



The Canadian Mental Health Association Kings County Branch seeks a **Smoking Cessation Project Coordinator**, funded through the Chronic Disease Innovation (CDI) Fund.

Project Summary: Persons living with chronic mental illness have higher rates of smoking and related chronic illness than the general population. Most require increased supports to maintain mental wellness while overcoming nicotine addiction. The project will address tobacco use, its normalization; stigmatization; and the gap of effective smoking cessation for people living with a mental illness. Targeted smoking cessation will be delivered through an innovative collaboration of peer mentors, community professionals, and healthcare. A comprehensive evaluation will be conducted.

The Smoking Cessation Project Coordinator will administer, coordinate and implement this project which runs to April 2018.

Key Responsibilities:

- Work with local NS Health Mental Health and Addictions program to provide community based nicotine addiction cessation/reduction with necessary supports
- Address stigma against persons living with mental illness
- Re-orient cultural beliefs and attitudes regarding persons living with mental illness and their tobacco use
- Address health disparities in tobacco control for this target population
- Build health system, organizational, professional, peer and social supports to sustainably address tobacco addiction in persons living with chronic mental illness into the future
- Work with Primary Health Care to engage primary care supports
- Establish a best practice peer support model
- Work with community partners to establish effective environmental and community supports
- Seek advice, support and engagement of persons with lived experience of chronic mental illness and tobacco use
- Develop community level tobacco addiction expertise
- Begin project implementation in Kentville, NS and then seek to create interest, readiness, and support in other municipalities and/or community partners in Western Zone.

Qualification Requirements:

- Post-secondary education in Social Services/Mental Health/Addictions sector
- Excellent communication and organizational skills with the ability to engage community and collaborate with multiple stakeholders
- Successful candidates will demonstrate persuasiveness, confidence, resourcefulness and strong community knowledge
- Demonstrated understanding of mental illness and addictions
- Experience in peer-based programming and delivery of workshops

Salary: \$19.82/hr based on qualifications and experience

Other Requirements: A valid NS driver's licence and access to a vehicle required; flexibility in scheduling may include some evenings and weekends