

We're Hiring!

**Posting:
A21937**

**Researcher
Temporary Full-Time (35 weeks)
(35 hours per week)**

**Homelessness, Housing,
and Mental Health**

Options Community Services Society

We are a non-profit registered charity providing social services primarily in Surrey, Delta, White Rock and Langley. We believe in helping people help themselves. We believe in collaborating with individuals, businesses, community groups and government to create focused, effective and responsive resources for the community.

We envision a healthy community as a safe and clean environment where we all have a sense of belonging. It is a place where each of us has the opportunity to work and learn, and to develop and realize goals that are meaningful and fulfilling.

The Delta COVID-19 Homelessness Response project responds to the immediate needs of vulnerable homeless individuals in Delta during the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery phase. The project is funded by the City of Delta through the UBCM Strengthening Communities funding and includes a study that aims to discover, understand, and document the experiences of unhoused people specific to Delta and use documented stories of lived experience to start community conversations in Delta to combat anti-homelessness stigma. The data gathered and relationships forged throughout this project with people experiencing homelessness as well as community partners will inform future programs and service provision specific to addressing the needs of the growing unhoused population in Delta.

Reporting to the Deputy Executive Director, the Researcher will develop a framework, conduct research, provide data and analysis for the project. This position is for a term of 35 weeks, any extension is dependent on funding. Some evening and weekends may be required.

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop research framework and methodology for the research project.
- Work closely with others as part of a team and with external community stakeholders to manage relationships and deliver work.
- Work in close collaboration with City staff on the delivery of the project.
- Carry out quantitative and/or qualitative data collection and analysis through fieldwork and existing data sets.
- Conduct qualitative analysis of data conducted through interviews, focus groups, workshops or other methods.
- Carry out desktop research using a range of methods and sources of data related to homelessness, near-homelessness and poverty.
- Produce high quality and varied research outputs for a range of audiences including analysis, report writing and presentations where necessary.
- Ensure our work is participatory, including working with peer researchers and valuing the importance of communicating with different audiences.
- Take responsibility for data and project management and administration as it relates to delivering work.
- Maintain effective relationships with government, stakeholders, service partners, volunteer community groups, organizations, and committees to coordinate the provision of services, influence where appropriate, foster partnerships, collaborate, and exchange information
- Produce a final report for the City of Delta with detailed research findings.
- Keep the Deputy Executive Director apprised of all pertinent issues, trends, statistics, research information and other reports as requested for effective decision-making, and provide input for the preparation of reports.
- Adheres to the policies, procedures and standards of OCS, as established in policy and program manuals, Health & Safety Guidelines, job descriptions, written memos, and verbal agreements. Develops, implements, and monitors program policies, procedures, and systems.

NOTE: Applicants not selected for an interview will not necessarily be notified.

Posted: 21-Oct-22

QUALIFICATIONS

Education, Training, and Experience:

- Postgraduate degree in a social service subject or 2+ years of professional experience conducting social research.
- Experience of designing quantitative and qualitative research tools.
- Experience of quantitative and qualitative analysis.
- Experience of conducting and organizing qualitative fieldwork.
- Knowledge of the homeless population.
- Evidence of having delivered or contributed to the delivery of high quality social research outputs.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of the homeless population.
- Experience conducting field research with vulnerable unhoused population is an asset.
- Familiarity with Delta and its social services infrastructure is an asset.
- Excellent understanding of issues including best practices for addictions, mental health, families and children.
- Specialized skills and demonstrated competency in collecting and analyzing data and disseminating results and findings.
- Excellent oral, written, facilitation, reporting, and interpersonal communication skills.
- Demonstrated teamwork and leadership skills.
- Well-developed planning, organizing and administrative skills.
- Ability to function independently and manage deadlines.
- Represent the Society in a positive and professional manner when in contact with outside agencies, professionals or community.
- Demonstrated competency for and understanding of, a community development approach and community based service delivery.
- Ability to work effectively, and establish positive, collaborative working relationships with staff, volunteers, community groups, non-profits, funding agencies and all other stakeholders.
- Be highly motivated to complete tasks/duties/daily maintenance in a timely manner.
- Ability to utilize and adapt to new technologies including Word, Excel, OCS databases, and other software required by the role.

Successful candidates will be required to provide a current and satisfactory Criminal Reference Check/Vulnerable Sector Search preceding your start date.

Applicants with lived experience are strongly encouraged to apply.

You may be required to present proof of Covid-19 vaccination.

CLOSING DATE: Resumes will be reviewed starting **November 16, 2021** but the posting will remain open until filled and will close without notice.

PLEASE APPLY TO: Recruitment
Options Community Services Society

Email: Recruitment@options.bc.ca

Please include a cover letter indicating the posting number [**#21937**] and detailed resume outlining your qualifications and related experience for the position.

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