



AIDS Committee of Ottawa
www.aco-cso.ca

Organization: AIDS Committee of Ottawa
Position title: Gay Men's Health and Wellness Coordinator
Position Type: Full Time / Permanent
Job Region: Ottawa

Since 1985, the AIDS Committee of Ottawa (ACO) has worked to empower people living with HIV/AIDS and the PHA (persons with HIV/AIDS) community in Ottawa by promoting the well-being and quality of life of those living with or closely affected by HIV/AIDS.

The successful candidate for this position will bring to the job: a sex positive approach to HIV prevention; experience in social justice issues including PHA and gay men's advocacy; an understanding and respect for the diversities of gay culture; an understanding of gay men's health promotion; a sound knowledge of the principles of harm reduction and positive prevention; belief and experience working within an anti-racist / anti-oppression framework; a willingness to advocate for gay, bi and trans men's holistic health needs at a community and a provincial level.

Responsibilities:

- Ensure that HIV+ men are meaningfully involved in all aspects of the development and delivery of prevention programs
- Work closely with ACO's Gay Men's Prevention Team.
- Represent ACO both provincially and locally on various committees, including but not limited to, the Gay Men's Wellness Initiative, and the Gay Zone Advisory Board.
- Coordinate logistics of Snowblower, an annual community event providing health and wellness programming for guys into guys (www.snowblowerottawa.ca)
- Collaborate with partners on the Gay zone advisory committee to ensure services are meeting the needs of men who have sex with men in Ottawa. Responsibilities also include budgeting, communication, planning and logistics of Gay zone services.
- Collaborate in the coordination of various projects (e.g. anti-homophobia campaigns, health promotion initiatives for HIV+ men, Lesbian/Gay Expo, Pride, etc)
- Coordinate the creation and provision of workshops, information sessions, articles and support groups for gay positive and negative men in ACO's The Living Room as well as in the community.
- Coordinate the provision of information and harm reduction strategies around drug use as it relates to gay men
- Review, research and share with the ACO Prevention team existing HIV research and information at a local, national and international level in order to identify gaps in services, best practices and the most up-to-date information, tools and resources for gay / trans / bi and other men who have sex with men in Ottawa and advocate for solutions
- Participate in community-based research initiatives
- Educate local service providers on the issues faced by gay / trans / bi and other men who have sex with men

Qualifications:

- Work experience: minimum 2 years working in HIV/AIDS prevention, health promotion, and working with diverse communities
- Education: Diploma or undergraduate degree or equivalent related experience in social or health services
- Language: Fluency in English. Fluency in French and/or other languages is a strong asset

Knowledge of:

- Gay men's health and social issues
- General knowledge of health promotion and HIV prevention strategies and interventions
- Harm reduction approach to HIV prevention
- Lived experiences and risk factors for populations at high risk for HIV

Skills:

- Ability to set priorities and manage time effectively and self-motivate
- Ability to work independently and in a team environment
- Effective written and oral communication skills
- Community development
- Facilitation with diverse audiences
- Program management and project evaluation
- Ability to work in non-conventional settings such as bathhouses and bars
- Experience working with volunteers

Personal Suitability:

- Sex-positive attitude
- Understanding of the stigmas imposed on active drug users
- Willing to be flexible in working schedule, including some evenings and weekends
- Must be comfortable working in gay venues, including bathhouses, clubs and social groups and activities – including outreach to specific populations of gay men including older gay men, gay men living on reduced incomes and gay men with diverse mental and physical abilities

In your cover letter please discuss the challenges related to the values required for this position. We thank all who apply, however, only candidates who are short listed will be contacted.

The salary for this position is \$37,000.

We strongly encourage HIV+ individuals fitting the description of the target population to apply

Please submit your cover letter and CV, preferably in electronic (MS Word or PDF) format. This position is open until filled, please submit your CV ASAP.

Michelle Ball

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