

## **Extended FASD Support Program (EFSP) Specialist**

### **The Agency**

The Calgary John Howard Society (CJHS) is a community-based charitable organization dedicated to reducing the incidence of crime and increasing community safety through preventative and restorative justice practices. To accomplish these ends, we provide direct services to individuals at risk, advocacy for effective responses to crime with the individuals involved and education for youth and adults in the community.

### **The Team**

Adult Services programs are delivered by a dynamic and interactive team. A variety of programs are designed to assist individuals who have been or are at risk of conflict with the law. Programs consist of Emergency Intake, Employment Preparation/Training, Community ReEntry Support, Supports for Recently Released, Literacy and the Extended FASD Support Project. The team works collaboratively to best meet client needs by providing services that are coordinated and integrated across the team.

### **The Program**

The *Extended FASD Support Program* (EFSP) supports adults who are living with, or suspected of living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and who have current involvement in the justice system. The Program assists clients to resolve current justice issues, build community and natural supports, better understand their FASD and learn strategies that will help them attain their goals and function more effectively in the community. Another facet of the Program is the FASD Action Hall (FAH), a weekly peer support and advocacy skill building group open to all who are living with FASD.

### **The Position**

The Program Specialist will share all aspects of direct service delivery and activity coordination within a two person team. Working with clients, community and natural supports and other agencies, the Program Specialist will conduct interviewing and assessment activities, determine short-term priorities and provide and/or facilitate client access to resources to address immediate needs. Community Support Teams (CST's) and long term plans will be developed with each client to support potential FASD assessment and diagnosis, financial independence, housing and/or employment stability, community engagement, achievement of personal goals. Support to clients and their CST will be ongoing until justice issues are resolved and supports are in place to mitigate future justice involvement. The Program Specialist will also provide learning opportunities and coaching as needed to community agencies so they may work more effectively with their own clients living with FASD. Responsibilities will include:

- Working collaboratively with program staff to directly assist and support clients and their families/supports;
- Working collaboratively with justice professionals to enhance FASD awareness and to advocate for clients;
- Attending required court appearances and appointments with clients and performing outreach activities;
- Developing and supporting Community Support Teams (CST's) for each client;
- Appropriately referring clients for FASD medical diagnosis (funding permitted);
- Coordinating and delivering weekly group sessions for FASD Action Hall (FAH);
- Coordinating and facilitating FASD learning opportunities for internal and external agency staff;
- Developing and maintaining healthy partnerships (internally and externally) to best serve clients;
- Data collection, outcomes measurement, evaluation, proposal writing, and meeting agency and funder reporting requirements.

The Program Specialist will have a degree in a related discipline and preferably 3-5 years of experience working with the target population. The successful applicant will also have knowledge of FASD, the justice system, Indigenous culture, community human service agencies, and crisis intervention strategies. Also required are strong interpersonal, communication and case management skills and an exceptional ability to plan, organize, prioritize and multi-task.

**This is a full-time (37.5 hours/week) full benefit position and proposed start date is July 24, 2017. Applications will be accepted until a suitable candidate is found.** Please submit cover letter and resume with **EFSP SPECIALIST** In the subject line to:

**Sandy Sobkowich, Adult Services Manager**  
[sandy.sobkowich@cihs.ca](mailto:sandy.sobkowich@cihs.ca)

*The Calgary John Howard Society thanks all applicants, however only those considered for an interview will be contacted.*