



Southwest Ontario
Aboriginal Health
Access Centre

Early Years Liaison-Culturally Safe Spaces

Status: Full-Time Contract Position (approximately 1-year)

Location: Chippewa of the Thames, Muncey, ON

Posting Date: April 2, 2019

Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre (SOAHAC) is a diverse, dynamic, multiservice Indigenous health and wellness agency. We strive to provide quality, wholistic health services by sharing and promoting traditional and western health practices to enable people to live in a more balanced state of well-being. SOAHAC provides services to Indigenous people including those who live on and off reserve, status, non-status, Inuit, and Metis within the southwest region. SOAHAC has a mandate of ensuring that health services are accessible, of high quality, and are culturally appropriate. We are also mandated to build health care capacity within Indigenous communities. Currently, we are seeking the services of an **Early Years Liaison for culturally safe spaces** to join our interdisciplinary staff team based at our Chippewa site **with regular travel to surrounding early years locations within London and Middlesex County.**

Position Summary: This position is suited for a compassionate, creative, problem-solver who works comfortably with both culture-based and western services. As part of the **Journey Together** team, the **early years liaison** will be a front-line position with the primary responsibility of supporting early years locations in London and Middlesex with implementing strategies to create culturally safe spaces in the community. They will act as a liaison to support child care and early years providers in using reflective practices to build capacity within these locations to welcome and support all families. This position will work as part of the Journey Together culturally safe spaces.

Experience: Experience working with Indigenous people in community-based settings and fluency in a local language is an asset.

Requirements (Knowledge, Skills and Abilities):

- R.ECE or R.N.E.C.E preferred or demonstrated knowledge of the early years sector
- Relevant experience working in early years environments including child care, Headstart programs, OEYC or EarlyON programs, Family Centres
- Demonstrated understanding of the impacts of settler colonialism
- Demonstrated ability to communicate with honesty, understanding and an open mind
- Demonstrated desire and willingness to learn and share with others
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate with others, understanding different ways of being with others
- Demonstrated ability to model educators as researchers and seeking out new ways of knowing, and being a co-learner with their audience
- Valid Driver's license, proof of current automobile insurance and access to a reliable vehicle
- Computer proficiency including proven ability to use relevant technology (i.e. computer based data collection)
- A current Vulnerable Sector Police Check is a condition of employment

Responsibilities:

- Provide support to early years providers to pursue reflective practice
- Coordinate and participate in workshops related to the culturally safe spaces initiative
- Conduct onsite visits of early years locations in London and Middlesex act as a resource
- Facilitate opportunities for educators to connect online and in person for deeper reflection
- Provide input and help inform future professional development planning for early years providers in London and Middlesex
- Research and seek out appropriate individuals and knowledge to act as resource for land based education techniques and Indigenous learning
- Complete reporting requirements and document work completed
- Develop a work plan to achieve the goals of the project, that includes timelines, and resources
- To attend and actively participate in Journey Together culturally safe spaces meetings

This job may require additional responsibilities and duties as assigned by Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre.

Please Note: This position is based on contractual funding and is a full-time 1-year contract @ 35 hours per week. Salary is competitive and subject to experience and funding.

SOAHAC values diversity and is an equal opportunity employer; however, hiring preference will be given to qualified Indigenous applicants. SOAHAC is committed to providing employment accommodation in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. If you require accommodation to apply or if selected to participate in an assessment process, please advise Human Resources.

If you are interested in applying for this position, please forward your cover letter, resume, and names and contact information of 3 references (combined references from a supervisor and/ or manager) to:

Email: careers@soahac.on.ca

Include subject line: **Early Years Liaison- Culturally Safe Spaces**

or mail to:

Attention: **Anna-Marie Evans**
Human Resources Manager
Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre
425 – 427 William Street
London, ON N6B 3E1

Closing Date: **April 16, 2019**

Please visit Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre online at: www.soahac.on.ca or like us on www.facebook.com/soahac to learn more about us!

We thank all those for applying but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.