

Recreation Therapist Pathways to Housing Permanent | Full Time

What we do and why we do it:

Pathways to Housing, HomeBase, Prelude, and Abbeydale Place are Housing First Programs through The Alex that support formerly homeless program participants with significant physical and/or mental health issues. Participants are provided with subsidized housing and rapid access to a myriad of supports to encourage stability, recovery, and improved quality of life. The Alex's Housing First Programs (Pathways to Housing, HomeBase, Abbeydale Place, and Prelude) support individuals who have experienced homelessness to achieve stability and wellness through subsidized housing and promoting reintegration into the community.

The full-time Recreation Therapist is a key member of the Pathways Team. Reporting to the Clinical Team Lead, The Recreation Therapist provides direct and indirect recreation services including assessment, intervention, consultation, education, and support services to maximize independence and reintegration into community for program participants. The Recreation Therapist offers individual interventions in an outreach setting, facilitates skills groups, assists participants in meeting basic needs, and is responsive to ACT Team duties.

What you will do:

- Provide single-staff, assertive in-office and outreach services to individuals with significant mental health and addiction concerns
- Intentionally assess, plan, implement and evaluate recreation based interventions for program participants both individually and in a group setting
- Build and strengthen relationships with community partners including volunteers and students
- Plan and execute special events
- Provide single-clinician, assertive outreach services to individuals with significant mental health and addiction concerns
- Facilitate group programming for participants
- Collaborate with the interdisciplinary team to provide services consistent with the ACT model
- Uphold the principles of Harm Reduction and Housing First
- Offer culturally sensitive services where indicated
- Complete required documentation with excellence, in accordance with agency policy and procedures, and respective of professional college requirements
- Work collaboratively with program participants, families, and community partners to assist participants in achieving treatment and recovery goals
- Provide services to assist participants with needs such as housing, entitlements, employment, education, community integration, etc.
- Data collection and entry as directed

What you bring:

- Bachelor's degree in Recreation Therapy and registration with the Alberta Recreation Therapy Association
- Minimum two years of experience as a Recreation Therapist
- Strong recreational therapy assessment and program development skills
- Experience working with vulnerable populations with significant mental health and substance use issues
- Understanding of Housing First and Harm Reduction
- Comfort meeting individually with participants in the community in a broad variety of settings, with a safety first mindset
- Exceptional communication, organization, advocacy, teaching, and rapport-building skills

- Commitment to contributing positively to team culture
- Openness to a wide scope of practice with commitment to innovation and flexibility
- Willingness to support participants with housing needs (e.g. ability to safely lift household items within your ability, support with teaching independent living skills, etc.)
- Strong initiative in times of limited supervision
- Standard First Aid – Level C CPR & AED within 30 days of hire date, certification must be valid for a minimum of 6 months upon hire
- A class 5 non-GDL drivers license, clean drivers abstract, and a personal vehicle that can be used for work purposes with \$2 million in liability coverage are required
- A satisfactory vulnerable sector criminal record clearance and a child welfare intervention check are required
- Knowledge of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (TRC) 94 Calls to Action is an asset

Working Environment:

- Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm (with flexibility in crisis situations)
- Predominately outreach; single staff visits in program participant homes
- 1 FTE (37.5 hours/week); plus 24 hour on-call services on a rotating schedule
- Continuous extended periods of sitting, standing, and walking (sometimes up or down stairwells)
- Frequent driving as part of work duties
- Occasional physical action; requires the ability to bend/crouch, reach above shoulder height, kneel/crawl, and carry objects (up to and over 20lbs.) throughout shift
- Frequent time outside in all weather conditions

Driving on Behalf of The Alex:

This position is required to use your own vehicle for work-related use or drive Alex vehicles for work purposes. Where required, candidates must show proof of a class 5 non-GDL driver's license, a personal vehicle, a clean 5-year drivers abstract, and \$2 million liability insurance to meet our insurance providers requirements.

As a condition of employment, The Alex requires the successful candidate to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Where the candidate has not obtained the vaccine, the candidate will be considered on an exceptional, and case by case basis; The Alex will adhere with its obligations under the Alberta Human Rights Act.

How to apply:

If you are as passionate as we are about making a difference in people's lives, please visit our career centre: [Join Us - The Alex](#)

This job posting will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. *We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.*