



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: SOUTH ISLAND WELLNESS SOCIETY (SIWS)**

**POSITION TITLE: FAMILY ADVOCATE**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

### **Position Summary**

The purpose of South Island Wellness Society (**SIWS**) is to assist the nine South Vancouver Island First Nations and urban Aboriginal community in developing and supporting community based and culturally relevant approaches for the delivery of Child and Family Services.

The "**Family Advocate**" will work primarily within First Nations and Urban Aboriginal communities to assist them with establishing Child and Family services that supports their unique strengths and needs. The Family Advocate will be assigned responsibility for up to 2 First Nation communities and will work closely with Community Leadership, Community Practice Circle members, Aboriginal Social Service organizations and other multi-disciplinary professionals serving Aboriginal Children and Families.

### **Key Duties and responsibilities:**

- Develop trusting relationships with Community by regularly attending and engaging in community events and activities.
- Provide training to community members regarding Child and Family Services Legislation, Practice Standards, and other related topics associated with the delivery of Aboriginal Child and Family Services.
- Support the operation of Community Practice Circles including regular recruitment and training of circle members, as well as, ongoing coordination of planning and administrative activities.
- Coordinate and support a Collaborative Team comprised of delegated social workers and other professionals providing health, education and other social services to First Nations and Urban Aboriginal communities.
- Act as the lead resource to coordinate the development, and implementation of culturally relevant family service plans that respond to the needs of vulnerable families and children.
- Coordinate and Facilitate Family Case Planning Conferences (FCPCs), and Family Group Conferences (FGCs).
- Coordinate activity to develop Cultural and Community Connection Plans, Permanency Plans and Youth Transition Plans.
- Support extended family to participate in the development and implementation of family group planning activity.
- Coordinate Integrated Case Planning meetings with service professionals where families have multiple / complex needs.
- Assist vulnerable families with complex needs to navigate the service delivery system and access the services they need.

### **Qualifications:**

- Degree or Diploma in Social Services, or related discipline and 2- 4 years experience in delivery of Social Services associated with Child and Family Services. An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered.
- Knowledge of Child and Family Services Legislation and Practice Standards or the ability to develop this understanding quickly as well as knowledge of how MCFD and Aboriginal Delegated Agencies deliver services.
- Ability to develop strong working relationships with Aboriginal Leadership, community members, families and children.
- Demonstrated oral and written communication skills as well as ability to do group facilitation.

### **Compensation:**

- The starting annual salary for this position is \$45,000 with an opportunity for increases after six months based on performance.

The successful candidate must have completed an enhanced criminal record check, have access to a reliable vehicle, possess a valid driver's license, and be able to work a flexible schedule, sometimes involving work in the evening and weekends. Interested candidates should submit a complete resume and covering letter (detailing work experience) with three work-related references to:

Lila Underwood  
South Island Wellness Society  
992 Sunset Lane,  
North Saanich, BC, V8L 5W8

Phone: 778-426-2997  
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**Please note: Preference is given to persons of Aboriginal ancestry as per Section 41 of the Human Rights Code.**