



Keeping families close™

## Activity Program Volunteer- Child Life

### **It's a pleasure to meet you. Now, let us introduce ourselves!**

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) Toronto is a place to call home for families with seriously ill children undergoing treatment. We encompass a House for 81 families in downtown Toronto and seven Family Rooms in hospitals across the Greater Toronto Area and in Sudbury. We strive to provide a sense of normalcy for our families during a chaotic and traumatic time and provide a variety of programs and services to support the whole family.

### **What's in it for you:**

This is an opportunity to gain knowledge and experience in the world of family-centred care, to gain a deeper understanding of the issues faced by families with a sick child, and to know at the end of each shift that you have made a difference in the lives of our families.

### **Why we want you:**

If you are interested in supporting children and their families experiencing the impacts of illness, injury, and hospitalization through psychosocial-based programming, please read on.

We are looking for people who enjoy working with and supporting children and their siblings while they are staying with us. The Child Life Program is a drop-in program that provides children with the opportunity to engage in self-expression, play, and therapeutic activities, as well as learn about their body and health related topics, to enhance their coping and support their growth and development. Your role will be to support the Certified Child Life Specialist in delivering play-based experiences, educational activities, and special events that are based on the needs and interests of the children. You will support and engage the children and their families during program time in a safe, welcoming, creative, and educational environment. This may be done in a one-on-one setting or in a group.

### **Skills you need:**

Do you enjoy volunteering in a setting where every day can be different and where you are still making a difference? Would a highlight of your day include working with a smiling, imaginative, enthusiastic, spirited child? Do you have 1 – 2 years of proven experience working with children and/or youth in a professional setting? Do you have the ability to work well with children and adults under stress or in a crisis situation? Are you able to uphold boundaries and confidentiality?

### **Commitment:**

We need you every **Tuesday from 2:30pm-5:00pm** or **Thursday from 3:30pm-6:00pm** for a minimum of 6 months.

### **Why:**

We need people who are reliable, responsible, and well-mannered. We need to create an environment of support through continuity, consistency, and familiarity for our families. This is especially important to the children in our House. They will remember you because of your warmth and friendliness, and they and their parents will look forward to seeing you again.

### **We can't budge on:**

A current Vulnerable Sector Screenings Check and two current references.

### **Interested?**

If you answered 'yes' to the above questions, please click the 'apply now' button via the link below, and we can get the ball rolling.

<http://www.rmhctoronto.ca/How-to-Help/Volunteer/Current-Openings.aspx>

### **Anything else?**

Your orientation and training will be provided by the People & Culture team and the Child Life Specialist.

### **Got questions?**

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