

TEMPORARY (12 months) POSITION AVAILABLE with the possibility of extension:

Family Counsellor – Supporting Healthy Transitions – The PACE Program



We are looking for a creative and flexible individual to join our supportive and skilled professional team within the **Supporting Healthy Transitions Program**, a unique and exciting collaborative venture with the Ministry for Children and Family Development (MCFD).

The purpose of this program is to provide support and reduce the emotional impact on children, birth parents/family, adoptive parents, and foster families/out-of-care providers when there is a plan for a child to move from one family to another.

The Family Counselor bridges connection between the families to mitigate loss and support attachment. Service includes therapeutic work with the children and families as well as close collaboration with Social Workers and other professionals surrounding the child and family.

Service will be provided on the North Shore up to Squamish, and Gibsons to Sechelt. The role involves a blend of virtual work and site visits in the community. While office space is provided in Vancouver, some travel throughout the designated Coastal North Shore region is required.

The **Supporting Healthy Transitions Program** is accredited through CARF. PACE is primarily funded by MCFD and in operation since 1984.

HOURS: 30 hours per week for 12 months. Includes competitive compensation package.

START DATE: ASAP

DUTIES:

- Providing a range of child/family/systems support, depending on needs and requests, including counselling, in-home support and meetings.
- Liaising with social workers and other professionals to establish systemic and collaborative working relationship.
- Nurturing the development of sustainable relationships between the foster, birth, adoptive and extended families to support attachments formed with the children remain intact.
- Providing strategic and emotional support to all parties, so capacity and connection is promoted.
- Liaising and consulting with the Advisory Committee.
- Gathering family / professional input / feedback re: service needed and delivery.
- Preparation of “therapeutic narratives” and other materials helpful to child/family; supporting transition and change.
- Coordinating and/or participating in the intake process for the designated child/ren, including meetings with the parent/s, foster parent/s, social worker and family counsellor.
- Participating in team meetings, consultation and training.

- Dealing with complaints and conflict resolution, as needed.
- The Family Counsellor may work with other designated PACE staff members in providing support to a child/family.
- Preparing reports and summaries as defined or as applicable in a timely manner.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Post Graduate training in Social Work or Mental Health related field (or relevant experience)
- Minimum 5 years' experience in trauma informed practice and systems approach
- Sound understanding of child development, attachment, grief, loss and trauma issues required
- Experience supporting young children who have experienced trauma essential
- Experience with helping families deal with practical and emotional issues during the transition process
- Experience working in collaboration with professionals essential
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, as well as strong organizational skills required
- Access to vehicle / valid First Aid essential
- Criminal Record Check required
- Experience working with MCFD/ child welfare an asset
- Experience completing life stories for children in care an asset

We offer a flexible work environment, provide regular clinical consultation and ongoing professional development opportunities. At PACE, we believe strongly in supporting team members' growth, and welcome those who are interested in joining us in this pursuit.

**Please forward resume AND cover letter to admin@thepaceprogram.ca
Interviews will occur as suitable candidates apply**

Unfortunately due to time constraints, only those short-listed will be contacted. Thank you.