

Local Engagement Lead: York Region

Many Faces of Urban and Rural Displacement

12 Month Contract - 15 hours per week

Position Summary

This position is part of the *Many Faces of Urban and Rural Displacement Project - Ontario Tenants Organize and Speak Up*, hosted by the Social Planning Network of Ontario and funded through the Canadian Mortgage Housing Corporation Community Building Tenant Initiative (CBTI). The project will take place in 4 distinct communities across Ontario: Cornwall and Area, Kingston and District, Oxford County and the Region of York. The Social Planning Network and participating communities will engage and work alongside tenants with lived experience of precarious housing, collecting the narratives of those who have been impacted in both urban and rural settings and mapping instances of eviction and displacement. Displacement represents the loss of home, community, access to services/family and other natural networks when people are removed from where they have been living. Additionally, the project will contribute towards solutions-oriented activities and tenant organizing.

The Social Planning Council of York Region is seeking a Local Engagement Lead to collaborate with the local community in order to forward the project goals. This includes engaging with tenants and renters with lived experience of displacement to recruit participants and gather stories around eviction and displacement in York Region. Additionally, the Local Engagement Lead will collaborate on resident leadership development and action plans to advance organizing and advocacy work for tenants to increase access to safe and affordable housing options.

Qualifications

Good communication and interpersonal skills. Excellent listening skills.

Familiarity with interview techniques. Experience collecting qualitative data is an asset.

Excellent outreach skills; ability to engage sometimes hard to reach individuals.

Strong problem solving and organizational skills.

Being able to work independently. Also works well as a member of a team.

Strong motivational skills. Willingness to advocate.

Interest in community change, housing and tenants' rights.

Lived experience with displacement is an asset.

Travel may be required.

Education and Experience

A mix of work experience and/or relevant education such as a college diploma or university degree in social services, community development, outreach, research and an understanding of housing issues and tenant organizing.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

1. Identify, engage and build authentic trust with the local tenant and renter community and those with lived experience of eviction and displacement.
2. Involve tenants and renters in the core work of the project, including tenant engagement and leadership development.
3. Work with the local team and the Mapping Displacement Project Coordinator to establish how the project will be implemented, including development and adaptation of tools for data collection.
4. Facilitate the recruitment of study participants and collect stories of eviction and displacement from local tenants and renters.
5. Facilitate leadership training for tenants. Engage tenants in solution making activities including collaborating with and/or establishing local organizing efforts.
6. Work with the local team to establish an evaluation framework for local leadership and community capacity building projects.
7. Work with the local team to find ways to sustain the project and any tenant organizing activities longer term.
8. Performs other duties as required.

General

Anyone that meets the skills and qualifications is encouraged to apply.

This is a part time contract position of 15 hours per week over 12 months. The schedule can be designed/determined collaboratively based on the position requirements and the candidate's availability.

Ideally, this position will start August 15, 2022.

The position will be paid at a wage of \$20 per hour.

This position reports to the Social Planning Council of York Region representative and the Mapping Displacement Project Coordinator.

If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact Yvonne Kelly providing a cover letter and resume by July 29th at 5 pm.

Please submit to:

Yvonne Kelly

Board Chair, Social Planning Network of Ontario

socialplanningcouncilyr@gmail.com