Our mission is to provide housing and support services for individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS and to increase the opportunity for improved health, wellness, independent living and sense of community.

Job Posting
Position: <u>Supportive Housing Coordinator</u>
This is a 10 month contract position covering a staff leave.

Job Summary:

Reporting to the Executive Director, this position is responsible for the delivery of housing and support services to McLaren Housing Society of BC's (MHS) HIV + clients in the Supportables Programs that require assistance to obtain and retain adequate housing as well as work toward independent living.

Responsibilities:

- Identify clients in need of housing and support services through MSH's waitlist as well as referrals from other AIDS Serving Organizations (ASOs).
- In consultation with the client's "care team" work with the client to develop an individualized Program Plan with their goals and expectations.
- Establish a collaborative relationship with this diverse client group through effective communication, role modeling and effective behaviour management.
- Assist clients in a housing search including, but not limited to accompaniment on housing searches, completing applications for housing; meeting and negotiating with prospective landlords, arranging security deposits, obtaining furnishings, and supporting moving arrangements.
- Assist clients with referrals/linkages with other community-based organizations, local government agencies and the continuum of health, mental health and addiction services.
- Provide one-to-one support and counselling on: basic life skills including "good neighbour" living; anger management and emotional support, conflict response styles and strategies; health and wellness guidance including medication and treatment compliance; housekeeping and cooking skills; and money management.
- Facilitate achieving goals as well as successful independent living through helping clients establish and maintain community and leisure activities; work opportunities (paid or volunteer), educational pursuits; and connections with family and friends.
- Implement, when necessary, crisis management techniques, while accessing other agencies, professionals and/or the client's "care team" to provide appropriate services.
- Providing advocacy on behalf of clients where needed.
- Regularly maintain all relevant records, statistics and client files. Provide Executive Director with monthly written and oral reports.
- Complete any other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Director.

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Qualifications

Education, training and other requirements

- BSW, BA in Social/Human Services or equivalent, or extensive experience in an applied Human/Social Service field.
- Current First Aid Certification and clean TB Certificate (or ability to obtain both).
- Valid BC Driver's License and vehicle for work require (or ability to obtain both).
- Current Hep A/B vaccines (or ability to obtain).
- All candidates must successfully complete a criminal records check prior to commencing employment.

Skills and Abilities

i) Demonstrated understanding of working with disadvantaged adults and families in a diverse environment and the challenges facing marginalised people in an urban setting.
ii) Extensive knowledge and familiarity of working with related resources including ASOs, the health and welfare system and related agencies including addiction support services.
iii) Extensive knowledge of housing issues and community resources.
iv) Ability to work independently and in cooperation with others and establish and maintain rapport with clients, outside agencies, other professionals and community care teams.
v) Ability to communicate effectively both written and verbal.
vi) Able to carry out the physical/mental demands of the position.
vii) Demonstrated ability to work in a fair, non-judgmental and respectful environment essential and to deal with others effectively.
viii) Demonstrated ability to organize and prioritize an ever changing workload.
ix) Demonstrated ability to understand and maintain client/worker boundaries.

Remuneration

$23 an hour based on a 37.5 hr. week.

To apply for this position please send a cover letter and resume to Kim Stacey, Executive Director, McLaren Housing Society of BC. Email: kim@mclarenhousing.org. No phone calls please.

Deadline: Wednesday October 5th 2011 at 12 noon.

We want to thank all applicants, however only those chosen for an interview will be contacted

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