

Alzheimer Society

DURHAM REGION

Title: Social Worker
Status: Full-time (35 hours per week)
Reports to: Manager, Clinical Services

Position Summary:

Under the direction of the Clinical Manager, the Social Worker will be responsible for delivering high-quality dementia support services through assessment, case management, education, supportive counselling, and group facilitation to persons living with dementia and care partners. The role of the Social Worker will also fulfill all expectations outlined in agency Policies and Procedures.

Responsibilities:

Service Delivery Responsibilities:

- Conduct initial screening and assessment to identify current and future needs, goals, and level of risk of people living with dementia and care partners
- Establish appropriate intervention/care plans to meet bio/psycho/social needs using a person/family-centered approach, guided by a Citizenship Model
- Provide timely and appropriate dementia specific supportive consultation (resource sharing, navigation of healthcare system, education, counselling), and case management in the form of phone, virtual, home, office consultation and support groups
- Facilitate caregiver support groups; ensuring a positive, safe and respected community environment.
- Engage in type or stage-specific support/education group facilitation (i.e. mild cognitive impairment, early stage support group, young onset); providing an opportunity for persons living with impairment to learn more about the disease, symptoms and symptom management
- Pro-actively facilitate linkages, communication, information exchange and coordination between clients and service providers along the continuum of care
- Facilitate regular and ongoing care conferences between clients/care partners and all members of client/care partner care team (i.e.. hospitals, long-term care, retirement homes). This may include in-person meetings and use of a range of technology options and/or accommodations, including language translation services, video conferencing, etc.
- In collaboration with internal and external parties, engage in problem solving, advocacy, and develop strategies to address/overcome barriers in effective coordination/integration of supports and services
- Leverage and maintain positive working relationships with physicians, health care professionals, health and community support service providers (i.e.. hospitals, primary care, mental health, BSO, long-term care, retirement homes, police/EMS, specialized geriatrics, community Health Links), and other relevant partners through proactive outreach activities

- Lend clinical knowledge and skills to the delivery of educational workshops or learning sessions for caregivers or persons living with dementia

Administrative/Organizational Responsibilities:

- Maintain confidential, accurate and current client records, including complete and thorough documentation for each client contact, in compliance with relevant privacy legislation and in accordance with professional standards and internal policies
- Maintain an advanced level of knowledge of Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias, including clinical manifestations, personal expressions, current care practices, treatment options, placement/housing options, available community resources, and all relevant legislation
- Participate in best practice initiatives, program evaluation, and team-based projects to advance clinical knowledge and support ongoing quality improvement
- Participate in internal/external committees on an ad hoc basis
- Maintain accurate statistical data & provide reporting on a timely basis
- Participate in all ASDR staff training and meetings
- Commit to ongoing professional development and advancement of clinical skill set
- Promote health and safety, equity, and inclusion of patients/clients, staff and self
- Participate and commit to key agency annual fundraising events as required
- Other duties as determined from time to time.

Qualifications:

Education

- Master’s Degree in Social Work
- Currently registered as Social Worker in good standing with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW)

Experience

- Minimum three (3) years demonstrated experience working with older adult population in a Social Worker role
- One (1) year recent experience as an Social Worker in community care or primary care setting is preferred

Other Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, or Certifications:

- Current CPR-C and Standard First Aid Certificates
- Comprehensive knowledge of Alzheimer’s disease, related dementias, and geriatric conditions
- Demonstrated experience in assessment, counselling & case management
- Excellent physical and behavioural assessment skills for evaluating cognitive impairment, depression, and delirium, mental health issues and addictions
- Previous community experience is an asset
- Training in P.I.E.C.E.S™ Gentle Persuasive Approach, U-First!®, Montessori Method is an asset
- Sensitive to the cultural needs of patients from various ethnic groups
- Well-developed analytical, problem-solving, decision-making, change management and organizational skills.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication (written and verbal) skills

- Demonstrated collaborative team work skills, and the ability to work independently and co-operatively in a busy environment
- Extensive knowledge of community resources (social, legal, health and financial) in Durham Region
- Demonstrated experience in group facilitation & presentations
- Ability to use discretion, judgment and tact in handling sensitive/confidential information/situations.
- Excellent computer/digital literacy and proficiency in Microsoft Office, video conferencing platforms, and client database software
- Fluency in English, both spoken & written, is required
- Fluency in French and/or a language such as Cantonese, Mandarin, Tamil, Korean or other South Asian language is an asset
- Demonstrated satisfactory work performance and attendance history
- Criminal Record check including a Vulnerable Sector Screening required
- Ability to work evenings and weekends as required to meet the demands of the program and the Agency.
- Proof of Professional Liability Insurance is required

Travel

- Must possess a valid driver's license and have regular access to an insured vehicle as the position requires travel throughout Durham Region

Physical Demands

- No special physical demands are required beyond the performance of general office duties

TO APPLY:

- Please submit your application to jobs@alzheimerdurham.com quoting "Social Worker" in the subject title no later than **September 21 at 4:00 p.m.**

No phone calls please. We thank you for your interest in applying to the Alzheimer Society of Durham Region; however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Alzheimer Society welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process.

The Society requires that you be fully vaccinated for COVID-19, subject to any accommodation obligations it may have under human rights legislation.

Disclaimer

This job description indicates the general nature and level of work expected. It is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities required by the incumbent. Incumbent may be asked to perform other duties as required.

Approved: September 2021