



External Posting #2020-12-1

Posting Date: Wednesday Dec. 9th 2020

Closing Date: 4PM Wednesday, Dec. 30th 2020

Position: Part-time Bereavement Counsellor

Reporting Relationship: Reports to Program Coordinator

Working Hours: 22 hrs./week. Additional hours may be arranged by mutual consent based on holiday/sick leave coverage or fluctuating organizational workloads. Some local travel is required.

Start: As soon as possible (latest January 31, 2021)

About Comox Valley Hospice Society (CVHS): The mission of CVHS is to provide compassionate care and support to individuals in the last stages of living and to their families and the bereaved.

At Hospice we believe that living life to the fullest is important for each of us. We also believe that living with an illness, dying, caregiving and grieving are normal parts of life.

Our hope is that when an illness occurs or people are dying in our community they will experience dignity and peace; their caregivers will receive the help they need; and they, and their families and friends, will be supported in their grief.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

CVHS bereavement services include grief counselling, grief support groups, telephone/on-line support and counselling, one-to-one support visits, anticipatory grief support and counselling, and information/educational sessions and literature. Services are available to those grieving the death of a loved one.

Bereavement services are provided by counsellors and well trained volunteers. Current COVID-19 protocols have imposed some limitations on the way services are provided. This position works primarily out of the CVHS offices but virtual counselling from the counsellor's home may be required. The Bereavement Counsellor may also see CVHS clients in their homes, at the Comox Valley Hospital and at Hospice at The Views (HaTV).

The Bereavement Counsellor is required to perform a range of duties. including but not limited to:

- Reviewing bereavement client referrals, assessing needs, determining which services are appropriate and referring the client to those supports. This may include matching the client with a CVHS volunteer and/or referring to other community and/or health services if appropriate;
- Individual and family counselling;
- Liaising and collaborating with other health care professionals to address/problem solve client care issues;

- Facilitating online and in-person grief group programs and caregiver support groups with the support of volunteer co-facilitator(s);
- Providing back-up counselling support for palliative and anticipatory grief clients as required;
- Participating in CVHS clinical meetings, case conferencing and client debriefs;
- Assisting with volunteer training and support.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Masters Degree in counselling or related field; with a minimum of two years' grief and loss counselling experience. Experience may be considered in combination with relevant education;
- Demonstrated knowledge of the grief process;
- Demonstrated knowledge of family systems;
- Demonstrated experience with trauma-informed care;
- Knowledge and understanding of the philosophy of End of Life Care and the needs of the dying, their families and the bereaved.

APTITUDES AND ABILITIES:

- Strong verbal and written communication skills;
- Strong interpersonal skills;
- Ability to work in a highly confidential environment;
- Ability to maintain appropriate boundaries in the face of sorrow, pain, and suffering;
- Clear grasp of adult educational principles;
- Keen interest in working with volunteers;
- Demonstrated ability to work as part of a team and independently;
- High degree of flexibility and initiative;
- Demonstrated ability to use relevant office equipment (photocopier, FAX, phone, etc.);
- Demonstrated ability in the use of Microsoft Office Suite, web based applications and social media;
- Willingness to learn new software programs;
- Knowledge of Comox Valley Hospice Society and local community resources an asset.

A full job description is available on our website: comoxhospice.com.

Please submit a letter of interest and resume to ed@comoxhospice.com. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

CVHS is committed to employment equity. We welcome applications from anyone with the requisite qualifications and skills including members of visible minority groups, Indigenous, Black and People of Colour, persons with disabilities, LGBQ+ persons and Trans and Gender Diverse persons.