



Youth Support Specialist Temporary Position – 1 Year Community Food Centre

Who are we? *The Alex*. We are an award winning organization made up of change makers, forward thinkers and community builders. We are changing the conversation around food and health.

The Alex knows that to build a community of healthy individuals we need to tackle complex social issues. Together with Community Food Centres Canada, we envision a community where everyone has the means and knowledge necessary to access good, healthy food in a dignified way, and the ability and opportunity to be heard on the food issues that affect them. We envision a robust, diverse economy that sustains farmers and the land, and a social consensus that food is a key determinant of health and public good. The Alex Community Food Centre addresses food insecurity, health and social isolation through a mix of educational and community programs with food at their core. Programs increase access to healthy food, build food skills, and engage the community in a welcoming space where people can grow, cook, share and advocate for good food for all. www.thealexcfc.ca

We are currently seeking a one year full time Youth Support Specialist for our Community Food Centre. The ideal candidate is passionate about developing a strong child and youth program for a new and innovative community hub. The ideal candidate is entrepreneurial, optimistic, energetic, creative, resourceful and patient as well as a passionate advocate for social justice and food security with an unwavering belief that change is possible.

The scope of work and responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

Major Responsibilities:

- Work closely with the Community Action Coordinator to support peer advocacy and community action initiatives with particular focus on child and youth supports
- Provide direct casework support to community members, in particular children and youth, including: advocacy, assessment, supportive counselling, crisis intervention and brief case management when required
- Lead the development of Youth Hub night, including frontline support and strengthening partnerships with other agencies
- Spearhead activities and processes that promote social inclusion with a particular focus on multicultural and First Nations communities
- Build connections between Youth Health Centre, Youth Health Bus and Community Food Centre
- Evaluate the output, outcomes and impact of children and youth programming
- Actively participate in the evolution of the Community Food Centre
- Make sure that Community Food Centre is clean, orderly and maintained

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Requirements

- A degree or diploma in a human services field (social work, psychology, child and youth care, etc.) is preferred
- 2 plus years of experience working with vulnerable youth, children and families
- Other combinations of education and experience may be considered
- Must be comfortable working with youth using harm reduction, strength based, and trauma informed care techniques as well as an understanding of anti-oppressive practice
- Working knowledge of resources within the Calgary community
- Skills in assessment, support and intervention, consultation, crisis counselling and advocacy are required
- Strong organizational and time-management skills
- Ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment
- Able to work collaboratively in a multidisciplinary team as well as the ability to take initiative and work independently
- Assertive, professional and positive, with an ability to lead in a stressful environment
- Firm boundaries yet able to effectively build relationships with hard to engage youth
- Training in any of the following would be considered an asset: Applied Suicide Intervention Training, Mental Health First Aid, Nonviolent Crisis Intervention, and Motivational Interviewing
- A passion for advocating for at-risk youth
- Ability to effectively represent the organization
- Candidate must be willing to have a child abuse registry and criminal record check

Please submit your resume to: jobs@thealex.ca

Deadline to apply: Until suitable candidate is found

We thank all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. For further information about The Alex and its programs, we encourage you to visit our website at www.thealex.ca