



Native Child and Family Services of Toronto

Native Child and Family Services of Toronto is an Aboriginal, community controlled multi-service agency. Our mission is to provide support, ensure safety and enhance the quality of life for Aboriginal families, children, and youth within the greater Toronto area. Our agency works within a holistic framework, which builds on individual and family strengths, and engages clients as partners in identifying issues and their solutions.

Residential Counsellor

Classification:	Regular Full-Time	Salary Range:	\$50,886-\$73,774
Hours:	35 hours/week	Location:	222 Carlton Street

NCFST is committed to staffing a workforce representative of the Aboriginal population we serve. We encourage First Nations, Metis and Inuit applicants to apply and to please self-identify in their cover letter.

Mdewgaan Lodge (mi-day-gaan / medicine lodge) serves Aboriginal women with young children who are struggling with addiction issues and mental health challenges related to complex trauma and poverty, and who are either homeless, precariously housed, or at risk of homelessness. The program stems the flow of children into child welfare, breaking down historical cycles, and addressing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children in the child welfare system. Our services are trauma-informed and holistic, utilizing Traditional Healing, Traditional Counselling, and Land-based Cultural Programming combined with mainstream clinical interventions.

The **Residential Counsellor** is responsible for the ongoing functioning and operation of the Lodge and for ensuring the safety of its residents. Please be advised that this position requires flexibility and the ability to work evenings and weekends.

Main Responsibilities

Under the direction of the Supervisor, Mdewgaan Lodge, the Residential Counsellor will:

1. Provide fair, respectful and culturally relevant service to Aboriginal children and families, consistent with the mission, vision, and values of Native Child and Family Services of Toronto.
2. Provide a safe and secure setting by maintaining rules and expectations of the home.
3. Provide supervision, support, and education to residents, with an emphasis on life and social skills.
4. Assist residents on an individual basis with their goal setting and provide ongoing support to each resident in reaching their goals.
5. Ensure residents are provided with the appropriate referrals for counselling, groups, classes etc.
6. Ensure that equipment, inventory and supplies are maintained and protected.
7. Be responsible for reconciliation of the petty cash and TTC tokens distribution.
8. Provide individual support such as crisis intervention, dispute resolution, and other supportive intervention.
9. Provide life skills activities (circles) and other related events centered on addiction and prevention and intervention.
10. Provide cultural and traditional support and circles
11. Provide written and verbal assessments on the resident's readiness to participate in programs and activities.
12. Address the cultural needs of the residents.
13. Provide support to the other members of the Mdewgaan Lodge Team regarding information, referrals and follow-up services to residents.
14. Responsible for ensuring that resident information is properly collected and maintained through the established electronic database in a timely manner.
15. Assist in meal planning with residents.
16. Represent Native Child and Family Services of Toronto at community level.
17. All other duties related to the programs mandate as assigned.

What we are looking for

- Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Social Work, Counseling or a closely related field
- Alternatively, an equivalent combination of education and experience working with Aboriginal people in a social services setting may be considered.
- Minimum of two (2) years direct experience in the social work field (preferably in a transitional/group home environment) working with the Aboriginal population.
- A valid (G) Driver's License.
- Have a current CPR and First-Aid certification or willing to complete prior to commencement of employment.
- Substantial level of familiarity in Aboriginal culture(s), particularly with respect to the urban Aboriginal population.
- Knowledge of the resources available for Aboriginal peoples with respect to issues such as homelessness, addictions and mental health.
- In-depth knowledge of the spectrum of services provided by NCFST.
- Good oral and written communication skills.



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- Excellent time management and organizational skills especially to be able to work under pressure of tight frame frames and varying volume of workload.
- Must be familiar with and able to contribute to a team approach with respect to effective service delivery, particularly teams with a demonstrated commitment to incorporating Aboriginal traditions and values.
- Good computer skills to utilize all required applicable computer software.

If you are interested in this job opportunity, please apply by email on or before **July 21, 2020** to hrcfst@nativechild.org quoting reference number **#20-06-13**.

We are dedicated to providing a barrier-free work environment in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code. As such, NCFST will make accommodations available to applicants with disabilities upon request during the recruitment process.

We thank you for your interest, however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.