

Summary for NP Secondment from Middlesex London Health Unit
.6 to Addiction Services of Thames Valley
.4 to Chippewa Health Centre SOAHAC
June 2018 – Dec 2018 – future sustainability to be determined

Background and Future plans:

In response to the Opioid Crisis and the unplanned departure of two permanent Nurse Practitioners (NPs) from the employ of ADSTV, our agency requested a Purchase of Service from MLHU to address immediate needs for existing and expanding Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine Clinics (located at 648 Huron in London, as well as in Strathroy). The request was made based on our previous experiences of lengthy recruitment times. While this request was initially not considered feasible at the end of April, the urgent need of the SOAHAC- Chippewa Health team became known to us and created the opportunity to create a full-time, shared secondment of NP service. ADSTV and SOAHAC are in early development of our partnership and are both bringing staff resources and management/ leadership together to address current needs.

ADSTV has permanent funding for NP services but was seeking interim support for urgent needs. It is anticipated that upon a successful recruitment we would no longer require NP support from MLHU. The commitment to the end of 2018 allows some stabilization for ADSTV needs, adequate recruitment time and the option for SOAHAC to have an NP for start up of new services. The commitment to the end of 2018 works for SOAHAC, as well. The SW LHIN has identified the Opioid Substitution clinic as a priority focus for Indigenous health in the coming budget, and SOAHAC will be submitting a proposal for a sustainably funded, fully resourced opioid substitution to the LHIN following the provincial writ period.

Position:

Addiction-Focused Nurse Practitioner: Community Withdrawal Supports and Opioid Response Teams

Administrative Reporting to: Coordinator of Community Withdrawal Supports and Opioid Response Teams (and/or Director of Clinical Services as an interim, due to pending vacancy)

Medical/Clinical Reporting to: Physician and/or Nurse Leads of clinics: Dr. Ken Lee, Dr. Janel Gracey and other physicians who provide service to RAAM/Addiction Medicine Clinics. At SOAHAC, they will report to Dr. Steven Steinberg and Dr. Anne Pascal-Bartleman.

For Human Resources issues such as payroll, union, and secondment support, the position will report to the Program Lead for Harm Reduction at the Middlesex-London Health Unit.

Position Summary:

A highly motivated **Nurse Practitioner (NP)** with a focused-practice in addiction to work as part of an integrated team and to support physicians in Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine clinics and provide episodic health care, assessment and follow up for people living with a mental illness and/or addiction. This position is embedded with the Community Withdrawal Support program and community-based Opioid Response Teams of ADSTV and within the holistic integrated care team the SOAHAC Chippewa of the Thames.

The Nurse Practitioner will work in partnership with physicians and other health service providers in the community. The Nurse Practitioner will also provide leadership and be a resource to the multi-professional service providers that are striving to address the opioid crisis in a culturally safe manner.

The NP will provide community-based clinics and support clients of ADSTV and SOAHAC at locations in London, Strathroy and Chippewa of the Thames First Nation

Responsibilities:

The Nurse Practitioner (NP) role promotes / facilitates / supports the provision of excellent patient care through an expanded scope of practice. The primary responsibility is comprehensive, direct patient care. The NP performs comprehensive health assessments, diagnosis (which includes the ordering and interpretation of tests), prescribing authority (including but not limited to pharmaceuticals, blood & blood products), consultation and referrals, as well as evaluation of patient/client care. The NP works to full scope of advanced nursing practice and is expected to provide leadership and participate in program development and evaluation, research and clinical teaching activities. The NP consistently exercises a leadership role in utilizing best practice.

Hours of Work:

- Full-time 35 hours (21 hours/week for ADSTV and 14 hours/week for SOAHAC specific dates/times to be negotiated)
- In order to best serve our clients we are looking to offer services outside of regular business hours. This position will require some flexing to accommodate and could include early/late or weekend hours. To be determined.
- Start date - immediate

Requirements:

- Nurse Practitioner credential in good standing with the College of Nurses of Ontario.
- Has purchased liability protection under RNAO or independently
- CNA certification in Mental Health an asset
- 3-5 years' experience as an Advanced Practice Nurse

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- Experience working with people living with a mental illness and/or addiction
- Successful completion of approved controlled substances education for Nurse Practitioners
- Excellent clinical, interpersonal and organization skills
- Fluent computer skills/knowledge of Outlook, Excel, PowerPoint, electronic patient records.
- Excellent critical thinking, problem solving and organizational abilities
- Demonstrated ability to deal effectively with sensitive issues with families and staff\
- Innovative and flexible
- Project planning and evaluation skills would be an asset
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively as a member of a unique community
- Demonstrated ability in conflict resolution
- Demonstrated ability to establish a rapport with specialized population (asset)
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively as a member of a unique community
- Valid driver's license, proof of auto insurance and reliable transportation
- Willingness to travel short distances