

Outreach Midwife

Community Midwives of Ottawa / The Ottawa Hospital

Community Midwives of Ottawa is looking for a general registrant to join the ORACLE team starting in mid-November. ORACLE is a collaborative care program, with care of medically and socially complex clients shared between the midwifery team and the maternal-fetal medicine team at The Ottawa Hospital. We deliver care within an outreach model, and work together with many community organizations including outreach nursing, mental health and addiction services, community health centres, and child protection. We are a close-knit, supportive team who enjoy working together and value collaboration.

This work is quite different than conventional midwifery practice. Outreach work includes episodic care in the shelters, the detention centre, your vehicle, or at a coffee shop. We spend less time at births and more time in meetings. We work very full days, but much less often at night. Our clients are often late to present to care, so we often work at an accelerated pace, offering a high volume of visits and working hard to help our clients transition successfully to parenting. We celebrate some immense successes with our clients, and we also support them through times of great sadness. This is an opportunity to do challenging, meaningful work with some very engaging and resilient people.

The ideal candidate will have skills in motivational interviewing and experience navigating housing, social assistance and child protection, or a strong willingness to acquire these skills. We work with very interesting and inspiring people experiencing homelessness, addiction, violence and mental illness. We are looking for somebody who is philosophically aligned with a health equity and harm reduction approach and who can approach our clients with respect and admiration. Because we work so closely with multiple community partners, this is also work for somebody who enjoys building interdisciplinary relationships and is an excellent negotiator.

We specifically encourage midwives who identify as IBPOC, queer or genderqueer to apply. Fluency in French is a considerable asset. Five years of midwifery experience is preferred, although we will also consider additional qualifications or experience.

Please forward résumés with a cover letter to Liz Fraser at efraser@ottawamidwives.ca. If you're not sure if this is the right fit for you, don't hesitate to reach out for a conversation before applying, to hear more about the work we do and what we're looking for.