



Employment Opportunity for
Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) Responder

Who Are We?

The Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that works towards breaking the cycle of domestic violence through the actions of advocacy, community engagement, awareness, education, and safe housing at Jessie's House. Jessie's House is a 35 bed all-gender emergency shelter. JMMF resides on Treaty 6 land, in the community of Morinville, AB (20Km North of St Albert). We primarily serve Sturgeon County, including CFB Edmonton, St. Albert, Alexander First Nation, and surrounding communities. JMMF is committed to creating inclusivity, diversity, and equality for our employees and the people we serve. We offer competitive wages, a comprehensive benefit package, retirement savings program and professional development opportunities. Visit www.jmmf.ca to learn more about who we are and what we do.

Employment Type: One Full-Time Temporary DART RESPONDER with possibility of extension.
Work Hours: 40 hours weekly, including nights/weekends with an on-call rotation
Application Deadline: Open until a suitable candidate is found
Start Date: ASAP

JOB OVERVIEW

The Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) Responder reports directly to the Deputy Director at Jessie's House. DART is a partnership with Alberta Health Services (AHS) Emergency Room Staff in which the Responder provides supports to clients. DART will provide no cost, 24/7 specialized services to victims of domestic violence.

DART Responders are clients' first point of contact. The DART Responder must operate from a trauma-informed, decolonial, harm reduction, and anti-oppressive mode of practice.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

General

- When a DART responder connects with the patient, they will complete further assessment to determine the patient's needs and provide the following services as appropriate:
 - a safety plan and a plan for the next 24-48 hours following discharge from the AHS facility;
 - assistance with contacting local law enforcement and Children's Services; if required.
 - information for and referrals to local supports, including financial assistance, counselling, food bank; and
 - arrangements for access and transportation to safe accommodations, including emergency shelter or hotel.
 - follow-up telephone support within 24 hours of the initial intervention and at three- (3), six- (6), nine- (9), and 12-month intervals.
- Adheres to agency policies and procedures, including the principals of harm reduction, anti-oppression, decolonization, and trauma-informed care.
- Adheres to relevant provincial and federal regulations and legislation, including any relevant regulatory bodies' ethical frameworks of practice.



- Has well established self-care practices and the capacity to perform well in a high-crisis, emergency shelter environment.

Administration

- Maintains accurate and comprehensive written client file documentation regarding all client interactions according to established shelter procedures.
- Input case notes and other client data into the Outcome Tracker database on a regular basis.
- Complete Monthly Reporting.
- Provide Educational Presentations on Gender Based Violence to partnering agencies, and AHS Facilities.
- Attend monthly meetings, with agency partners.
- Attends regular program development meetings with Deputy Director and/or Executive Director.
- Attends agency and team meetings when scheduled and participates regularly in continuing competency, professional development and/or scheduled training opportunities.
- Supports with the orientation and training of practicum students and DART on call Responders.
- Strive to build meaningful professional relationships within the outlined AHS sites and community partners.

Client Related

- Establish non-judgmental support for clients navigating family violence, gender-based violence, trauma, homelessness, mental wellness and/or addictions challenges. The DART Responder may encounter clients with visible signs of assault and injuries as a result of domestic violence.
- Provides non-judgmental holistic emotional support, community referrals, and advocacy to clients.
- For clients admitted to Jessie's House, conduct client admissions, danger assessments, safety planning, regular check-ins, risk assessments, outreach follow-up and departures according to established protocols.
- Assist the Deputy Director and/or Executive Director.
- Address the immediate day-to-day needs of clients in shelter, including support with basic needs (eg. food, toiletries, clothing, crisis support, medical referrals, etc.).
- Provides outreach follow-up.
- Provide support with implementing adaptive coping mechanisms or, where applicable, reducing the harms associated with maladaptive coping mechanisms.
- Liaising with relevant community agencies and stakeholders in a positive and professional manner.

Facility Related

- Regular housekeeping and maintenance duties such as cooking, cleaning, preparing rooms for client admissions and/or departures, laundry, and general facility upkeep as needed.

The Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) Responder will also complete all other duties as assigned by the Deputy Director and Executive Director, including providing relief support to the rest of the shelter team where required.

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

- A minimum of post-secondary level education in social work, psychology, or another social science from a recognized educational institution, with current registration with the appropriate regulatory



body where applicable. A combination of other relevant experience and qualifications may also be considered.

- Strong knowledge of the principles of harm reduction, anti-oppression, decolonial practice, housing first, and trauma-informed care; relevant experience may be substituted.
- Strong knowledge of best practices in family violence, gender-based violence and intimate-partner violence intervention. Experience working in a residential facility or emergency accommodation is preferred.
- Experience working with persons with mental health and/or alcohol & substance abuse challenges helpful.
- Excellent capacity for networking and liaising with external community agencies and relevant stakeholders, and representing the agency positively and professionally.
- Valid Driver's License, Vehicle Required
- Flexibility to work in multiple settings
- CPR Level C and Standard First Aid, standard non-violent crisis intervention certification, a Child Intervention Record Check, and a Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Check are conditions of employment.

WORK CONDITIONS

- Working primarily in an emergency shelter environment
- 40 hours weekly
- Weekdays and on-call for nights and weekends. If the call requires Emergency Department attendance, employee will flex the hours the following day.
- Working in a high stress, with disruptions, high pressure environment.

How to Apply?

Send a current resume and cover letter to hr@jmmf.ca quoting the position title in the subject line
Include 2 professional references.