who are staying in the emergency housing program or domiciliary hostel / housing with related supports program, living in affordable housing developments or in social housing communities and those who have been diverted from emergency housing but require additional supports to obtain and retain safe, affordable and permanent housing.
Knowledge and Experience:

- Grade 12 plus an additional program of at least two years in a related discipline (Social Services Worker, Social Work, Human Services, Addictions, Violence Against Women Counsellor)

- Over one year experience in a Social Services related position with emphasis on providing direct support to vulnerable people, preferably in community settings

- Additional training and/or certification in mental health, addictions and/or trauma counselling would be considered an asset

- Training and/or experience in motivational interviewing and the use of assessment tools such as the VI-SPDAT and SPDAT are considered an asset

Skills and Abilities:

- Valid Ontario Driver’s Licence and access to a reliable vehicle

- Excellent interpersonal skills

- Working knowledge of community services and supports

- Experience working directly with people who are experiencing homelessness or who are at imminent risk of being homeless

- Understanding of housing first approaches to homelessness prevention

- In depth knowledge and understanding of the risk factors for homelessness and the barriers to achieving housing stability for vulnerable people

- Experience using homeless related data bases such as HIFIS Experience reading and interpreting legislation, such as the Residential Tenancies Act and related regulations

- Computer knowledge in corporate standard software (Microsoft Office) and department specific software, including database programs

Duties and Responsibilities:

- To identify and assess the needs of individuals and families using the appropriate assessment tools (VI-SPDAT, SPDAT) and to reassess throughout the time of service to monitor progress and the effectiveness of the supports provided

- To provide housing stabilization supports, assistance, and basic skill training to individuals and families in order to establish and maintain an independent and stable living situation within the community, based on the goals identified by the person receiving support
• To work collaboratively with the emergency housing program to support individuals and families in emergency housing to find and obtain permanent housing

• To support individuals and families to access and navigate existing community resources and services including medical services, legal resources, mental health and substance use supports to enhance long term housing stability

• To maintain contact with Landlords to ensure that there are no issues impacting tenancy

• To implement Housing First and harm reduction strategies with clients to increase safety and improved wellness

• Once housed, ensure that a “homelessness proofing” plan is created with each individual and family receiving support to prevent future homelessness

• To help individuals and families connect with employment services and/or obtain financial assistance from government or private sources

• To recommend for supervisory approval the financial assistance and services needed to resolve current tenancy problems

• To maintain appropriate client records and service delivery data in the relevant departmental software program (e.g. HIFIS)

• To work independently with individuals and families, on site and within different locations throughout Haldimand and Norfolk, including home visits

• Participate in team de-briefing and training session in order to remain up-to-date on homeless prevention practices and strategies

• Other administrative tasks as assigned and related to the delivery of the Homelessness Prevention Services program

The Corporation of Norfolk County is an equal opportunity employer. Accessibility accommodations are available for all parts of the recruitment process. Applicants need to make their needs known in advance.

Successful applicants are required to provide the Employer with a current Criminal Record Check, including a Vulnerable Sector where required and verification of education.

Thank you for your interest in this position. Only those to be interviewed will be contacted.