

The Stop Community Food Centre
Job Posting: Advocacy Worker (full-time, 4-days/week)

The Stop began over 30 years ago as one of North America's first food banks, and has grown into a vibrant community centre, using food as a gateway to addressing many issues, including poverty, the environment, social isolation, and health in one of Toronto's lowest-income neighbourhoods. The Stop's mission is to increase access to healthy food in a manner that maintains dignity, builds community and challenges inequality.

The Advocacy Worker works with a team of Peer Advocates who provide information, referrals, advocacy and limited case management to community members visiting The Stop's Drop-in and Food Bank programs, as well as two satellite sites. We are looking for someone with a unique mixture of case management and community organising experience, as well as an in-depth knowledge of social services, community programs and neighbourhood resources. The ideal candidate is optimistic, energetic, creative, resourceful and patient, as well as a passionate advocate for social justice and food security with an unwavering belief that change is possible.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Support the Community Advocacy Coordinator with program activities, including scheduling, honorariums, meeting facilitation and ongoing educational/training opportunities
- Work in Community Advocacy offices providing support and referrals to community members
- Provide support and act as a resource to the Advocates in their casework with community members
- Provide direct casework support to community members including: advocacy, assessment, supportive counselling, crisis intervention and brief case management when required
- Work with the Advocates, Community Advocacy Coordinator and other Community Action Program staff to identify areas for strategic systemic action and develop initiatives to address these injustices

Qualifications:

- Relevant education or experience in case management
- Experience working in a social services setting
- Demonstrated experience in effective community organising
- Excellent knowledge of or first-hand experience with systems with which low-income people interact, including Ontario Works, ODSP, subsidized housing, legal aid and health care
- Strong group facilitation skills
- Excellent interpersonal communication and conflict resolution skills
- Demonstrated experience working with marginalized people and people of diverse cultures and abilities in a community-based setting
- Ability to speak a language relevant to the neighbourhood is an asset (e.g. Spanish, Portuguese, Cantonese, etc.)

Salary: \$19.40 per hour plus benefits

Hours: 30 hours per week

Start date: Immediately

Please submit your résumé by **Friday August 16, 2013 by 12:00pm.** to: Hiring Committee – Advocacy Worker, The Stop Community Food Centre, P.O. Box 69, Station E, Toronto, ON M6N 4Y2 **OR** amanda@thestop.org.

No faxes or phone calls please.

The Stop Community Food Centre is committed to Employment Equity and encourages applicants from equity seeking groups. We regret that only those applicants being considered will be contacted.