

Job Title: Youth and Young Adult Addictions Counsellor

Location: Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Reports To: Manager, Youth and Young Adult Portfolio

Job Status: Two (2) Full-Time Term Position

Starting Rate of Pay: \$28.91/hour, 37.5 hours per week

Rideauwood Addiction and Family Services is a non-profit organization that provides counselling, education and treatment to individuals and families affected by substance use disorders and gambling in Ottawa. Rideauwood serves over 2500 clients yearly in Youth and Adult Programs.

We are currently receiving applications for one (1) Youth and Young Adult Addictions Counsellor who will work in a full-time temporary capacity ending March 31st, 2026.

RESPONSIBILITIES

This position will be situated at Rideauwood offices at 312 Parkdale Avenue, or virtually home-based as required due to COVID-19 restrictions, and may require the successful candidate to work in collaboration with community partners at other locations.

The counsellor works collaboratively in conjunction with clients as part of a multi-disciplinary team of agency colleagues and/or colleagues from partner agencies to:

- Provide clinical practice and interventions to youth population relating to intake, assessment, education, treatment, consultation, and referral for clients who are currently experiencing, or are affected by problems related to substance use;
- Provide individual counselling, group counselling and psychoeducational groups to clients, both in short-term & long-term capacities, as well as at Rideauwood and in the community;
- Work effectively with clients who present with multiple and complex problems, including challenges with substance use, concurrent addiction and mental health issues, legal problems, unemployment and limited income, medical problems, and limitations imposed by restrictions in access to other socio-economic determinants of health;
- May be assigned to use a substance abuse intervention model that combines substance use treatment with the judicial supervision of a “problem-solving” court, as an alternative to incarceration for individuals who face charges as a result of non-violent criminal activities related to their substance use;
- Work within Rideauwood’s framework and standards, using harm reduction or abstinence focused models based on the client’s needs;
- Reviews and evaluates client’s progress and adjusts treatment plans as required. Provides feedback and support to clients;
- Accept and make referrals to outside agencies;
- Take an active role in preparing for and participating in community presentations, activities and meetings;
- Participate in all assigned meetings, staff development and training as required;
- Contribute actively to administrative and teamwork functions;
- Maintains client records and statistics; and,
- Other duties, as required.

- Minimum of a three (3) year degree in a health or social sciences related discipline from an accredited post-secondary institution; mental health and addictions certification an asset;
- Minimum of three (3) year recent related experience;
- Significant understanding of substance use issues, mental health issues, concurrent disorders, problem gambling, and evidence-based treatment practices to address them;
- Thorough knowledge of and proficiency in contemporary assessment and psychosocial counselling techniques, including addiction & mental health issues among youth, in communities and society at large;
- Experience in facilitation or co-facilitation of group programming for youth, adult and/or parents;
- Comprehensive knowledge of and skilled practice in individual, family, group, and crisis counselling methods, and case management;
- Ability to provide culturally competent service to clients of diverse ethno-racial and cultural backgrounds is essential and experience completing comprehensive mental health assessments as part of an interdisciplinary team;
- Ability to deal effectively with crises, including a threat of self-harm, or harm to others;
- Knowledge of mental health and trauma and how they relate to addictions;
- Knowledge of available programs and services, their interrelationships, and their function in delivering services in the community;
- Knowledge of legislation applicable to performance of job responsibilities;
- Excellent organizational, interpersonal and written communication skills and the ability to work effectively in a fast-paced environment;
- Familiar and proficient with computers, including but not limited to the Microsoft Office suite; and,
- Registration and/or certification with appropriate professional college or licensing body is desirable.

WAGE PROGRESSION

Year 2: Effective April 1, 2024										
Classification	Increase	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9
Centre Based Youth Counsellor	4%	\$28.91	\$29.21	\$29.50	\$29.80	\$30.09	\$30.40	\$30.70	\$31.02	\$31.34

If you are interested in this position, please submit a current resume and letter of interest to HR at hr@rideauwood.org answering the following questions:

Based on your experience and practice, and given what you know about this position:

- (1) what motivated you to apply for this position, and
- (2) what makes you a suitable candidate for this position?

Deadline for Applications

External: Open Until Filled

*Rideauwood is an equal opportunity employer and supports equity, diversity and inclusion.
If any accommodations are needed for applicants during the selection process, please notify HR at hr@rideauwood.org.*