

2024/2025 WORK STUDY PROGRAM

JOB POSTING

JOB TITLE: NURS 4 – Community Connector

DEPARTMENT NAME: Nursing/Social Dimensions of Health HSD

CONTACT NAME: Nancy Clark

JOB DESCRIPTION:

MOSAIC is one of Canada's largest settlement and employment services organizations, who work to improve communities by welcoming and supporting newcomers. MOSAIC programs help immigrants and refugees settle and start a new life in Canada. MOSAIC is offering a preceptorship for a student placement on social prescribing with vulnerable immigrant seniors in BC. Social Prescription is an emerging topic in BC and the Burnaby Primary Care Network's priority for all Burnaby residents as well. Students from Nursing and other disciplines are encouraged to apply.

For this project, MOSAIC is responsible for Social Prescription (SP) for Seniors in Burnaby. SP is a part of the four-arm model in supporting seniors' Healthy Aging initiative, funded by a provincial Ministry and managed by United Way.

For a bigger picture view, Healthy Aging (<https://bc.healthyagingcore.ca/>) is composed of:

1. Social Prescription
2. Therapeutic Activities (TAPS)
3. Better at Home (home support /home visits)
4. Caregiver and Friends support

The mandate at MOSAIC Community Health is entirely Social Prescription and referrals come from health care practitioners such as doctors and nurses in the community, as well as referrals coming from discharge plans from Burnaby hospital. Our partners include Fraser Health, Allied Health, Burnaby PCN, and sometimes, self-referrals.

Our clients in social prescription are those who are 65+, isolated, and frail. The vision is to support the clients to maintain independence and social wellness for as long as possible.

The social prescription for seniors is not unique in Burnaby. In fact, there are "Community Connectors" for each city in Greater Vancouver Area – all managed by United Way.

In Burnaby, historically, there is only one Community Connector for about four years now, and only this new fiscal year have they added 2 more for the city as the need increased significantly – two in MOSAIC, one from Burnaby Neighbourhood House. MOSAIC's work with many community-based organizations are very collaborative, as well as with United Way and Fraser Health.

APPLICANTS MUST BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK STUDY PROGRAM
For details go to: <http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/safa/work-study/index.php>

The model used for Social Prescription in Burnaby has a volunteer-based component as well, and so in this program, we make sure that our volunteers have the appropriate tools in their onboarding before they will be ready for community involvement.

Current challenges: Top issues of our clients: language barrier, housing (!), and meal support.

The current Community Connector's role is going above and beyond his scope because seniors are at risk and vulnerable to losing what they have. The community connector work study opportunity will assist in creating and implementing a wellness plan working with community. Strengthen engagement with vulnerable communities and implementation and knowledge transfer of social prescribing for vulnerable seniors. Work with primary care sector and MOSAIC to strengthen wellness planning and tools related to social prescribing and other wellness interventions and initiatives.

Here also some sources to help you get started with reviewing [grey] literature on the topic:

1. <https://healthconnections.mendip.org/our-model/> - Social Prescription is a concept originated from the UK.
2. <https://shiftdesign.org/case-study-compassionate-frome/> - A case study about the FROME model being used in SP.
3. <https://www.redcross.ca/blog/2022/11/connecting-health-and-social-care-systems-with-social-prescribing> - Canadian Red Cross' positionality on Social Prescription.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be a graduate student studying at University of Victoria BC.
- Interested in working with vulnerable immigrant and refugee seniors.
- Good English reading and writing skills, second language an asset.
- Good organizing skills
- Friendly and personable
- Able to travel to work study site; dates/times to be determined up to one day/week.
- Excellent communication skills
- Research experiences an asset
- Excellent organizational and time management skills.
- Strong attention to detail.
- Excellent written/oral communication skills.
- Good computational/accounting skills.
- Ability to work independently, multi-task, and prioritize tasks.
- Strong record-keeping skills.
- Proficient with MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint).
- Shared values for social justice, Indigenous knowledges, interdisciplinarity, health equity, social justice, and ethical professional conduct.
- Familiarity with Canadian research policy and environment is a strong asset; and
- Familiarity with UVic policy and procedure and experience in navigating UVic administrative offices is an asset.

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JOB LOCATION ON-CAMPUS: Burnaby, MOSAIC
Community Health and Specialized Programs
5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver BC V5R 2P9

WORK STUDY WAGE: \$18.50/hour (including 4% vacation pay)

DEPARTMENT TOP UP: \$4.50/hour (plus 4% vacation pay) delete if not applicable.

HOURS AVAILABLE: 170

HOW TO APPLY: Please send cover letter and resume to: nancyclark@uvic.ca
With the subject line "School of Nursing - Community
Connector Job Application"