



A Way Home Kamloops Society

Youth Housing Support Worker

Job Description

SUMMARY: The primary job of the Youth Housing Support Worker is to provide a supportive housing environment for youth residing in AWHK Housing at Safe Suites. This position is responsible for providing support services and helping youth develop life-skills that will support a healthy transition to adulthood. Support is provided through a harm-reduction lens. Programming incorporates trauma informed practice and cultural awareness.

PROGRAM SITE: This position supports the AWHK Safe Suites location on the North Shore, Kamloops BC.

CLASSIFICATION: 1 Casual/Part Time \$20/hour to start. Temporary position that may have the option of becoming ongoing position.

HOURS: 8-24 hours a week as per staffing schedule. May include after-hours and or weekend scheduling.

RESPONSIBLE TO: Executive Director of A Way Home Kamloops Society, House Leader Safe Suites Location

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Post-secondary in the areas of social work, human services or a related field.
- Proven two years' experience working with youth at risk of or experiencing homelessness.
- Experience in supportive housing, or supporting youth with mental health or substance use issues in a case management role is an asset.
- Demonstrated ability to work as a team and work with diverse populations.
- Strong conflict resolution and crisis management skills.
- Demonstrated youth engagement and communication skills.
- Training requirements include: First Aid/CPR-C, Food Safe, Safe Talk or Assist, Opioid Overdose Response Training, Non-Violent Crisis Intervention or Mental Health First Aid.
- Successful Criminal Record Check, including Vulnerable persons check.
- Lived expertise of homelessness and/or Indigenous heritage are key assets.
- Driver's License and Transportation an Asset.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Programming and Youth Support Functions:

- Daily wellness checks with youth residing at Safe Suites and ensure a welcoming environment.
- Be a positive role model and provide tangible and moral support that compliments a youth-led home environment, providing opportunities for learning and growth without pressure or bias.
- Implement wellness plans and support youth in strategies to achieve them.
- Support youth with achieving their wellness goals as requested by the case manager and programming.
- Consistently implement behavior management plans, safety plans, and harm reduction plans as developed by the Case Manager.
- Create opportunities for youth to acquire “adulting” skills.
- Facilitate medication, transportation tickets, and allowance benefits.
- Conduct daily room checks and identify any potential risks or areas requiring attention to the Case Manager.
- Support with formal program paperwork (move-in/move-out) and program orientations as requested by the Case Manager.
- Provide assistance and support to the Case Manager working as part of the Safe Suites team to ensure youth are supported and the program runs well.
- Attend youth meetings as requested by the Case Manager.
- Answer phone calls and provide information to supports that youth have consented to.
- Complete daily notes and documentation on youth behavior.
- Actively participate in the best interests of each client, balancing the needs of the others in the home.

Life-skills Programming:

- Provide life-in life-skills programming and support to youth with daily activities of living such as cooking, cleaning, etc.
- Prepare dinner daily in partnership with youth residing at the home to ensure appropriate nutrition and development of life skills.
- Support youth residing at Safe Suites to prepare breakfast, lunch, and snacks.
- Support youth to make and keep appointments with their support team.
- Implement life-skills and recreational programming as per the Calendar.
- Support youth to achieve training and employment goals.
- Assist residents in the development of interpersonal, social and life skills.
- Support youth in ensuring the cleanliness and general hygiene of the home through the live-in life skills curriculum.

- Encourage youth to participate in programs and services.
- Support youth to develop good roommate skills.
- Assist youth in preparing to live independently in community.

Crisis Prevention & Response:

- Maintain a safe work environment and report any housing or safety issues.
- Maintain the safety of the building by enforcing housing guidelines.
- Mediate conflicts between youth and support the de-escalation of youth in crisis.
- Implement safety and harm reduction plans as per the Case Manager.
- Complete perimeter checks inside/outside at least once every two hours.
- Monitor youth behavior and have contact with youth onsite at least once every hour (when awake or as per safety plan).
- Follow the policies and procedures in *Safe Suites Program Manual*.
- Provide youth with crisis support and de-briefing.
- Complete Critical Incident reports as required.

Safe Suites Housing Up-Keep:

- Conduct cleaning duties as per shift responsibilities and maintain a safe and hygienic facility.
- Complete minor repairs and household upkeep. Document and report on the need for larger repairs.
- Pick up supplies and food for the program.
- Clean common areas of the home and performing routine maintenance.
- Yard maintenance.

Documentation and Communication:

- Observe youth and write and contribute to activities in logbook and staff communication log.
- Ensure effective communication with team members.
- Communicate and facilitate communication between teams.
- Perform shift change and update staff on youth behaviors.
- Assist with program evaluation as requested by the Executive Director.