



URGENT: Accepting Application Until October 27, 2021

Individual Advocate

Job type: Volunteer

10-15 Hours/Month

(Work Remotely)

Organization Information:

The Collective of Child Welfare Survivors (“CCWS”) is a grassroots collective founded by a group of Black, Indigenous and racialized queer Disabled child welfare survivors in the fall of 2018 in response to the closure of the Office of the Ontario Child Advocate and many issues within child welfare.

CCWS radically centers the experiences, knowledge, capacity, and work of child welfare survivors in our multiple, different, and coalescing experiences. Through decolonial and transformative paradigms and praxis, particularly from an anti-Black racism and critical-youth centering framework, we seek to deeply and radically inform and shift understandings, policies, and practices related to the child welfare experience. As we do so, we intend on increasing and revolutionizing child welfare survivors’ access to and experience with multiple systems and service points in the realms of legal, health, and education—to name a few.

Three pillars uphold CCWS’ mandate:

1. Individual One-on-One advocacy: CCWS provides individual advocacy to child welfare survivors and families dealing with child protection. Through intentional referral and long-term support, CCWS helps individuals in need of support with various circumstances as it relates to child welfare.
2. Community Development: CCWS works in partnership with various organizations, institutions and communities that can provide a radical and necessary shift when it comes to child welfare. CCWS provides workshops, public education resources, and collective spaces to child welfare survivors and community partners.
3. Systemic Advocacy: CCWS is rooted in radical community organizing and action achieved through campaigns, public letters, research, and community partnership.

Job Description

CCWS provides individual advocacy support for children and youth, primarily Black, Indigenous, and racialized, as well as their families who are involved with or have been involved with child protection services or child welfare in Ontario.

We undertake individual advocacy when requested by a child, young person, family member, community member, foster carer, kinship carer or service provider. Volunteer individual advocates will be assigned a case(s) to work alongside children, youth, and adult carers to facilitate knowledge growth and interdependence, ensure their rights, views, and experiences are heard and respected, and to ensure better outcomes when interacting with child welfare.

Qualifications Sought

- Be at least 18+ years of age;
- 3+ years working in advocacy/support role for children, youth and/or families;
- Preference for child welfare survivors, families/adult carers with experience navigating child welfare, and/or adequate understanding of child welfare laws, policies, institutions, and programs;
- Preference for Black, Indigenous, and racialized applicants;
- Clear Vulnerable Sector Screening Check;
- Access to a computer and cellphone/telephone;
- Applicants must be available November 2, 2021 or November 4, 2021 for an interview;
- Applicants must be available for training dates November 17 and November 24, 2021 from 6pm-9pm (if not available, we can discuss).

Apply using Google Form link located on “Work with Us” page

****We DO NOT accept applications from those who work with CAS/OACAS****

*****We will still accept applications from those who may not meet some of the qualifications related to experience. You may be paired with another advocate to gain experience*****

If you have any questions or concerns related to an accessible interview process, email us at info@collectiveofcws.ca or call 647-675-9789