



North End
**COMMUNITY
HEALTH CENTRE**
MOSH

MOSH/MAP OUTREACH NURSE

Internal/External Opportunity Brief

Position: MAP Outreach Nurse (*unionized position under NSGEU Local 102*)
Reports to: MOSH Manager
Location: Clinic and Outreach based
Work Term: 1.0 FTE (37.5 hours/week), permanent
Pay Scale: \$34.88-\$40.84
Deadline: July 8, 2022

About NECHC

The North End Community Health Centre (NECHC) was established in 1971 in response to an absence of primary health care and other health services in Halifax's North End. Located on Gottingen Street, we are in the heart of a unique and culturally diverse community. Today, governed by the North End Community Health Association, the NECHC is viewed by area residents as a "beacon of hope" in the community. Much more than a Primary Care Clinic, the NECHC has expanded in response to unmet needs of community members and is highly-valued by its patients and clients and their families. NECHC provides services to those living on the margins of society, through MOSH, Housing First and a wide range of community outreach initiatives.

Vision

Strong community - healthy people.

Mission

We support health and well-being in our community through quality primary health care, education and advocacy in an environment in which people are treated with respect and dignity and there is equitable access to services and programs.

Values

Respect. Community. Compassion. Excellence. Innovation

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commitment

The North End Community Health Centre is committed to being an inclusive organization. We are working to ensure our organization represents the diverse people and communities we serve. Our position postings encourage members from the following communities to apply:

- 2SLGBTQIA++
- African Nova Scotian and/or people of African Descent
- Indigenous
- People with disabilities
- Language minorities
- People of Colour and/or racially visible minorities
- Immigrant and refugee

- Connected to the North End of Halifax
- Persons with lived experience

In order to self-declare inclusion in equity groups please complete the self-declaration form available on our website at nechc.com/jobs and submit it with your resume and cover letter.

Your declaration of membership in any of these equity groups will remain confidential.

Job Purpose

Reporting to the MOSH and Harm Reduction Managers, the Outreach Nurse is a member of the Managed Alcohol Program (MAP) Mobile Outreach Street Health (MOSH) teams. These teams are largely community outreach based. Practice, collaboration and coordination will happen in the context and location of the lives of people who are experiencing homelessness or who are street-involved. The nurse works as a collaborative member of the MOSH and MAP teams.

The MAP Outreach Nurse acts as the central clinical position in MAP, reviewing daily assessments, client notes, connecting with MAP clients, and coordinating client care information between physicians and Occupational Therapist, the Harm Reduction Manager, the MAP harm reduction outreach team, and housing partners.

MOSH is an interdisciplinary primary care outreach service. The nurse is expected to deliver relationship-based health care through outreach to the community, being attentive to clients' needs and changing trends. The following are the main objectives of the program:

- To increase access to effective and equitable primary health care to community members across the life span who are homeless, street involved, and insecurely housed.
- To improve health status of marginalized and underserved populations.
- To create a collaborative environment in which information, knowledge, and resources are shared among community service, health care, academic, and government organizations.

MAP is a medical harm-reduction program that serves a caseload of individuals with severe alcohol use disorder (AUD) in the community. MAP aims to mitigate the health and social harms associated with AUD through alcohol prescription and scheduled delivery in the context of ongoing assessment and medical oversight, with attention to the social determinants of health.

Position Responsibilities

Key responsibilities for this position include the following, but are not limited to:

1. Assessments and Interventions:

- Works collaboratively with all members of the MOSH team, the client, other health team members of the NECHC, and any appropriate care provider in the identification of goals and development of individualized case plans.
- Provides testing, education and interventions for prevention of HIV, Hepatitis B and C sexually transmitted infections, and other infectious diseases.
- Provides birth control counselling and safer sex information.
- Provides appropriate health education and health promotion with nursing interventions for individuals and groups with chronic diseases.
- Provides advocacy, counselling, support and referral for a variety of health and social concerns.

- Liaise with referral sources to support client movement through the continuum of healthcare and housing status.
- Facilitate chronic disease management including chronic mental health and addictions.
- Deliver trauma informed, gender inclusive and gender-affirming, harm-reduction care.
- Provides appropriate primary care nursing interventions for urgent and non-urgent care through outreach, and on-site at the NECHC.

2. Nursing Procedures:

- Routine nursing physical assessments of well and unwell clients.
- Wound care.
- Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.
- Dressings and treatment of minor trauma.
- Treatment advice for minor urgent care.
- Cryotherapy for simple and genital warts.
- Venipuncture and collection and forwarding other specimens of specimens.
- Foot care, ear syringing, first aid, giving injections, including long-term psychotropic drugs.
- Administer over the counter medications, emergency contraceptives and birth control pills.
- Administer treatment plans under the established medical directives.
- Immunizations across the life span.
- Pap smear/test and prostate exams.
- Order and maintain medical supplies and education materials for the health team.
- Order pharmaceutical supplies and meet with various pharmaceutical salespeople for samples.
- Non-violent crisis intervention and de-escalation with clients, as needed.
- Maintenance of emergency supplies.
- Contact patients with reports and appointments that require urgent attention.

3. Community:

- Provide outreach services to MAP clients living at Herring Cove Apartments (operated by Shelter Nova Scotia) at least once a week.
- Provide outreach services to shelters and other agencies as the designated schedule dictates.
- Provides support, health education and consultation to client's supports and frontline workers in the homelessness sector.
- Deliver presentations and education.
- Conduct Flu and vaccine clinics at various agencies.
- Participate in research projects.
- Works with other MOSH team members in the creation and delivery of health education/promotion.
- Participate on community committees or boards, when appropriate.
- Precept learners when possible.
- Participates in data collection for evaluation purposes.
- Attend team meetings and some community events.

Education and Experience

- Bachelor of Nursing, Masters considered an asset
- Minimum 3-5 years of community health experience or outreach experience
- Experience working with people experiencing homelessness or social-justice-health issues that commonly present in people experiencing homelessness

- Valid Drivers License with 2 years minimum driving experience and a clean Drivers Abstract

Assets

- Family Practice Nurse training and/or Community Nursing training a strong advantage.
- Experience working in a collaborative practice setting desirable.
- Experience in a harm reduction setting a strong advantage
- Experience conducting nursing assessments on adults and children desirable.
- Experience working in a diverse and multicultural environment desirable.
- Experience in an independent practice preferred.

Professional Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Possesses above average nursing assessment skills including physical assessments.
- Demonstrated knowledge of a variety of mental illnesses, co-morbidity and treatment modalities.
- Possesses an above average understanding of the social determinants and population health.
- Demonstrated experience in supportive counselling.
- Experience advocating for clients, individually and at a systemic level.
- Expertise and comfort working independently utilizing delegated medical directives.
- Excellent understanding of the principles of adult education.
- Excellent team player.
- Must have above average communication skills (verbal and written).
- Must have a high degree of respect, knowledge of and experience working with cultural differences and diversity.
- Must be able to work respectfully with complex and challenging patients.
- Demonstrated use of conflict resolution skills.
- Understanding and comfort in relationship based, trauma informed care and harm reduction.
- Have an above average understanding of the issues of homelessness.
- Possess working knowledge of the Nova Scotia income assistance program.
- Must be able to work with challenging situations of social injustice.
- Excellent time management skills.
- Proficient in using computers, basic office and spreadsheets.
- Familiarity with electronic record management, particularly MedAccess, would be an asset.
- Demonstrated work in highly stressful situations.
- Must be able to work with a high degree of autonomy and demonstrate critical thinking and sound judgment as well as organization and accountability to manage complex demands.
- Must be highly motivated, proactive, and creative.
- Have a commitment to professional and team development and self-learning.
- Adaptable and flexible.

Working Environment

- Supportive, exciting and challenging environment
- Exposure to usual hazards of health care centre
- Constant interaction with vulnerable people, some aggressive or verbally abusive
- Moderate effort is required to perform this role including lifting, repetitive motion, standing, reaching, sitting, pushing/pulling.

How to Apply

Those interested in applying for this position should send their cover letter and resume to employment@nehc.com by **July 8, 2022**. We thank all applicants for their interest, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Please note that a vulnerable sector criminal record check is required for all NEHC employees working directly with clients, participants and patients, however we acknowledge that criminalization occurs disproportionately in some communities more than others, and a clear record is not required. Any items that come up on such a record check will be discussed confidentially during hiring.

Please note that as of October 4, 2021, all new hires will be required to provide proof of full vaccination as a condition of employment.