



Community Nutritionist, RD – 1.0 FTE Internal and External Opportunities Brief

Position:	Community Nutritionist – 1.0 FTE (<i>This is a unionized position under NEGEU Local 102</i>)
Reports to:	Manager of Allied Health, Primary Care
Location:	2131 Gottingen Street
Hourly Pay Scale:	\$32.95 - \$ 43.43, depending on the previous experience
Work term:	1-year term position
Hours:	37.5 hrs./week
Deadline:	September 5, 2024,

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 Color and/or racially visible minorities
- Immigrant and refugee
- Connected to the North End of Halifax

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:

The Community Nutritionist reports to the Manager of Allied Health – Primary Care as a member of the Community and Mental Health team. The Community Nutritionist is responsible for developing, implementing, and evaluating the clinical nutrition program while supporting and overseeing the community-based component.

Clinical programming is provided in a primary care setting with an interdisciplinary health team of physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, dentistry, and other allied health professionals. The Community Nutritionist provides individual nutrition counselling services for clients of NECHC programming, including but not limited to chronic disease prevention and management, special diet letters, and resource navigation. The clinical component may also include the development and facilitation of group programming based on the needs of the community.

The Community Nutritionist will also play an active role in community programming. This includes oversight and collaboration with a Dietetic Aide in the management and delivery of a monthly produce program, a local food network, and various short-term grant-dependent food programs.

The Community Nutritionist works Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm.



Education and Experience:

- Bachelor of Science in Applied Human Nutrition with successful completion of Dietetic Internship Program, required.
- Licensed and in good standing with Nova Scotia College of Dietitians and Nutritionists, required
- 1-3 years working experience as a Registered Dietitian, healthcare setting preferred
- Strong knowledge of North End Halifax
- Understanding (or willing to learn) Afrocentric and/or Indigenous approaches to nutrition and food, required.
- Experience working with communities with historical and current trauma and oppression.

Position Responsibilities:

Clinical Programming:

Collaborative Practice

- Utilize a collaborative care approach to practice, working as a team member within the NECHC Primary Care Clinic team to provide coordinated care.
- Work alongside, accept referrals from and make referrals to other providers within the collaborative team at NECHC, including social worker, family doctors, nurse practitioners, health case managers, PT, OT, dentists, etc.
- Actively participate in bi-weekly Primary Care Collaborative Practice Rounds (CPR) with the interdisciplinary team to review complex clients.

Nutrition Counselling

Direct Counselling

- Provide direct Nutrition Counselling with clients of the NECHC including, but not limited to, diabetes, dyslipidemia, hypertension, chronic kidney disease, and weight management.
- Develop and maintain referral process, triage process, intake process and standardized follow-up plans for various medical conditions (eg. Standardized schedule for clients recently diagnosed with high blood pressure, diabetes or other concerns which require various levels of intervention).
- Complete individualized care plans for all clients comprised of assessment, implementation, evaluation and ongoing monitoring which incorporates evidence-based research.
- Construct a standardized intake process that includes an assessment of a client's needs, including housing situation, income sources, medical concerns and social needs.

- Provide support/advocacy letters for Special Diet funding and Purchase Orders requests for clients receiving Income Assistance.
- Maintain detailed client files, documentation and case notes- abiding by NSCDN and NECHC confidentiality standards and Code of Ethics.

Group Counselling

- Create, facilitate and provide access to psycho-education and clinical groups to NECHC clients. These groups will focus on providing nutrition counselling support in a group setting with topics being offered based on client needs (e.g. Healthy Eating for Diabetic Management, Celiac Disease and Fixed Income).
- Provide regular and standardized evaluation of groups.
- Practice will be rooted in Harm Reduction and Trauma Informed care; this includes understanding the influence of active substance use/addiction has on nutrition absorption, organ function, eating habits and lifestyle.
- Practice will incorporate and support Afrocentric and Indigenous approaches to nutrition and food, ensuring culturally appropriate and responsive care and options are provided.
- Practice must be rooted in Trauma Informed Care and Anti-Oppressive Practice, which including a strong understanding of the influences of poverty, oppression, marginalization and trauma has on the social determinants of health.

Resource Navigation

- Provide referrals to appropriate community agencies/organizations providing access to meals and/or access to food.
- Build active partnerships with community agencies who provide appropriate resources or support, including culturally appropriate resources.

Precepting Dietetic Interns

- Identify appropriate projects for learners based on experience, areas of interest, and population needs
- Support the learning of students through job shadowing, shared learnings, and training opportunities
- Monitor progress in achieving internship competencies and identify key learning opportunities to ensure completion of same
- Provide feedback to learners and faculty staff, complete required documentation



Community Programming:

- Assess, identify and evaluate community needs and goals. Develop and deliver appropriate programming surrounding food and nutrition.
- Construct programming in line with NECHC's mission, vision and values.
- Provide group programming which considers culturally responsive approaches and delivery models (specifically Afrocentric and Indigenous approaches to care, food and health).
- Complete comprehensive program briefs/charters during development and planning phases; including clear and measurable outcomes, key stakeholders, partnerships, budget and timelines of each program.
- Plan, develop and deliver programming alongside Dietetic Aide, as needed.
- Complete regular and scheduled evaluations and complete comprehensive report as required by funders.
- Assist in the delivery of any established Community Programming, including monthly Good Food Box Program, FoodFit, and North End Food Network.

Professional Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge and proficiency in current, evidence-based methods and practices in the field of nutrition, with an emphasis on the prevention and management of chronic disease.
- Understanding of health promotion, population health, and the determinants of health theory and practice.
- Familiarity with group facilitation, adult education, and motivational interviewing techniques.
- Commitment to working through a harm reduction lens.
- Demonstrated competence in electronic communication and Microsoft Office products.
- Commitment to contributing to a team environment that strives for inclusive practices.
- Reliable access to a vehicle is considered an asset but not required.

How to Apply

Those interested in applying for this position should send their cover letter and resume to employment@nechc.com by September 5, 2024.

We thank all applicants for their interest, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Note: A vulnerable sector criminal record check is required for all NECHC employees working directly with clients, participants, and patients.