

Recreation Therapist – Ref. No. 19024
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 Recreation Therapist (RT) is a key member of the Pathways team and is responsible for working with the program clients to assist in moving them toward independent living in community residences. The RT will plan and coordinate recreation and wellness events in community settings as well as create group programming that engages clients in order to promote psychological and physical health. This position reports to the Clinical Team Lead.

What you will do:

- The Recreation Therapist is a key member of the Pathways team and is responsible for working with the program clients both individually and in group settings to assist in moving them toward independent living in community residences.
- The Recreation Therapist is responsible for providing assessment, planning, implementing and evaluating recreation based interventions for program clients. This includes but is not limited to teaching life skills and developing programs and activities for clients with mental illness and physical health issues in a community setting.
- The Recreation Therapist will build and strengthen relationships with community partners including volunteers and students.
- The Recreation Therapist will communicate and collaborate with interdisciplinary team members both within Pathways to Housing and across The Alex programs to plan and execute special events.

What you will bring:

- A degree in Recreational Therapy and current membership with ATRA
- An ability to work collaboratively within a multi-disciplinary team model and able to work effectively within an innovative outreach service delivery model
- An ability to carry out assessment, intervention/care planning, program development and delivery
- Effective communication, organizational, advocacy, teaching, and rapport-building skills
- Ability to multi-task in fast-paced environment
- Knowledge of mental health/psychiatric conditions and substance abuse an asset
- Experience working with clients experiencing or exiting homelessness an asset
- Commitment to working outreach
- Previous experience working with clients with homelessness and poverty an asset
- Class 5 non-GDL driver's license, a personal vehicle, and \$2 million liability insurance are required
- Current First Aid / CPR are 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.