

Job Posting

Job Title:

Forensic Psychologist

Job Location: This position is based primarily out of our office located in the Comox Valley. Travel within other areas of the North Island will be required.

Note: As Forensic Psychologist, you will provide forensic mental health assessment and treatment to youth involved in the criminal justice system. This position includes a comprehensive 100% employer-paid benefit package; enrolment in our defined-benefit pension, the Municipal Pension Plan; and four weeks of paid vacation.

Duties and Qualifications: See job description at the end of this document.

Salary Rate: Wage will range from \$65-\$70 per hour

Schedule: To be determined with manager.

Hours per week: 21-35 hours per week.

Closing date: Posting will remain open until a suitable candidate has been found

Apply to (cover letter, resume, and 3 references):

Human Resources

Email:

Employment@jhsni.bc.ca

Fax:

250-286-3650

Mail:

140 10th Avenue, Campbell River BC V9W 4E3

This position is open to applicants of all genders.

This position requires the completion of two criminal record checks.

The John Howard Society of North Island is an employment equity employer.

Job Description

Job Title: Forensic Psychologist
Work sites: Courtenay, Campbell River
Reports to: Program Manager
Prepared date: May 13, 2024
Approved by: Executive Director
Approved date: October 22, 2024
Revised and approved by ED::
Reviewed:

Summary

Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services provides forensic mental health assessment and treatment to youth involved in the criminal justice system who have mental illness or behavioural problems, or are involved in violent or sexual offences. Youth are referred for assessments by court order to help with sentencing or by a probation officer to assist with case management and treatment goals. The Forensic Psychologist provides a range of specialized services including psychological assessment, treatment, case management, and consultation for adjudicated youth, aged 12-19. The Youth Forensic Psychologist also works with the Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services team to provide leadership, guidance, training, advice and consultation.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

To perform the job successfully the Forensic Psychologist must be able to perform consistently each essential duty satisfactorily. Other related duties may be assigned.

- Is a member of, and provides guidance, advice and consultation to, an interdisciplinary team consisting of psychology, psychometry, social work, psychiatry and administration to provide psychological assessment and treatment services to adjudicated youth.
- Provides leadership to the Psychology Assistant by directing psychometric testing activities.
- Provides direct clinical services such as intake, assessment, treatment, and crisis intervention; consultation/liaison with community agencies, schools, hospitals, and other justice programs.
- Administers and scores mental health-related test instruments appropriate to the profession.

- Provides comprehensive assessment and recommendation in reports to court and other justice professionals.
- Engages in interdisciplinary treatment planning and conducts individual, group and family therapy.
- Conducts age appropriate mental status assessments, including risk and recidivism assessments, suicide assessments, crisis interventions, and safety planning.
- Maintains basic knowledge of psycho-tropic medications as prescribed by a physician, maintaining an awareness of the effects of such medications.
- Creates and maintains appropriate clinical/client/administrative records using established electronic and physical file systems as required.
- Promotes and maintains effective working relationships with clients and families, justice system professionals, physicians, schools, and hospitals to coordinate services, secure input, cooperation, resolve conflicts, influence outcomes, provide community consultation and provide educational services and training on emotional and behavioural disturbances.
- Facilitates trauma-informed collaborative relationships with youth, families, caregivers, and colleagues which include demonstrating compassion, respect, cultural agility, and developmental sensitivity.
- Supports families and caregivers experiencing crisis, intense emotions and/or facing challenges which may occasionally involve exposure to unpleasant dealings (such as *diagnosis, child death, and prognosis).
- Incorporates traditional worldviews and Indigenous approaches as appropriate and uses best practices relevant to each youth's family, cultural and community context.
- Facilitates cultural connection for Indigenous youth and identifies and incorporates cultural needs into planning/review meetings.
- Develops collaborative, respectful relationships with community, other professionals, traditional healers, Knowledge Keepers, and Elders.
- Coordinate's planning/review meetings in conjunction with multidisciplinary teams (works in multi-disciplinary teams and supports justice programs/initiatives as required); may require collaboration through disagreement and conflict.
- Support youth to prepare and plan for youth transition to adulthood and relevant adult services, including through the administration and sharing of assessment data with relevant agencies (e.g. CLBC, school psychologists).
- Develops treatment plans which include a variety of evidence-based psychological interventions and treatment modalities including individual, family, and group therapy.
- Monitors and evaluates treatment outcomes using psychological measures (e.g. Juvenile Sexual Offence Assessment Protocol).
- Assists families and other caregivers with understanding the nature, treatment, and prognosis of the mental health condition of the child/youth and discusses methods of management and coping.
- Provides psychological consultation/education services to community agency staff and other service providers such as physicians, schools, foster homes, child protection, probation officers, and hospital staff.
- Recommends the acquisition of psychological testing materials.

- Participates in program review and evaluation, prepares reports, and makes recommendations for improvement.
- Delivers training on mental health screeners and assessment tools.
- Performs other related duties as required.

Qualifications

The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required.

Training and Experience

- Ph.D. in Forensic Psychology, Clinical/Applied Psychology, OR PsyD, AND *registered with, or eligible for registration with the College of Psychologists of British Columbia as a Psychologist.
- Two years full-time equivalent recent related experience working with youth and their families, with responsibility for providing a wide range of community based mental health services. Should include:
 - Experience in Clinical Adolescent Psychology

Other Skills and Abilities

Worker must:

- Demonstrate a level of cultural sensitivity and understanding of the client population's cultural and socio-economic characteristics.
- Have the ability to form a mutually respectful partnership with persons served and their families in which they are helped to gain skills and confidence to address any issues and problems they face.
- Have the ability to accept the differences they will find among their clients.
- Accept clients' rights to self-determination and individuality, and must not discriminate on the basis of Indigenous identity, race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, socio-economic status, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age.
- Have a positive conviction about the capacity of people to grow and change.
- Have the ability to work respectfully in partnership with other team members, including referring authorities.
- Recognize the value of a nurturing family as the ideal environment for a person.
- Have the ability to recognize persons with special needs and make appropriate referrals.
- Have the ability to set limits and maintain the helping role of the practitioner, and to intervene appropriately to meet the needs of the persons served or other family members.
- Have basic computer and Internet skills.

Other Job Requirements

- Two completed, acceptable criminal record checks, one from the Criminal Records Review Program through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and one from the Canadian Criminal Record Search of the RCMP National Repository of Criminal Records, the Canadian Police Information Centre, and the Police Information Portal.
- Driving is required to attend meetings and to enable contact with youth/families in remote locations. The worker must have a valid driver's licence and access to safe, reliable transportation, and must obtain appropriate insurance as per Society policy.
- The Forensic Psychologist will follow the Code of Ethics and the Mission Statement of The John Howard Society of North Island.
- May be required to work with families and youth who are distressed and facing challenges which may occasionally involve exposure to unpleasant situations or behaviour with angry, abusive, or abused and/or sexually transgressive clients; exposure to hazards from frequently working around parents and/or children in crisis who may display volatile behaviour.

Diversity

The John Howard Society of North Island welcomes applications from all qualified applicants including but not limited by those of any gender, race, orientation, or disability. Multilingual skills and multicultural competence are assets.