



Expression of Interest - Ethics Consultant

Position Description:

The Mental Health Commission of Canada At Home/Chez Soi project is seeking an ethics consultant to act as a resource to our multi-site pragmatic field trial of Housing First in five Canadian cities. There are many ethical challenges that arise when conducting a complex and large study of this type. We have an opportunity to address these concerns in a manner that tries to not merely protect the safety and privacy of participants, frontline staff, researchers, and the public, but also empowers and promotes the autonomy of all parties. In order to do so we would like to have the expertise of a trained ethicist to assist us by providing advice and assistance to the national and local research and service teams as they encounter problems and implement sound ethical research and clinical practices.

This is a part-time commitment of approximately 20 hours a month over the next 3.5 years that will include the following activities:

The refinement and communication of an ethical framework specifically designed for this type of project.

Participation as a member of the cross site safety and adverse events task group (2-3 meetings a year plus review of documents and teleconference calls) that will promote the safety of all involved in the At Home/Chez Soi project through monitoring the prevalence and nature of critical incidents that occur while conducting housing, service and research activities.

Providing ad-hoc advice and commentary regarding ethical issues through e-mail and telephone communications as requested by Project Leads.

Attending meeting sessions of the national cross site research team and/or National Working Group when an expert ethical perspective is of particular relevance to a discussion/decision topic.

Consulting and liaising with the At Home/Chez Soi National Consumer Research Consultant and the National Consumer Panel to ensure the perspectives of persons with lived experience of homelessness and mental illness are considered in the development of the proposed ethical framework and in the review of ethical issues.

Qualifications:

The applicant should have a formal academic ethics education. Prior experience with marginalized populations and the conduct of applied health services research are desired. Must be able to work with a broad range of partners including service providers and researchers and communicate orally and in writing in an accessible manner. A keen intellectual curiosity and interest in developing innovative procedures and practices will be definite assets.

Compensation and Organizational relationships:

A per diem consulting rate appropriate to the successful applicant's credentials and years of experience will be negotiated.

The Ethics Consultant will work closely with the Project Director, the Project Research Lead and report administratively to the Project Manager.

Application Process:

If you are interested in being considered for the position of Ethics Consultant, please send your Curriculum Vitae and covering letter describing your qualifications and expectations for remuneration to:

ATTENTION: Cameron Keller
Mental Health Commission of Canada
Suite 800, 10301 Southport Lane SW
Calgary, Alberta, T2W 1S7

By email: ckeller@mentalhealthcommission.ca

Application Deadline:

Please submit your application for consideration by Monday November 30, 2009

Thank you in advance for your interest.