



## Job Posting

### Full-Time Permanent Counsellor (Overnight Shift)

Union Classification: Union  
Hours: 7 pm to 7:30 am  
Wage Rate: \$28.23  
Posting Closes: November 22, 2023

#### Gillian's Place

As one of the first shelters of its kind in Ontario, Gillian's Place brings over 40 years of experience and expertise in gender-based violence service in Niagara. Since 1977, we have grown from an eight-bed volunteer-run emergency shelter to a multi-site provider of free and confidential services that support women, children, genderqueer, Two-Spirit, trans, and non-binary individuals escaping the cycle of violence and abuse. Today, these services include a 34-bed emergency shelter, second-stage housing, a 24/7 phone or text crisis support line, safety planning, expert counselling, child and youth programs, legal advice and support, education and violence prevention programs, and a transitional housing and support program.

#### BEYOND THE PAYCHEQUE. WHY YOU WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM

- We are an organization where you can realize your aspirations and achieve your personal and professional goals in an inclusive and supportive environment
- We are a dynamic and talented team who collectively provide practical compassionate client-centered care to those who have experienced gendered abuse
- We invest in our team through training, professional development opportunities, and wellness initiatives
- We are committed to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access

#### Position Summary

Within the context of the organization's mission, vision, and values, the Counsellor is responsible for providing education, support, and counselling to clients surviving abuse/violence. You will work with shelter residents, walk-in clients, and those seeking support via our crisis support line. Your role includes crisis intervention, triaging the day-to-day and urgent needs within the shelter and amongst clients, assessing client danger, and creating and reviewing individualized safety plans. As with all employees of Gillian's Place, this individual has a solid understanding of gender-based violence and a commitment to providing superior service to our clients.

#### Responsibilities

- Assess clients for intake and provide support to clients who admit to the shelter by reviewing admission procedures, and providing shelter information and tours
- Support clients who live at Gillian's Place to follow through on their case plans and provide counselling support on issues of abuse as needed.

- Answer the crisis/support call-in and text line, conduct safety assessment and planning, and provide support as needed
- Assist in referring clients to services in the community as needed.
- Keep accurate and complete documentation in the client management system
- Understand and apply the frameworks within which the organization operates, including but not limited to harm reduction, trauma-informed counselling, and intersectional feminist frameworks
- Stay up to date on Gillian's Place safety and emergency procedures, ensure the safety of clients and the shelter, and manage emergencies as necessary
- Execute crisis intervention, de-escalation, and active listening skills
- Assist in preparing Family and Children Services Reports, per Duty to Report requirements
- Perform all other duties as assigned

### **Qualifications Required:**

- Post-secondary diploma/degree in social work, or related field.
- Extensive knowledge of gendered violence and counselling people who have experienced abuse.
- First Aid/CPR Certification
- Vulnerable Sector Police Check

### **What you need to succeed:**

- Are non-judgmental and client-centred
- Deal with stressful situations in a calm manner, make critical decisions, and solve problems effectively
- Understand risk and use sound judgment
- Possess knowledge, skills and abilities related to counselling people who have experienced abuse
- Understand the impact on children who have witnessed abuse
- Possess excellent assessment and reporting skills
- Contribute to a professional, healthy team and individual environment
- A commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access
- Are organized, detail-oriented and professional
- Maintain strict confidentiality in all job and organization related matters
- Improve and support ongoing team development

Gillian's Place is an equal opportunity employer. Any applicant who communicates the need for accommodation shall be considered in a manner that is non-discriminatory and respectful. The ability to communicate in a second language would be considered an asset.

Gillian's Place encourages people of colour, Indigenous folks, newcomers, immigrants, sexually- and gender-diverse folks, people of all abilities, and members of other underrepresented communities to apply.

Let us know why you would be an excellent team member by applying to [humanresources@gilliansplace.com](mailto:humanresources@gilliansplace.com)

Please be advised we only contact applicants who are selected for an interview.