

Mental Health Specialist – Ref. No. 19023
The Alex Community Health Centre
Permanent | Full-Time

The Alex: Changing Health. Changing Lives. The Alex Community Health Centre is a not-for-profit organization that is changing how we look at health care in Calgary. Our health, housing and food programs support our most vulnerable neighbours, tackling tough health and social issues head-on. Using a multi-disciplinary team approach, we focus care on assessment, intervention and promotion of all aspects of health. We embrace a model of health care that is accessible, responsive and participatory.

What we do and why we do it:

Pathways to Housing is a recognized innovative, best-practice service delivery model for ending homelessness. This model seeks to end homelessness by providing ‘Housing First’ coupled with harm reduction services provided by a multidisciplinary Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team. This program serves homeless individuals with mental health, physical health and addiction disorders. Our multidisciplinary team provides our clients with housing and follows ACT principles in supporting them toward independent living.

The Mental Health Specialist is an integral part of the Assertive Community Treatment Team. You will provide mental health and addiction support to Pathways to Housing clients working to permanently exit homelessness achieve and maintain independent living. This support includes working with an interdisciplinary team to assess the mental health needs of each individual and then to provide appropriate interventions in community settings. This position reports to the Clinical Team Lead.

What you will do:

- Assertively engage with clients via outreach with a focus on intervention, support, and recovery
- Use principles of psychiatric rehabilitation and evidence based practices to support clients to live independently in community residences
- Build collaborative relationships with community partners including landlords, the mental health system, the justice system, and other social service agencies
- Develop and facilitate group programming related to your specialty

What you will bring:

- Bachelor's degree in a health related field is required (e.g. Social Work, Psychology, Community Rehabilitation, etc.)
- Eligible for registration with a professional discipline in Alberta
- Experience with community outreach and crisis intervention is an asset
- Previous experience working with clients experiencing homelessness and poverty is an asset
- Knowledge of mental health/psychiatric conditions, substance abuse, Housing First, and Harm Reduction
- Demonstrated effective communication, organizational, advocacy, teaching, and rapport building skills
- Non-judgmental, patient, friendly, and professional
- Ability to multi-task in fast-paced environment
- Class 5 non-GDL drivers license, a personal vehicle, and \$2 million liability insurance are required
- Current First Aid / CPR required

Why You Want to Work with Us:

The Alex is an innovative and diverse organization which seeks to invest in its employees and see them succeed in their chosen careers. If you are seeking a deeply rewarding, yet challenging career helping Calgary's vulnerable populations, this might be the place for you!

- 3-paid weeks of Vacation
- Paid Wellness and Personal Days
- RRSP Matching after 6 months
- Reimbursement of Professional Designation fees
- Investment in Professional Development
- Health and Lifestyle Enhancement benefit

How to apply:

If you are as passionate as we are about making a difference in people's lives, please email your resume to jobs@thealex.ca and be sure to include the job title and reference number in the subject line.

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