



Family/Shelter Counsellor

Accepting applications until position filled.

Two-Spirit individuals are encouraged to apply.

Wulaawsuwiikaan Healing Lodge provides day and residential programs to aid in the recovery of important Indigenous family values and structures and thereby strives to contribute to the movement toward more loving and supporting family units, resilient Clan structures and peaceful communities. Our programs are designed with the belief that healing is a natural part of one's life path and all creation, through natural and spiritual law, moves us toward our highest spiritual, emotional, mental and physical potential. In its aim to continue the healing process for all indigenous people, the Lodge incorporates traditional beliefs, values, and culture-based practices to provide wellness and healing to individuals and families throughout Southwestern Ontario.

Wulaawsuwiikaan is currently seeking an innovative and dynamic *Family/Shelter Counsellor* to join our team. As a Family Counsellor, there will be a strong expectation that you can fulfill the role of a positive, healthy role model who can be relied upon by both our qualifying clients and fellow staff members. It is vital that all staff can provide support and understanding to the residents who have been impacted by family violence, abuse and intergenerational trauma. Staff must be aware of their own personal boundaries and limitations to effectively model healthy interactions with residents and co-workers. Staff are expected to possess an understanding of the impacts of violence on individuals and will be expected to utilize their training and skills to provide compassion, support and understanding to all clients.

Roles and Responsibilities

As the *Family/Shelter Counsellor*, you will have primary responsibility for family systems counselling and to be part of the overall case management team at Wulaawsuwiikaan Healing Lodge. As a professional, you will involve yourself as a change agent at various points in a client(s), organization and/or community system as related to the Healing

Lodge services. You will engage in assisting, aid in diagnosing and provide prevention and intervention services utilizing client, Healing Lodge, and community resources to effect change. You will be expected to evaluate and re-evaluate treatment plans as well as your own practice to develop and maintain realistic, goal-oriented approaches. This position requires various social service skills to manage a case load, providing services to clients and to maintain effective Healing Lodge requirements.

Duties Include

- In cooperation with other staff members, coordinate the intake process and receive referrals from various community service providers.
- To liaise and consult regularly with First Nation and other Indigenous organization representatives about the provision of services or the exercise of powers in matters affecting Indigenous family members.
- Provide individual, family and group counselling and teachings utilizing appropriate techniques adapted for the Healing Lodge.
- Assist in the planning and delivery of services and programs as they relate to Indigenous children and their families.
- To intervene in instances requiring emergency family shelter for Indigenous women and their children.
- Provide services that incorporate the natural surrounding afforded at the Healing Lodge site.
- Assist in developing culturally appropriate activities to address the needs of individuals and families utilizing a well-balanced wholistic approach.
- Facilitate the coordination, design and delivery of workshops, circles, life skills, parenting classes, multi-family teaching opportunities.
- To set up and /or facilitate various ceremonial venues including sweat lodges, full moon ceremonies, fasting ceremonies and teaching lodges.
- The ability to plan and schedule important events including meeting target dates.
- To actively participate in all mandatory and recommend staff training opportunities.
- Other duties as may be required by the Wulaawsuwiikaan Healing Lodge.
- **MUST** be prepared to work evening and/or weekends as the service schedule requires.

Qualifications - Successful candidate will:

- Have a Bachelor of Social Work degree from an accredited University. A Social Services diploma from an accredited College will be considered along with at least two (2) years of related work experience.
- Have two (2) years counselling experience working with Indigenous families.
- Be familiar with legislation, regulation and guidelines affecting Indigenous People.
- Be knowledgeable of Indigenous culture with the ability to demonstrate that you are actively participation on your own healing path.
- Be aware of current social issues as they affect Indigenous communities.
- Have knowledge of traditional wholistic approaches to individual, family and community healing.
- Computer proficiency, including the ability to use various technology and the ability to compile data and type reports.
- Have strong human relations and inter-personal communication skills.
- Knowledge of Indigenous language would be an asset.
- **MUST** have a valid driver's license and access to a reliable vehicle.
- **MUST** have at least five (5) years of continuous sobriety and abstention from drug use.
- **MUST** be prepared to work evening and/or weekends as the service schedule requires.
- The successful candidate will be required to provide a clear CPIC and a Vulnerable Persons Check
- Provide three (3) written letters of reference.

If you are interested in applying for this opportunity, please email or send your resume and cover letter, along with copies of all pertinent certificates and degrees to:

Lori George, Assistant Director
Wulaawsuwiikan Healing Lodge
275 Jubilee Road,
R.R. #1, Muncey, ON.
N0L 1Y0

Email: assistant.director@whl-munsee.ca

Fax: 519-289-0149

We thank all those that apply, however only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.