



# McLaren Housing

## Society of British Columbia

**Job Title:** Life Skills Worker

**Location:** Downtown Vancouver

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Founded in 1987, McLaren was the first HIV/AIDS housing provider in Canada. We work with low-income individuals and families who are living with HIV/AIDS and require stable and supportive housing. Our mission is to provide safe, secure and affordable housing and capacity-building services to widen pathways for improved health, wellness and independent living and foster a sense of community.

### Job Summary

Working in accordance with the policies, procedures and philosophy of McLaren Housing Society, this position establishes trusting relationships with a diverse resident population and holds a trauma-informed understanding of barriers and stigmatization experienced by individuals historically underserved.

Reporting directly to the Director of Housing and under the guidance of the Resident Support Coordinator, the Life Skills Worker works in close collaboration with the support team to perform duties that enhance the capacity of residents to maintain their housing, health and independence.

**To be successful in this role, you are comfortable and experienced with supporting residents with light housekeeping, pest control and functional housing retention daily living needs.** While working through a harm reduction lens, you understand the need to establish, maintain and role-model healthy boundaries and you value the spirit of teamwork and collaboration.

### Duties and Responsibilities:

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1. Assist residents with pest infestation, including light housekeeping, laundry, and prepping for Bed Bug remediation, which may include the moving or wrapping of furniture for disposal. Working knowledge of bed bug remediation is an asset.
  2. Provide support and encouragement to residents to maintain personal hygiene.
  3. Identify and refer residents who require individual case management support to resident support workers.
  4. Monitor the cleanliness and tidiness of suites to ensure compliance with fire safety regulations.
  5. Provide accompaniment to medical appointments if needed.
  6. Promote independence to encourage an independent lifestyle.
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Charitable Registration 10768 3328 RR0001

7. Help coordinate community kitchen meals, source food donations to enhance food security of residents.
8. Ensure the safety of residents and the premises by performing duties such as de-escalating, reporting unsafe conditions, incidents and behaviours and reporting to the appropriate staff or authorities.
9. Cover front-desk duties for Building Attendants when needed.
10. Perform other related duties assigned by the Management Team.

#### **Teamwork:**

- Offer support, respect and feedback to other team members and work collaboratively to achieve team goals
- Ensure communication style is clear, concise and honest
- Take initiative, ownership, accountability and responsibility for your role
- Share and contribute ideas, knowledge, questions and perspectives
- Attend staff meetings and check-ins
- Respect the workplace's physical structure, keeping it clean, safe and secure for those we support

#### **Documentation/Communication:**

- Review and document all logs, staff minutes and organizational emails
- Write accurate and detailed incident reports
- Work closely with Management, Building Attendant's, janitorial and support staff to maintain effective lines of communication and overall building maintenance needs

#### **Knowledge, Skills & Abilities**

- Grade 12 or Equivalent, Level 1 First Aid Training Certificate, plus two (2) years of related experience or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience.
- Current Criminal Records Check and First Aid, Level 1, FoodSafe & WHMIS training are minimum requirements (willingness to complete these within 2 months is acceptable)
- Experience working in kitchen and meal preparation for large groups is required.
- Possess an understanding of the needs of the HIV community.
- Knowledge of the supportive housing structure and BC Housing. Experience working in a supportive housing environment is an asset.
- Demonstrated ability to understand and maintain residents/worker boundaries.
- Demonstrated experience or training in conflict resolution, de-escalation and risk assessment
- Demonstrated ability to support individuals with mental health and substance use issues, utilising a harm reduction approach and working within a trauma informed care model

- Ability to work and empathize with people who may have experienced abuse, poverty, grief and loss, oppression, violence, mental health challenges, addictions issues and other life-limiting or life-threatening conditions
- Physical ability to carry out the duties of the position, experience operating related equipment and ability to effectively use industrial grade cleaning products
- Excellent interpersonal skills; ability to communicate effectively both written and verbally.
- Ability to work independently and reprioritize duties in a consistently changing environment
- Valid Driver's license with access to a reliable vehicle is an asset.

### **Compensation and Work Environment**

- This is a permanent, full-time position within a welcoming work culture in a location close to transit.
- Compensation is \$26.00 per hour, commensurate with experience and ability.
- McLaren offers a substantial health plan, 3% matching funds in our employee savings plan, 120 hours of sick leave, 3 weeks annual vacation and 13 statutory holidays paid yearly.

Interested and suitably qualified applicants are invited to submit a cover letter and resume in Word or PDF format to [jobs@mclarenhousing.org](mailto:jobs@mclarenhousing.org) or by fax to 604-669-4092.

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