

# Art Therapist

(Temporary part-time – 1 year 0.6FTE)

Villa Cathay Care Home (VCCH) is a culturally focused non-profit senior care home in Vancouver's Strathcona neighborhood. Since 1978, we've provided high-quality care in a warm, community-focused environment. Guided by people-centered care principles, we strive to enhance the quality of life for our residents and their families. We are recruiting Art Therapist for our residential care home who has experience in organizing and delivering art therapy programs.

## **WHAT YOU'LL DO**

Reporting to the Recreation Manager and guided by the ethical standards of the Canadian Art Therapy Association (CATA) or the British Columbia Art Therapy Association (BCATA), the Art Therapist is responsible for assessing, planning, delivering, and evaluating art therapy services to individual residents and small groups at VCCH. The role aims to enhance residents' psychosocial well-being and sense of purpose through art therapy interventions that promote mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual health.

The Art Therapist collaborates closely with the Therapeutic Recreation team, participates in interdisciplinary care planning, and may supervise art therapy students and volunteers. The role also supports operational and program development initiatives in partnership with the interdisciplinary and leadership teams.

## **Responsibilities include:**

- Develop, implement and evaluate art therapy programs for clients; reviews client records, interviews residents or their families, assesses care needs and goals, creates an intervention plan, evaluates the effectiveness of the intervention, and documents art therapy care.
- Provide art therapy services; evaluates residents responses and behaviours during the art therapy session. Encourages and assists residents to express emotion and explore their thoughts in a non-verbal way and through various methods of visual art. Use a wide range of art materials to promote, restore, or maintain, residents' physical, psycho-social, cognitive, emotional and spiritual health.
- Reach out to the house team and the interdisciplinary team to identify residents who are suitable candidates for art therapy.

- Participate in interdisciplinary team meetings; exchanges relevant information, discusses findings and adjusts clients' intervention plan to ensure optimum patient care and facilitate strong interdisciplinary relationships and focus.
- Developing suitable art therapy programs for patients based on their needs, objectives, and preferred forms of artistic expression.
- Take charge of the adequate level of art supplies and equipment and work collaboratively with the Therapeutic Recreation team to make the needed arrangement for stock.
- Supervising art therapy students and interns.
- Maintaining detailed records of patients' progress as well as observations made during art therapy sessions.
- All staff are expected to support a culture of safety and preparedness by following VCCH's policies and procedures related to resident safety and quality of care
- Participating in required safety training, emergency preparedness activities, and scheduled drills as part of their role.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

## **WHAT YOU BRING**

### **Education, Training and Experience:**

- Graduated from a recognized art therapy program or degree in counselling, psychology, or social work plus formal art therapy training
- Membership with Canadian Art Therapy Association (CATA), BC Art Therapy Association (BCATA).
- Clearance with Criminal Record Check for Vulnerable Adult BC
- Two years recent experience working with older adults.

### **Skill and Abilities**

- Strong understanding of visual art, with well-developed communication, counseling, and analytical skills
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills and the ability to foster trust and engagement with residents and families
- Demonstrated ability to facilitate small groups or art classes tailored to diverse needs
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing; ability to speak Chinese is an asset
- Strong teamwork and collaboration skills, with the ability to work both independently and within an interdisciplinary care team

- Proficient in operating relevant equipment and using a range of computer software applications
- Strong organizational and time-management abilities, with the capacity to plan, prioritize, and adapt
- Ability to establish and maintain therapeutic rapport with clients
- Capable of identifying and resolving issues creatively and compassionately
- Commitment to regular, dependable attendance to support consistent care and team coordination
- Physical ability to perform the duties of the position

### **WHAT WE OFFER**

#### **Salary**

\$36-\$44 per hour

### **HOW TO APPLY**

To apply, or for any inquiries, please email us at: [hr@villacathay.ca](mailto:hr@villacathay.ca) and put “Art Therapist” in the email subject line.

*We appreciate and thank you all applications in advance for their interest, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.*