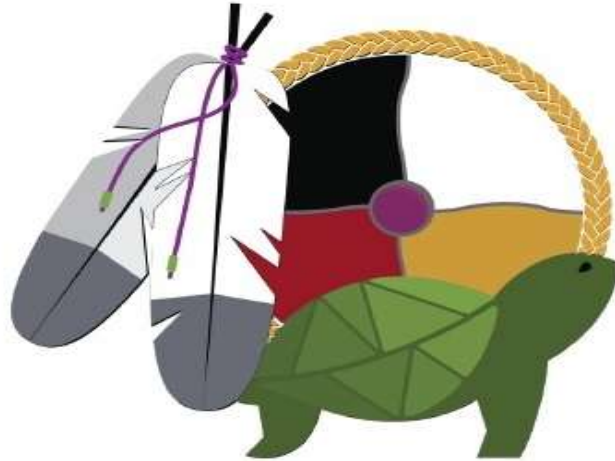




**MATAWA HEALTH
CO-OPERATIVE**

Job Description

Mental Health & Wellness Social Worker

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION

Incorporated in 2017, the Matawa Health Co-operative (MHC) is a Matawa First Nations-owned and controlled health co-operative providing healthcare services that enhance existing health services to achieve long-term health and wellbeing for all members within the nine Matawa First Nations. This provincially incorporated Co-operative consists of the nine Matawa member communities including Aroland, Constance Lake, Eabametoong, Ginoogaming, Long Lake #58, Marten Falls, Neskantaga, Nibinamik and Webequie First Nation. The MHC is overseen by a Board of Directors and is a member of the Health Care Co-operatives Federation of Canada. The MHC is community-driven with services tailored to individual community needs. It is the first of its kind in Canada.

The MHC incorporates traditional healing and medicines to address the health needs of the Matawa First Nations in a wholistic way by prioritizing mental health and addictions, diabetes, and chronic diseases. It oversees an Inter-Professional Primary Care Health Team providing direct services in the Matawa First Nations or through telemedicine.

Under the direction of the Director of Mental Wellness Services, the Mental Health & Wellness Social Worker (MSW) – MECC provides culturally safe, trauma-informed, clinical mental health services within the Matawa Education and Care Centre (MECC). This role is clinical and focuses on assessment, treatment, crisis intervention, and therapeutic support for Indigenous youth. The position requires a high level of autonomy, advanced clinical judgment, and adherence to the professional standards of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW).

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Mental Health and Wellness Social Worker (MSW) – MECC is responsible for delivering high-quality, culturally safe, trauma-informed clinical mental health services to Indigenous youth within the Matawa Education and Care Centre (MECC). The role involves independent clinical assessment, treatment planning, therapeutic intervention, crisis response, and collaboration with interdisciplinary partners to ensure coordinated and wholistic care. The incumbent exercises professional judgment and autonomy in accordance with the standards of practice set by the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW), while working within the framework of Matawa Health Co-operative policies and values.

Clinical Service Delivery

- Provide trauma-informed, culturally grounded counselling to Indigenous youth within the MECC.
- Conduct comprehensive biopsychosocial assessments and develop individualized treatment plans.
- Provide evidence-informed therapeutic interventions (e.g., CBT, DBT-informed strategies, trauma-focused approaches, grief, and loss counselling).
- Provide crisis intervention, suicide risk assessment, safety planning, and stabilization support.
- Maintain a clinical caseload and monitor client progress using best practice standards.
- Deliver services in-person, with virtual support as required.

Case Coordination & Advocacy

- Collaborate with MECC staff, families, Matawa communities, and the MHC interdisciplinary team to ensure wrap-around support.
- Support system navigation and facilitate referrals to internal and external mental health, addictions, healthcare, or social services.
- Advocate for culturally safe and appropriate services for youth.

Documentation & Professional Practice

- Maintain accurate, timely, and confidential electronic clinical records in accordance with MHC policy, PHIPA, and OCSWSSW standards.
- Uphold professional ethics, scope of practice, and duty to report obligations.
- Participate in clinical supervision, case consultations, and interdisciplinary meetings.
- Engage in ongoing professional development relevant to Indigenous mental health and trauma-informed practice.

Programming Support

- Contribute to the development and delivery of psychoeducational sessions related to mental wellness, coping strategies, substance use awareness, and trauma recovery.
- Support school staff through consultation on trauma-informed approaches and critical incident response, within scope of practice.

Other Duties

- Respond to emergent situations within the MECC setting.
- Support crisis debriefing when required.
- Perform other related duties as assigned by the Director of Mental Wellness Services or designate.

Organizational Responsibilities

As a representative of the Matawa Health Co-operative, the employee is responsible for:

- Reflecting and interpreting the organization vision, mission, and core values in their own work with enthusiasm and commitment.
- Acting in accordance with relevant legislation and organization policies and procedures.
- Proposing changes within MHC that would improve the quality of service to our First Nations' children, families, and communities.
- Developing and maintaining respectful, co-operative working relationships to contribute to the delivery of services to First Nations' children, families, and communities.
- Understanding their role and responsibility in maintaining a safe workplace and reducing workplace injuries.
- Ensuring accuracy, confidentiality, and safekeeping of agency records.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND REQUIREMENTS

Education & Experience

- Post-secondary educations in Social Work or related field.
- Current registration in good standing with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW).
- Authorized for autonomous clinical practice.
- Minimum two (2) years clinical experience providing mental health counselling.
- Experience working with Indigenous youth and communities strongly preferred.
- Experience in trauma treatment, crisis intervention, suicide prevention, and substance use support. Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work collaboratively with a diverse team.

Skills and Abilities

- Strong assessment and treatment planning skills.
- Knowledge of trauma-informed, strength-based, and culturally responsive practice.
- Understanding of intergenerational trauma, grief and loss, and gender-based violence.
- Ability to work independently within a school-based clinical setting.
- Strong ethical decision-making and professional boundaries.

Other Requirements

- Valid Ontario Class G Driver's License (access to a reliable vehicle is an asset).
- Clear Vulnerable Sector Criminal Record Check.
- Proof of a current TB Skin Test.
- Willingness to travel to Matawa First Nations communities as required.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including evenings or weekends when necessary.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Physical Demands

The employee may have to travel to our First Nations communities. They may have to lift, carry and manage equipment and supplies. They may have to work odd or long hours at a time to complete special requests or projects. The employee may have to spend long hours sitting and using office equipment, computers and attending meetings.

Environmental Conditions

The Matawa Buildings can be a busy facility at times and will require excellent organizational, time and stress management skills to complete required tasks. The employee may have to manage several projects at one time and may be interrupted frequently.

Sensory Demands

Sensory demands can include reading and use of the computer, which may cause eyestrain and occasional headaches. The position requires strong visual and auditory abilities to read and interpret travel documents, booking systems, and itineraries, as well as to communicate effectively with employees, vendors, and various other key individuals. Attention to detail, prolonged screen use, and the ability to process verbal and written information accurately are essential.

Mental Demands

The employee will have to manage several requests and projects at one time. They must be aware of Tribal Council business in the communities and all relevant legislation, policies and procedures. They may have to complete a number of tasks and responsibilities at one time and must be prepared to deal with emergencies and stressful situations at any time.

CERTIFICATION

Employee Signature

Printed Name

Date

I certify that I have read and understand the responsibilities assigned to this position.

Supervisor's Title

Supervisor's Signature

Date

I certify that this job description is an accurate description of the responsibilities assigned to the position.

Executive Director's Signature

Date

I approve the delegation of responsibilities outlined herein within the context of the attached organizational structure.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by the incumbent(s) of this job. They are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities and activities required of the position.