



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Aboriginal Youth Transition Worker (full-time)

December 2013

Are you a team player with a passion for working with Aboriginal youth? Are you ready for a role that will allow you support youth through the transition from CAS care to independent living? Do you have experience working with high-risk youth who have been involved with CAS? If so, then this opportunity is for you!

The Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health is an award-winning Health Access Centre that provides holistic primary health care to First Nation, Inuit and Métis people living in Ottawa - one of the fastest growing and diverse urban Aboriginal communities in Canada. Wabano is a fast-paced, client-oriented organization that models the Aboriginal values of balance, respect and community interdependence.

As an Aboriginal Frontline Worker with a post-secondary degree in a human services curriculum, combined with four years of social services experience with youth, we encourage you to consider this exceptional opportunity.

Purpose of Position

To assume a hands-on role in supporting youth 16-24 transition from care of CAS or formal customary care. The worker will support the youth to assume responsibility for their own health and well-being, relationships, employment, housing, education and building connections within their community. The Aboriginal Youth Transition worker will work with youth to create a plan of care and goals to successfully transition them out of the CAS care system and help them to achieve a healthy and independent living.

Responsibilities:

- Establish a referral-to-program process with Children's Aids Society;
- Develop program promotional materials and advertise the service;
- Work collaboratively with youths, other family/community members, and service providers either in Ottawa or in the youth home communities to create a plan of care to support youth transition;
- Help eligible youth develop the goals they would like to achieve through their transition;
- Provide case management of eligible youth;
- Develop relationships with home communities of the youths and service providers;



- Conduct on-going research of available to transitioning youth resources in Ottawa and youth home communities;
- Support eligible youth leaving care to identify, access and navigate adult service systems relevant to their needs, and transition to adulthood, providing emotional support;
- Connect youth to existing supports and resources in the community, including:
 - Housing supports;
 - Educational resources;
 - Employment services and training;
 - Life skills training (eg. Financial management, household management);
 - Health and mental health services; and
 - Legal services;
- Create protocols for identifying family and community members who can be part of the transitioning youth circle;
- Coordinate and facilitate circles where all of the members involved in the youth care are present with the goal of creating a sustainable plan of care;
- Coordinate and facilitate follow up circles to ensure the successful implementation and progress on the plan of care;
- Work collaboratively with all staff to create and support Wabano events such as the Annual General Meeting, Gala, Symposiums and community celebrations;
- Produce monthly and quarterly program reports indicating outcome and process accomplishments, and;
- Any admin required for the position (including data entry into Electronic Medical Records systems);
- Conduct program evaluation to assess the success of the program;
- Generally take responsibility for ensuring program objectives are met in a manner consistent with the quality of service and care for which Wabano is well known.

Qualifications:

- A post-secondary degree in human services or equivalent combination of education and work experience;
- Three or more years experience in Aboriginal youth;
- Knowledge of social, economic and health issues relevant to the urban Aboriginal community;
- Able to work effectively on a team with a strong client focus;



- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with Aboriginal youth, including a sound knowledge and understanding of the issues that impact on culture in contemporary society;
- Knowledge of available resources in Ottawa and ability to research the resources available in remote communities outside of Ottawa;
- Knowledge of on- and off- reserve governance and structures;
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Ability to conduct intakes and facilitate circles/ multimember meetings;
- Skill in the use of personal computers and related software applications;
- Strong organizational and negotiating skills and the ability to handle sensitive issues with tact and diplomacy;
- Wabano is a **client focused** organization, which means the successful candidates will have the flexibility to work when it is convenient for youth to access the Centre. Workers who work with children and youth are expected to work occasional evenings and weekends;
- Ability to work with challenging youth.

Specifications:

- **Candidates of Aboriginal descent will be given preference for this position (please self-identify)**
- Criminal reference check required

Location: The Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health
299 Montreal Rd., Ottawa, ON K1L 6B8

Salary: Within salary guidelines, commensurate with experience and qualifications.

To pursue this opportunity, please submit a covering letter and Curriculum Vitae **by December 31, 2013** to:

Erin MacDonald, HR Director
Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health
299 Montreal Road Ottawa, ON K1L 6B8
Fax: 613.748.9364
E-mail: emacdonald@wabano.com

We thank all those who apply. Only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.
As we promote employment equity, we encourage candidates to voluntarily self-identify if they are Aboriginal, and/or a member of a visible minority group