



Children's Mental Health Ontario Santé mentale pour enfants Ontario

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Join the CMHO Team as Director, Public Policy (one year contract)

Children's Mental Health Ontario (CMHO), as the collective voice of its members, identifies and develops powerful solutions for the most important issues affecting the mental health of children, youth and their families across Ontario in order to build an effective and responsive children's mental health system. We offer a dynamic work environment with a high-energy, dedicated and passionate staff, and are looking for someone who is equally passionate about our work.

Who are we looking for?

CMHO is looking for a creative and energetic systems-level thinker who is eager to engage with others to drive policy goals forward. The Director, Public Policy will strategically lead CMHO's policy agenda through research, analysis, and writing, as well as lead and facilitate CMHO member and partner engagement. The ideal candidate has a history of progressive leadership experience with government and/or the non-profit sector and will enjoy working with a small team in an "all hands on deck" environment. Candidates should have a passion for improving community-based programs and services across Ontario, such as those offered by children's mental health centres and our many cross-sectoral partners.

POSITION:

Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the Director of Public Policy (one year contract) provides senior level leadership to the organization on public policy, government and stakeholder relations to advance CMHO's objectives and reputation. Key to this role is the ability to lead complex policy files, to advocate effectively on behalf of CMHO members and to work collaboratively with members and other stakeholders to ensure that our positions are clear, consistent and well integrated across our membership. The candidate must be a creative and solution-focused systems-level thinker.

Accountabilities:

- Builds and execute the Public Policy plan, including government and stakeholder relations strategies and tactics on relevant public policy, legislative, and political issues
- Works collaboratively with the Director, Strategic Initiatives to further public policy initiatives
- Works closely with members to identify, understand and manage government-related issues in alignment with strategic priorities
- Leads proactive monitoring of policy and legislative developments in Ontario related to children's mental health, child welfare, special needs, healthcare reform and other relevant legislation

- Oversees policy and issue analysis and the development of formal policy submissions, presentations and position papers to elected and non-elected government officials
- Identifies, develops and strengthens relationships with key decision makers and influencers in and outside of government
- Identifies opportunities and develops funding proposals for policy-related initiatives
- Promotes CMHO positions with senior government officials and other external audiences in person and in writing
- Takes on special projects as requested

Qualifications

- Graduate or undergraduate degree in health or social policy, community services, political science or a related field
- Minimum of 7 years public policy and/or government relations experience
- Excellent writing, public speaking and presentation skills
- Knowledge of Ontario's community-based children's mental health sector and/or related fields;
- Proven track-record in a provincial government and/or a corporate/non-profit environment in a government relations capacity
- Understanding of Ontario's political system(s), including the legislative, executive and judicial branches
- Experience presenting complex issues and opportunities to government
- Excellent project management, communications and interpersonal skills
- Excellent at prioritizing and working under tight deadlines on multiple initiatives

Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications

Application Deadline:

Please e-mail your cover letter and resume in confidence to: resumes@cmho.org with the subject heading "Director of Public Policy" by January 22, 2016.

We thank all applicants in advance however, only those under consideration will be contacted. Children's Mental Health Ontario is an equal opportunity employer.