



## DELTASSIST FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY

### Job Description

#### JOB TITLE

**Suicide Intervention Program (0.30 FTE)/ Healthy Families Program Counsellor (0.30 FTE)/  
Seniors Counselling Program Counsellor (0.40 FTE) – Maternity Leave Coverage**

\*This is a combined position with a total of 1.0 FTE

**Start Date:** November 2021      **End Date:** September 2022

**Reports to:** Ruth Unaegbu, Manager of Counselling Services

**Hours of Work:** Between Monday and Friday; 35 hours per week; evenings may be required

#### JOB SUMMARY

The **Suicide Intervention Program (SIP) Counsellor** provides suicide risk assessments and assesses child/youth's general functioning, crisis intervention, and stabilization. The SIP Counsellor also provides short term supportive counselling. Although primarily individual intervention, engaging family members in the intervention plan might be necessary. Service is provided in a variety of settings including outreach.

Working as part of a team and employing an attachment-based and emotion-focused framework, the **Healthy Families Program (HFP) Counsellor** is responsible for an assigned caseload consisting of parents/caregivers and their families. In conjunction with the client, the HFP Counsellor conducts a comprehensive strengths and needs-based assessment, and develops and implements a comprehensive, individualized intervention plan with specified goals that address, are sensitive to, and respect the client's individual circumstances. Service delivery may occur as outreach (in clients' homes and/or other community settings) or in office-based locations and includes, but is not limited to, traditional (individual, group and family) counselling modalities, education and skills training, as well as a provision of direct assistance and support to clients in accomplishing daily tasks and advocacy on client's behalf.

Employing a cognitive-behavioural, systems, and strategic framework, the **Seniors Counsellor (SEN)** works in collaboration with the client to conduct a comprehensive strengths and needs focused assessment and develops and implements a comprehensive, holistic intervention plan

with specified goals that address, are sensitive to, and respect a client's individual circumstances. Service delivery may occur in clients' homes and/or other community settings (outreach) or in office-based locations. Services include, but is not limited to traditional (individual, group and family) counselling modalities, education/skills training, as well as provision of support to clients in facilitating referrals to help them accomplish daily tasks.

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Suicide Intervention Program Counsellor**

#### ***Assessment and Intervention***

- Establish prompt contact with child/youth/parents upon receiving a referral
- Assess suicide risk and child/youth's general functioning and family functioning (when appropriate)
- Provide crisis intervention, stabilization and short term counselling
- Engage family members as much as feasible to intervention plan
- Facilitate referrals for longer term counselling or other resources, as needed
- For MCFD referrals, assess after 4<sup>th</sup> session and contact CYMH Team Leader to discuss next steps

#### ***Case Management***

- Collaborate with referring parties and service providers to develop and implement care plans as appropriate
- Maintain and implement communication and response protocols with other suicide intervention services

### **Healthy Families Program Counsellor**

- Provides intensive, family-centred counselling and support with the objective of assuring the safety of children within a parent or caregiver's home or in other safe living environments (i.e. extended family, foster family, etc.), by enhancing parental effectiveness and facilitating the empowerment of the family as the primary child-rearing agent.
- Identifies and assesses existing individual and familial strengths and any issues of safety that would preclude a child from being maintained in their biological parent or caregiver's home.
- In association with the family, develops and implements individualized intervention plans based on a comprehensive assessment that identifies the family's strengths, needs, preferences, and needed supports.

- In situations where safety issues cannot be resolved, the counsellor facilitates healthy, positive, and consistent relationships with biological parents or caregivers to the extent that this is possible.
- Provides services within an ethno-cultural framework, so that the family's culture and spirituality are integrated into the service plan perspective. This may include the involvement of significant others such as elders, members of faith groups, or other persons identified by the family that play a significant cultural or spiritual role in their lives.
- Works cooperatively and collaboratively with the family and the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) to develop a family treatment plan that includes mutually agreed upon goals and objectives for the family's treatment. These goals and objectives will be directly related to the circumstances that led to an "at risk" status for the child(ren) and will:
  1. Address the most immediate concerns of the family and MCFD
  2. Reflect the family's agenda for change, including developing and facilitating links to needed internal and external resources through within the family's community in order to maintain, support, and, directly ensure the safety of the children in the home, (i.e. school, church, neighbours, elders, etc.)
- Creates and facilitates groups for children and parents/caregivers

### **Seniors Counsellor**

- Provides intensive, client-centred counselling, outreach, and intervention
- Completes a preliminary assessment of the individual, couple or family situation
- Identifies and assesses existing family/individual strengths and, in conjunction with the client, prepares an individual treatment plan.
- Develops and implements interventions that are based on a comprehensive assessment and:
  - include concrete, realistic, achievable goals that are subject to ongoing systematic monitoring and evaluation of achievement
  - are highly flexible in order to meet client needs
  - employ cognitive-behavioural techniques such as skill acquisition/development through training and modeling; cognitive-restructuring of dysfunctional thought patterns, attitudes and beliefs; and facilitation and support of change through direct action (e.g. accompanying, advocating and supporting clients in accessing and utilizing community resources)

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

*Education:* Masters Degree in Psychology, Counselling, Social Work

*Experience:* Experience with counselling individuals, couples, children, and families, both in office and on an outreach basis. Experience using various therapeutic modalities including attachment-based, emotion-focused, cognitive behavioural, and systemic and structural therapeutic frameworks to address diverse presenting issues

Experience in the areas of substance misuse, relationship violence, suicide risk assessment and intervention, crisis intervention with individuals and families

Experience working in environments employing Integrated Case Management and Strength-Based Approaches

Experience working with both voluntary and involuntary/mandated clients

Demonstrates assessment skills, service plan development and implementation skills

*Other* Ability to work independently, and as part of a multidisciplinary team, within an organization that requires flexibility, initiative, creativity and demands individual accountability.

Familiarity with the BC Risk Assessment Model, the Integrated case Management Model and strength-based assessment intervention approaches.

Ability to manage stress effectively

Ability to use a computer effectively to provide clear and thorough documentation of intervention process and to meet other established documentation requirements

Use and maintenance in safe operating condition, of own automobile to meet service requirements.

Confidence, assertiveness and a good sense of humour

CPR/First Aid Level One

<b>JOB BENCHMARK:</b>	Clinical Counsellor
<b>PARAPROFESSIONAL GRID LEVEL:</b>	16

Please indicate your interest in this position by submitting a cover letter and resume to:

**Ruth Unaegbu, Manager of Counselling Services**

Email: [ruthu@deltassist.com](mailto:ruthu@deltassist.com)