



Position: MOSH RN – Harm Reduction Focus
Classification: This is a position under NEGEU Local 102
Location: 2131 Gottingen Street.
Hours of Work: 0.2 FTE permanent part time position; 7.5 hrs per week
Pay Scale: \$36.78 -\$43.33/hr
Deadline: **September 15, 2023**

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:

- 2SLGBTGDQQA++
- 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

Job Purpose

Position Summary:

Reporting to the MOSH Manager, the Outreach Nurse is a member of the Mobile Outreach Street Health (MOSH) team. The practice is both clinic and community outreach based. Practice, collaboration and coordination will happen in the context and location of people lives that are living homeless or in insecure places and or street involved.

This position is an advanced nursing position in a community outreach setting. Nursing care, collaboration and coordination will happen in the context and location of people's lives who are living homeless or in insecure places and or street involved. The nurse works as a collaborative member of the MOSH health team but the majority of direct care delivery will occur independently. Services and activities that promote wellness, maintain health and prevent disease or serious exacerbation of disease will be emphasized. Using social determinants of health framework, this is accomplished through nursing assessments, health promotion, and health education counselling and harm reduction. The nurse will need to assess, plan and implement appropriate nursing interventions for both the community and the individual.

Strong collaboration is emphasized when working with the same clients between all practitioners: with community agencies, and all providers within NECHC's health team. 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.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The following duties reflect the broad scope of responsibilities but are not necessarily all-inclusive.

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 birth control counselling and safe sex information.
- Provides testing, education and interventions for prevention of HIV, Hepatitis B and C sexually transmitted infections, and other infectious diseases.
- 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, harm-reduction care
- Provides appropriate primary care nursing interventions for urgent and non-urgent care through outreach, and on-site at the NECHC.

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.
- Well woman 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
- Maintenance of emergency supplies.
- Contact patients with reports and appointments that require urgent attention.

Community:

- 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 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

Other activities as necessary or as directed by the MOSH Manager.

POSITION SPECIFICATIONS

Minimum Education and Experience:

- Bachelor of Nursing or registered and working towards, Masters prepared an asset.
- Experience working with people experiencing homelessness or social-justice-health issues frequently presenting in people experiencing homelessness a strong advantage.
- Family Practice Nurse training and/or Community Nursing training a strong advantage.
- Experience in working in a diverse community preferred

Certification/registration/designation:

- Registered Nurse in the Province of Nova Scotia or eligible
- CPR certification (or willingness upon hire)
- Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Certified (or willingness upon hire)
- Valid Drivers License with 2 years minimum driving experience and a clean Drivers Abstract

Special Skills and Knowledge:

- 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.
- Adaptable and flexible.

Nature and amount of experience:

- Minimum 3-5 years of community health experience or equivalent setting, outreach experience an asset.
- Experience working in a collaborative practice setting desirable.
- Experience working with the homeless community desirable.
- Experience conducting nursing assessments on adults and children desirable.
- Experience working in a diverse and multicultural environment desirable.
- Experience in an independent practice preferred.

Judgement and initiative:

- 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.

Type and level of supervision exercised:

- Expected to fulfil all activities related to the role with a minimum degree of supervision.
- Will be expected to mentor students occasionally.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

NECHC is intentional in creating spaces that are inclusive and intentionally reflect our communities. The organization recognizes that more representation is needed within the team, particularly from African Nova Scotian and Indigenous Communities. Preference will be given to candidates who identify as Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) and/or 2SLGBTGDQQIA++ Individuals are encouraged to self-identify in their application/cover letter.

How to Apply:

Applications for this position should be submitted directly to employment@nehc.com no later than 5pm on September 15, 2023.