



A TURNING POINT  
FOR WOMEN



*YWCA Toronto transforms lives. As the city's largest multi-service women's organization, we help women escape violence, move out of poverty and access safe, affordable housing. We work tenaciously to break down barriers that hold women back from achieving equality.*

**Internal and External Job Posting**  
**Relief Shelter Support Worker – Trauma Counsellor (4 Positions Available)**  
**YWCA 1<sup>st</sup> Stop Woodlawn**  
**JOB ID: STOP0246**

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<b>Employment Type:</b>	Relief
<b>Work Hours:</b>	Varied as needed
<b>Salary:</b>	\$21.99 per hour
<b>Location:</b>	80 Woodlawn Avenue East, Toronto, ON, M4T 1C1
<b>Application Deadline:</b>	Tuesday, July 30, 2019

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**JOIN OUR TEAM**

As a specialist in the area of trauma support, the Relief Shelter Support Worker – Trauma Counsellor works with women and children within a collaborative team to provide meaningful and relevant services within a feminist framework that includes a working knowledge of the dynamics and effects of trauma, mental health and oppression. She acts as a resource to staff and clients in the area of housing, legal, education, employment, mental health and is responsible for working collaboratively with women and their children to establish a plan which will facilitate a safe and effective path to independence.

**ABOUT YWCA 1<sup>st</sup> STOP WOODLAWN**

There are six main components to the service delivered by 1st Stop Woodlawn. The program provides 22 shelter beds to young women (16–25 years of age); 22 shelter beds to women 26 years and older; 6 rooms in Second Stage Supportive Housing for mature and/or senior women and 6 second stage rooms for young women not ready for independent living. The Housing Help program provides advocacy referral and support to residents in the shelter. The Transitional Support program provides aftercare to residents and their children providing support through group work, counselling and connecting women to supports. The Ministry of Health Rent Supplement Program provides housing and support to women with mental health issues.

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Applies knowledge of the issues of trauma and the dynamics of woman abuse to develop and implement effective support strategies;
- Conducts intake meetings and assessments to identify participant's needs, provides information and referrals in the areas of health, sexuality, counseling, conflict resolution, housing, employment, education, immigration, income alternatives, and social assistance matters;
- Liaises with professionals and agencies in the community to facilitate access to services by the participants;
- Demonstrates and maintains knowledge of relevant legislation and effective support strategies regarding trauma and the dynamics of women abuse;
- Works with participants individually and/or in groups to develop and improve social and living skills by assisting them to set goals, follow through on plans, recognize options and make positive choices;
- Provides crisis intervention and counselling;
- Uses mediation and counselling skills to encourage and maintain a co-operative, supportive and productive environment for the community.

## QUALIFICATIONS

- In-depth knowledge of an academic discipline normally acquired through completion of a clinically supervised undergraduate degree (e.g. BSW) or equivalent knowledge;
- An analytical framework that identifies clients' relationships to social systems and the demonstrated practical application of this framework;
- Completion of workshops and courses pertaining to trauma;
- 1 to 3 years' experience in client centered counselling focused on trauma issues with clients at risk and/or homeless women;
- Completion of Toronto Hostel's Training Certificate (T.H.T.C.) is an asset;
- Demonstrated knowledge of harm reduction principles and practice;
- Demonstrated knowledge of community resources and supports focused on trauma;
- In-depth knowledge of the dynamics of woman abuse and trauma within an anti-oppression framework;
- Demonstrated experience in the development, delivery and evaluation of workshops and groups;
- Understanding of the obstacles homeless women face and experience;
- Experience delivering culturally sensitive services in a multicultural environment;
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills;
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word, e-mail and the Internet;
- Knowledge and understanding of mental health, substance use/addictions, advocacy, refugee and immigration issues and homelessness;
- Life Skills Certificate an asset;
- A certificate in trauma counselling would be an asset;
- Knowledge of a second language and/or culture would be an asset.

## HOW TO APPLY

**Please submit cover letter and résumé by Tuesday, July 30, 2019 to:** Kate Miller, Associate Manager of 1<sup>st</sup> Stop Woodlawn Shelter. YWCA Toronto. 80 Woodlawn Avenue East, Toronto, ON, M4T 1C1.  
**Email:** [woodlawnjobs@ywcatoronto.org](mailto:woodlawnjobs@ywcatoronto.org)

**Please quote JOB ID number STOP0246 and your name in the subject line.**

A vulnerable sector police reference check is required by the successful candidate prior to hiring. YWCA Toronto is a unionized workplace. Staff are represented by CUPE Local 2189. These positions are not within the Bargaining Unit.

YWCA Toronto promotes the principles of anti-oppression and adheres to the tenets of the Ontario Human Rights Code. We encourage applications from women of all races, ethnic origins, religions, abilities and sexual orientations.

YWCA Toronto provides accommodation during all parts of the hiring process, upon request, to applicants with disabilities. If contacted, please advise us if you require any accommodation. While we thank all candidates for their interest, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

YWCA Toronto is a Scent-Sensitive Workplace.

**Posting Date:** July 19, 2019