



JOB POSTING: PLAY THERAPIST (PART-TIME)

SONSHINE COMMUNITY SERVICES MISSION STATEMENT:

“Motivated by our Christian faith, our mission is to help women and children transform their lives.”

Sonshine Community Services is a charitable organization bringing hope and healing to families in need for more than 40 years. We envision a community where women and children live safely in healthy families.

We are a multi-services organization:

- Community Counselling is offered free of charge to community members.
- Sonshine Family Day Homes provide home based, affordable quality childcare.
- The Sonshine Centre is a one-year residential shelter for women and children escaping domestic violence and abuse.
- Sonshine Children’s Centre is the first licensed and accredited full-time children’s centre of its kind in Canada. It meets the unique needs of children who have experienced domestic violence or other forms of emotional trauma and provides them with the specialized and therapeutic support they need to grow into healthy and happy youth.

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION:

The Children’s Services Play Therapist will be working with children and their families from Sonshine Centre and Sonshine Children’s Centre who have experienced family violence and/or have been impacted by trauma. The successful candidate will be delivering child play therapy, filial play therapy, groups, parenting counselling and parent-child/family counselling.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Play Therapy

- Accept children 2.5 years and up and parental clients through referrals from the Director of Children’s Services. Children 13 - 17 are also eligible for Play Therapy but will be referred to as Expressive Therapy.
- Assess suitability for play therapy and which modality of therapy best matches the presenting issues.
- Complete an intake and assess each child/family and their individual needs and ensure that any consent secured is informed consent.
- Develop treatment goals, (in collaboration with the Children’s Services team), that can be revisited at later points in therapeutic process, to assist in determining therapeutic progress.
- Provide therapeutic interventions in individual, dyad (Filial Therapy), and group therapy sessions), on a weekly basis, to assist child/ family/group in coping with variety of presenting issues relating to trauma.
- Review therapeutic interventions with parents and staff on a regular basis.
- Supporting parents through parenting concerns and challenges, offering resources and strategies from a trauma-informed and strength-based perspective, and focused on parenting skills, decreasing risk factors, increasing protective factors and functional capacity.
- Provide assessments and counselling according to client needs.
- Deliver SEL programming in the Children’s Centre and Residential Children’s Program.
- Provide coverage for other positions as required and/or requested by the Director of Children’s Services.
- Support the supervision of volunteers and students.
- Work in partnership with the Child & Youth Counsellor, Parent-Child Educator, Child Support Workers, Children’s Centre Program Supervisor, Residential Counsellors, Intensive Case Manager, and community partners.



Supervision and Professional Development:

- Attend regular individual program supervision with Director of Children's Services.
- Be involved in peer support/consultation regarding cases as required.
- Attend ongoing professional development focused on information relating to children/families, domestic violence, toxic stress, and trauma.
- Maintain Professional Code of Conduct and Professional Ethics that are in line with professional association such as the Alberta College of Social Workers.
- Remain informed about best practices through professional literature, attending workshops, participating in research and professional associations, and maintaining contact with peers in the community.

Administration:

- Maintain ethical case notes and information outcomes of clients.
- Keep client files up to date with client information recorded according to appropriate professional standards.
- Developing forms and resources for children and families participating in Play Therapy.

QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS:

- Bachelor's Degree in Child & Youth Studies, Education, Early Childhood Education, Social Work, Psychology, or related field and a Master's Degree in Social Work, Psychology, Counselling, or related field.
- Certification as a Play Therapist (CPT) is required.
- Knowledge of Theraplay® preferred.
- Minimum of Level 1 Early Childhood Educator (formerly Child Development Assistant).
- Trauma-Informed practice knowledge and experience.
- Exceptional interpersonal communication, problem solving and boundary setting skills.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality, particularly around sensitive issues and situations impacting clients.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Three Professional References from previous employers.
- Current Police Information Check including Vulnerable sector search (completed within past 6 months).
- Current Child Intervention Record Check (completed within the past 6 months).
- Standard First Aid & CPR/AED Level C.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR RESUME AND COVER LETTER.

Elisabeth Citro, Director of Children's Services
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Sonshine Community Services is an equal opportunity employer. We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. No phone calls please.

This posting will remain active until such time as a suitable candidate is found.