

Career Profile

CHILD AND YOUTH WORKER



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What is a Child and Youth Worker? – Career Description/Scope

A Child and Youth Worker (CYW) is an unregulated health professional who has the knowledge and skills to support children and youth who are experiencing emotional / social behavioral difficulties. Child and Youth workers possess a knowledge base which encompasses behavior, emotions, mental health, development, environment and most importantly therapeutic relationships. They play an important role in crisis Intervention and resolving conflict between parent and child and offer insight on parenting techniques to facilitate improved communication within the family system.

Education Requirements to Work in Ontario

Admission Requirements:

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (or equivalent)
- Open preparation levels; or successful completion of the Mature Student Assessment; or appropriate credits from Academic and Career Entrance Program

Program Specifics:

- 3 Year Advanced Diploma Program
- Field placements throughout program
- Articulated Agreements with both Lakehead University and Athabasca University
- C average to continue each semester

Child and Youth Worker Practice Requirements

Entry to Practice – Attain Child and Youth Worker Diploma

Ongoing – Voluntary membership in Ontario Association of Child and Youth Counselors and abide by Codes of Ethics

How does a Child and Youth Worker Practice at TBRHSC?

- Under direct supervision and direction of Unit Manager
- Part of an interprofessional team which encompasses, unit Social Worker, Psych-Associates, unit Manager, RN, RPN, MRP
- Multidisciplinary treatment objectives
- Crisis Intervention techniques and education for care givers

What does a Child and Youth Worker Do?

- Daily interventions and implementation of unit structure, rules and regulations
- Build therapeutic relationships with patients
- Implementation of safety plans/behavioral management plans and identification of possible supports
- Individual counseling geared to youth's identified treatment objectives
- Group counseling geared to youth's common identified problem areas
- Discover coping skills with youth related to struggles they may be encountering

healthy
together



- Offer crisis intervention with care givers /parents or other care providers
- Coaching and support empowering Youth to overcome current struggles

Web Resources

- Confederation College www.confederationc.on.ca/cyw
- For Articulation Agreement Information between Confederation and Universities www.confederationc.on.ca/admissions/articulation
- Ontario Association of Child and Youth Councilors www.oacyc.org
- Children’s Mental Health Ontario www.kidsmentalhealth.ca
- TeensHealth www.kidshealth.org/teen
- Voices for Children www.voices4children.org
- Canadian Child Care Federation www.cccf-fcsge.ca/home_en.html