



## Employment Opportunity

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2016 Surrey Board  
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Surrey Child and  
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Workplace Award

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# Youth Outreach Addictions Counsellor

## **ASTRA Youth Addictions Outreach - Chilliwack Day/Evening/Weekend for Youth**

### **Term (1 year) FT**

The Youth Outreach Addictions Counsellor is a member of a decentralized team (each worker is assigned a catchment area) that provides alcohol and drug individual support and treatment services to young people (aged 13 – 24, with emphasis on 13 – 18) residing in the catchment area. Their primary role is to engage in one-to-one counselling. In some instances, the counsellor may be required to organize and facilitate groups. Group work could include: co-leadership of groups with other co-laterals including other PCRS staff and volunteers, professionals working for other agencies, and/or authorized “peer counsellors”. In some cases, the Youth Outreach Addictions Counsellor may be required to take sole responsibility for small group operation.

One-to-one counselling includes accepting and processing referrals, participant assessment, referral, and the development of service goals with these youth and/or the referring worker. These roles require a sound understanding of normal and delayed or problematic development, behaviour, and barriers, addictions theory, motivational theory, and the effects of trauma and abuse (including sexual abuse). Specific skills in physical and recreational activities and life skills instruction are an asset. Cases involving “family therapy” will be referred to the program supervisor or another agency for follow up.

### **Primary Duties:**

#### **1) Coordinates Program Within the Catchment Area (Chilliwack and surrounding area):**

- Engages in day-to-day liaison activities with relevant professionals and community members.
- Keeps the Program Supervisor advised of youth, community, and inter-agency relationships and concerns.
- Keeps the Program Supervisor advised about day-to-day program functioning.
- Acts as an intake worker for participants residing in the catchment area.

#### **2) To Provide One-to-One Counselling and Support Services:**

- Understands the importance of the role of case management and goal setting. Able to work with the participant and referring worker (case manager) to establish mutually acceptable goals.
- Provides both insight and practical goal focussed counselling strategies while maintaining a safe and respectful environment.
- Provides outreach services to youth who are unwilling or unable to attend office based appointments.



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- Accepts referrals from sources within the program's catchment area. Screens and assesses referrals. Discusses suitability of participants for the program with the Program Supervisor.
- Engages in regular case conferences with the Program Supervisor and reports unusual occurrences immediately.
- Acts as a positive role model for youth and parents and assists the youth in developing values of honesty, self-assertiveness, and respect for others, a democratic viewpoint, and lack of dependency on drugs, alcohol, and self-abusive and destructive behaviour.

**3) To Operate Groups (as required):**

- Develops, with other professionals, group services that are relevant to local need.
- Provides both insight and practically focussed counselling while maintaining a safe group environment.
- Plans and implements relevant group programming.
- Acts as a positive role model for youth and parents and assists the youth in developing values of honesty, self-assertiveness, and respect for others, a democratic viewpoint, and lack of dependency on drugs, alcohol, and self-abusive and destructive behaviour.

**4) To Work as a Member of a Treatment Team:**

- Develops a written service plan in collaboration with the participant.
- Explains the Program's expectations and confidentiality policy to the youth and obtains a written or verbal consent to treatment.
- Maintains case notes describing significant information related to services provided and response to services.
- Engages in periodic evaluation and review of service goals and re-negotiates goals as is appropriate.
- Produces detailed written assessments and discharge reports as required by agency policy.

**5) Maintains Administrative Policies:**

- Participates in the work of PCRS's committee system and is responsible for the implementation of the agency's policy.
- Attends and participates in all supervision and staff meetings, training sessions, committee meetings, and agency all-staff meetings.
- Gives and receives constructive criticism.
- Communicates effectively with both co-workers and supervisors.
- Maintains appropriate group and case files and documentation.
- Maintains petty cash and transportation records according to the financial policies of the agency.
- Carries out administration tasks as assigned.

**6) To Maintain Health and Safety:**

- Manages acting out behaviour by applying methods of logical consequence in accordance with agency policy. Intervenes effectively to prevent or diffuse violence.
- Handles emergency situations safely and in accordance with agency policy.



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- Maintains good safety practices and a preventative approach.
- Takes responsibility for monitoring the youth's health, making appointments with relevant professionals when necessary.
- Understands the stresses of the job and takes steps to prevent personal burn-out.

**Academic and Job Experience Required:**

- BSW or BA in a related field, plus 1 year of experience.

**Basic Requirements:**

- Criminal Records Check including the vulnerable sector
- Standard First Aid Certificate and CPR
- Substance Abuse/Addictions Counselling Training
- Valid Driver's License, Use of own vehicle with reimbursement
- Basic Computer Skills

**Desired Requirements:**

- Learning Disabilities training including FASD, ADHD, Early Childhood Education, Special Needs Specialized Training and experience in Health Promotion and/or Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Treatment
- Other certification in Recreation or Arts

**IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR:**

- Rob Axsen, Addictions Clinical Supervisor

**Salary Range:** \$22.74/hour – \$25.88/hour, plus a competitive benefits package

**Closing Date:** Close of business (4:30 pm) on October 13, 2017

**Send Cover Letter and Resume to:** [resumes@pcrs.ca](mailto:resumes@pcrs.ca)

ATTN: Rob Axsen, Addictions Clinical Supervisor

Please quote "Chilliwack ASTRA Position" on your cover letter  
and in the subject line of emails.

*Resumes without cover letters will not be accepted.*

Only those qualified for an interview will be contacted.