



Job Posting

Youth & Family Counsellor - Victoria Youth Program for Enhanced Recovery (VYPER)

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Victoria has been serving the diverse needs of children, youth and families in Victoria for over 57 years. We are ever growing and changing; today we offer a wide continuum of programs in support of our community. The Mission of Boys and Girls Club is to provide a safe, supportive place where children, youth and families can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life. Boys and Girls Club recognizes and respects the Lkwungen, W̱SÁNEĆ, T'Sou-ke, MĀlexeĀ and Scia'new people, whose traditional territories we live and work upon each day.

The Program

The Victoria Youth Program for Enhance Recovery (VYPER) is recruiting an additional Youth and Family Counsellor to join their team. The position requires a well-organized motivated individual with an outgoing disposition who shares a passion for working with youth and families seeking support to address problematic substance use. The Youth and Family Counsellor will work in a small team to provide intensive programming with youth affected by substance use and, who are seeking to engage in personal change. Youth are supported while residing in transitional housing in a contracted Care Family home in Greater Victoria. Working with youth at this integral point in their lives can have a dramatic positive impact on their life trajectory. Services delivered promote participant rights, safety, dignity, respect, self-esteem, privacy, reducing youth's exposure to harm or risk of harm while increasing personal safety and independence.

Key Duties & Responsibilities

- Conduct needs assessment with youth & supports them to engage in the change process supporting the reduction of problematic substance use
- Coordinate the intake process, develop assessments & goals in consultation with youth
- Facilitate the development of safety and relapse prevention plans with youth
- Teach life skills such as budgeting, grocery shopping, cooking & problem solving
- Support youth to develop healthy partner relationships, positive peer interactions, coping skills, improved communication & prosocial skills
- Assist the youth to access ongoing substance use counselling, educational resources and community supports
- Meet the natural family to explore & support the youth's graduated return home, where appropriate
- Develop & facilitate youth programming through regularly scheduled group times to provide learning & practice opportunities
- Build rapport & relationships with Care Families
- Provide some evening and weekend recreational activities, support and training to youth & family groups
- Utilize appropriate crisis management strategies in the event of a crisis
- Where reunification is not possible, the Counsellor assists the youth to develop options that may include moving into independence
- May also work alongside vulnerable youth in our Turning Point Program to support reunification with the family or to independent living and/or our Full-Time Attendance Programs, in the capacity of Youth Substance Management Youth Worker, if program needs dictate as well as if our numbers are low
- Represent Agency programs in community networks, Integrated Case Management

meetings and Agency special events and community engagements

Qualifications

- Post-secondary degree in Child & Youth Care or Social Work
- Experience in youth & family substance use service provision
- Experience in individual counselling for youth & their families
- Experience in group development & facilitation, for working with youth & adults
- Excellent communication skills, competent computer/database & file management skills
- Experience working in residential settings an asset
- Demonstrated ability to work independently & as part of a multidisciplinary team
- Must be able to understand the difference in practice and philosophy between the voluntary Youth Family Services and Mandated Justice Programs and practice accordingly
- Current Food Safe, Emergency First Aid & CPR certification minimum
- Clean & current class 5 driver's license, abstract & reliable vehicle Class 4 license an asset
- Able to work flexible hours & work occasionally on weekends and in the evening

We Offer

- Salary: \$40,560 - \$43,680 per year + Vacation & Benefits Package
- Duration: Full Time, Permanent
- Hours: 40 hours per week
- Work Schedule: Variable shifts (one weekend shift, two 9-6 pm shifts, two 8-5 pm shifts, and one 12-9 pm shift)
- Location: Operating out of various locations including Esquimalt, Harbourside, West Shore, Central Saanich, Lotus Street, and Metchosin

To Apply

- Submit your resume and cover letter stating the position that you are applying for to employment@bgcvic.org
- The posting will remain open until the position is filled

We thank you for your interest. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.