



## Acorn Family Place Job Posting: Counsellor

**Anticipated start date:** ASAP

**Hours:** 37.5 hours a week (some flexibility, between 9am-5pm, Monday- Friday)

**Term:** 1 year term, possibility of renewal

**Wage:** \$29/hour

**Benefits and Workplace Environment:** Group disability, life insurance, pension, health and dental package, EAP, 6% vacation

Acorn Family Place is a multi-service family resource centre providing support, enhancing education, and fostering community. We work together to strengthen children and families on the challenging journey of living and growing. The Counsellor will provide low-barrier counselling to caregivers, parents, and children in the family resource centre. The Counsellor will deliver no-cost services through an empowerment based, trauma-informed and harm-reduction lens, and within the broader context of the social determinants of health.

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Abide by AFP policies and procedures, including confidentiality and consent processes
- Work with lead counsellor to implement the counselling program within the family resource centre
- Provide individual and group counselling to caregivers, parents and families who have experienced or are experiencing family conflict, gender-based violence, mental health related barriers, marginalization, trauma, impacts of colonization, poverty, etc.
- Provide counselling sessions on site, in person as well as over a virtual platform as requested
- Maintain a therapeutic environment that is inclusive, strength-based and rooted in anti-oppressive principles
- Conduct supportive and effective intakes and referrals
- Manage a caseload of approximately 25 counselling participants, scheduling weekly or bi-weekly appointments
- Maintain regular communication with lead counsellor, clinical and agency supervisors, other Acorn Family Place staff. Work as a team to provide support, connections to AFP programs, and holistic, responsive support to families
- Participate in circles of support, meetings and other communication with external agencies and other supports as requested by counselling participants
- Carefully document participation and results and maintain accurate and confidential records in support of program reporting and evaluation
- Participate in broader initiatives and daily operations of the family resource centre such as drop-in support, family outings, special events, committees, staff meetings, and professional development



**The ideal candidate will have:**

- Education as pertains to the role; Bachelors Degree in a relevant health or social science field required; Master's degree in related field preferred (MSW, MMFT, etc.)
- Current registration and good standing with an appropriate licensing body required (employer will reimburse successful candidate for registration fees)
- Minimum 1 year experience providing counselling services to one or more of the following: adults, children/youth, couples and/or families, in a clinical setting
- A strong understanding of the impacts of colonialism, racism, poverty, and other factors, on the lives of individuals and families
- Knowledge of local community mental health resources
- Understanding of the challenges related to navigating systems such as CFS, EIA, Justice
- Knowledge of child development and parenting, through education and/or lived experience
- Empathy and an approachable, trauma-informed, non-judgemental way of interacting with community
- Self-awareness, integrity, and the ability to balance a caring approach with professional boundaries
- Strong organizational and administrative skills and comfort with tasks including writing, work planning, computer use (Microsoft Office, email), tracking and reporting on statistics and qualitative data collected, file management
- Strong communication skills – both written and verbal – ability to adapt to different audiences
- A collaborative approach to teamwork
- Demonstrated ability to provide culturally-informed and culturally-safe services

Acorn Family Place requires a current satisfactory criminal record check (including vulnerable sector search, child abuse registry check, and adult abuse registry check) and will reimburse employees for fees.

Acorn Family Place strives to employ a staff team that is inclusive and reflective of the population that we serve. We especially welcome applications from Indigenous and Newcomer applicants, and encourage (but do not require) applicants to self-identify in their application.

**To apply:** Please send resumes and cover letters by email to: Kristen Wiltshire  
managerofprograms@acornfamilyplace.ca

**Closing date:** June 20, 2023

We thank all applicants for their interest, but only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.