



Shelter Recreation Program Coordinator – Canada Summer Jobs Position

Location: St Catharines, ON

Position Type: Full-Time, 12 week contract beginning June 1 2026;

Hours: Mon – Fri - 7 hour days. Schedule to be determined. Flexibility required.

Organization: Southridge Homelessness Services (operated by Southridge Church)

Salary: \$22.35

Application Deadline: May 15, 2026

Eligibility: Applicants must meet **Canada Summer Jobs** requirements (see below)

About Us:

Southridge is proud to operate the Southridge Shelter a 24/7 emergency shelter committed to offering compassionate, housing-focused support to individuals experiencing homelessness. We provide a welcoming and inclusive environment where all guests are treated with dignity and respect. We believe that meaningful engagement and social inclusion through recreation are essential components of healing, growth, and housing stability.

We are seeking a community-minded and organized **Shelter Recreation Program Coordinator** to support the development and delivery of recreational programming that fosters community, promotes well-being, and supports our residents' journeys toward housing and independence.

Position Summary:

The Shelter Recreation Program Coordinator is responsible for creating, implementing, and overseeing a variety of recreational and social activities for shelter guests. This role works collaboratively with shelter staff and volunteers to ensure programming is responsive to residents' interests, supports personal growth, and aligns with shelter goals.

Key Responsibilities:

- Develop and deliver a calendar of daily/weekly activities
 - Foster a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all participants.
 - Engage with guests to gather feedback and tailor programming to their interests and needs.
 - Coordinate and support volunteers for activities
 - Manage a small program budget, including purchasing supplies and utilizing donations when available.
 - Maintain attendance records, track program outcomes, and provide regular reports to shelter management.
 - Ensure activities adhere to shelter policies and trauma-informed best practices.
 - Promote activities through flyers, announcements, and direct engagement with residents.
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Qualifications:

- Diploma or degree (or working toward) in Recreation Therapy, Social Work, Human Services, or a related field (or equivalent experience).
- Experience working with vulnerable populations, including individuals experiencing homelessness, mental health challenges, and addiction.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in a fast-paced, dynamic environment.
- Creative, energetic, and flexible with strong organizational and problem-solving skills.
- Knowledge of trauma-informed care and harm reduction approaches is an asset.
- CPR/First Aid certification (or willingness to obtain).
- Successful candidates must provide a satisfactory criminal record check, including a vulnerable sector screen.

Canada Summer Jobs Eligibility:

To apply, you must:

- Be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person with refugee protection
- Have a valid Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- Be legally entitled to work in Canada

Working Conditions:

This position requires flexibility, including occasional evening and weekend programming.

- Majority of work takes place on-site at the shelter facility and property
- Physical ability to set up activities and events, including moving tables, chairs, and supplies.

How to Apply:

Please submit your resume and a brief cover letter outlining your experience and interest in the position to careers@southridgechurch.ca by May 15, 2026

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Southridge is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion. We encourage applications from individuals with lived experience of homelessness, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, racialized persons, and persons of diverse faiths, sexual orientations, and gender identities.