



**Family Services**  
of Greater Vancouver



**Indigenous Family Counsellor  
Vancouver-Family Preservation and Reunification Program  
Internal /External Competition # 169-17**

**Are you committed to supporting young children and their families?**

**Are you passionate about helping young children to develop to the best of their potential?**

**Join us to build healthy, vibrant tomorrows**

Since 1928, **Family Services of Greater Vancouver** has been creating brighter tomorrows for people and families in our community. Last year we supported more than 13,000 people to create possibilities for themselves through professional counselling, therapy, education, advocacy, planning, employment support, and other community services.

Our **Family Preservation & Reunification Program** works with families to prevent out-of-home placement or to reunite children with their families. We help families focus on addressing challenges in family life and support parents to develop strategies to cope with their challenges and be the best parent they can be, while keeping the physical, emotional, and developmental needs of their children at the forefront.

## **JOB SUMMARY**

The Indigenous Family Counsellor provides services, primarily to Indigenous families, that promote healthier family functioning in relation to personal, family and community values while providing linkages to relevant community resources. This position provides a variety of parenting education, support and counselling to children and families referred by the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD).

## **Position Profile/Key Responsibilities**

Under the direction of the Manager, Clinical Services, the Indigenous Family Counsellor provides:

- A variety of **parenting education, supportive interventions and counselling/therapy services** that promote healthier family functioning and utilization of community supports
- **Support and counselling** to children and families referred by MCFD and **linkage** between the family, the community, MCFD and other professional services
- **Advocacy** for the child and/or family, particularly in regard to housing, health, basic needs or schooling
- **Assessment** of family and/or child functioning and needs within expected time frames
- **Liaise** as appropriate with other agencies/professionals and Indigenous communities for purposes of consultation, referral and advocacy, in order to ensure that clients receive comprehensive, inclusive service
- **Make** presentations, as requested by the Manager, to community organizations in order to exchange information and facilitate cross-referral of clients
- **Share** culture knowledge and values with the Family Preservation team and other professionals to bring a better understanding of Indigenous cultures

- **Maintain** accurate records of assessments, contact, referrals and report to MCFD as required by contract.

## **Required Competencies**

- Collaborative Communication
- Personal Effectiveness
- Personal Leadership
- Commitment to Excellence
- Conflict Management
- Developing Others
- Networking / Relationship Building

## **Job Specific Knowledge/Skills/Abilities**

- Knowledge of child welfare policies and practices relevant to Indigenous Communities
- Working knowledge of different parenting strategies and the ability to share these strategies with families in a holistic approach
- In-depth knowledge of child development and child abuse dynamics
- An understanding of integrated case management/ wrap around service delivery
- An understanding of child and adolescent stages of development
- Superior crisis intervention skills
- Ability to work with families that may present multiple service needs related to poverty, addictions, violence, child abuse or neglect, and mental health issues
- Ability to provide counselling with a variety of approaches that best fits client needs
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
- Knowledge of computer operating systems, e.g. Microsoft Office( MS Word, Excel and Publisher)
- Ability to maintain up to date information on best practices for family preservation and reunification and on therapeutic modalities that are applicable.
- Ability to work collaboratively with Indigenous Communities

## **Education / Experience**

- Masters preferred in Social Work (MSW) or Clinical Counselling (MA) with a minimum 5 years of related experience or will consider a relevant Bachelor in a related field with extensive experience

## **Other Requirements**

- Criminal record check is a condition of employment
- Standard First Aid Certificate, or training provided
- Class Five Driver's License and personal vehicle
- Ability to work evenings and weekends when necessary
- Ability to work off site including in home and in the community of clients

## **Desirable Skills/ Experience**

- Preference will be given to applicants with demonstrated experience in the Family Preservation Program, and work experience with Indigenous families and communities.

## **Why Work Here?**

- Friendly Work Environment
- Flexible Working Hours
- Support the Local Community
- Rewarding Experience

## **To apply**

Please submit your resume and/or cover letter outlining your interest and relevant experience to:

**Karen Moore, HR Advisor; Email: [careers@fsgv.ca](mailto:careers@fsgv.ca)**

**Please also reference “169-17 Indigenous Family Counsellor – Vancouver Family Preservation and Reunification Services” in the subject line of your email**

**Work Hours:** Monday to Friday based on 35 hours/week

**Salary Information:** GL16S1 (\$1,913.08 bi-weekly) with excellent benefits including pension

**Location:** 4103 Fraser Office, Vancouver office

**Start Date:** As soon as possible

**Closing Date:** Open until filled

**We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those selected for interviews will be contacted.**

Family Services is committed to the principles of diversity. We encourage applications from qualified people of all genders and sexual orientations, visible minorities, Indigenous persons and persons with disabilities.