



### **Job Description – Elder Abuse Intervention Advocate**

**Transition House’s mission is to end domestic violence in our community.** For over 40 years, Transition House has worked throughout Cambridge to create a culture where breaking the cycle of violence is an ongoing priority and where people affected by domestic violence can live in safety, access housing, resources and the holistic support they need to thrive. Transition House is now expanding its capacity to to prevent and support those who endure domestic violence and abuse in later life. The Elder Abuse Advocate will be responsible for direct service and support to elders age 60+ while also working with partners in the community to increase outreach and education about Elder Abuse. This new position is part of the Community Support Partnership, a collaboration of the City of Cambridge, the Cambridge Housing Authority and Transition House. The Elder Abuse Advocate will report to the Director of the Community Support Partnership.

- Provide excellent trauma-informed response, advocacy and support for victims of elder abuse in Cambridge.
- Provide one-on-one person-centered counseling to individuals struggling with elder abuse based upon an assessment of their needs, values, and goals
- Develop support groups and activities that provide support for victims of elder abuse in a variety of settings and cultural groups.
- Provide crisis intervention services and safety planning to elders. Serve on an on-call rotation schedule.
- Guide victims of elder abuse through the criminal justice process; accompany them to court proceedings as needed.
- Assist elders seeking advocacy and assistance with agencies such as the Cambridge Housing Authority in applying for emergency housing and other housing related issues related to domestic violence and elder abuse.
- Develop a network of resources and collaborators that are trained to address Elder Abuse.
- Work in collaboration with Protective Services, Cambridge Police Department, Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services, the Cambridge Council on Aging and other community partners in planning wrap-around support for victims of Elder Abuse.
- Consult providers around elder abuse including creative problem solving and appropriate intervention, while empowering elder individuals to make decisions on their own behalf to decide on their path and their actions.
- Attend community meetings related to elders and elder abuse including the Cambridge Elder Abuse Coalition
- In collaboration with other Transition House staff, train community organizations and providers on detecting elder abuse and assisting victims of domestic violence in later life.
- Develop a training program and a plan to address related issues such as bullying in the community, with a special focus of combating bullying in elder housing and facilities that serve elders.

#### Qualifications:

- Master's degree in a human services field preferred.

- A minimum of four years of experience in a human service or gerontology field.
- Ability to communicate effectively and creatively with elders.
- Expertise providing trauma-informed advocacy and motivational support for elders.
- High level of comfort working within a diverse and multicultural environment.
- Experience with extremely marginalized people including individuals who are mentally ill, substance abusing or victims of domestic violence is strongly preferred.
- Proven leadership skills and self-motivation.
- Ability to develop and sustain strong collaborations with colleagues from multiple external community organizations.
- Must be extremely well organized, punctual and skilled at time management.
- Superior written and oral communication skills in English.
- Knowledge of other language/s a plus.
- High level of proficiency with the Internet and Microsoft Office Suite.
- Able to climb stairs frequently, bend and lift items up to 30 pounds.
- Valid Driver's License required.
- CORI check required.

- To Apply:

Please email cover letter, resume (.doc or .pdf only) to: [jobs@transitionhouse.org](mailto:jobs@transitionhouse.org)

Salary: \$42,000-\$50,000 range, commensurate with experience and skills

***Transition House values diverse life experience and is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Bilingual/bicultural applicants, persons of color, people with disabilities and GLBTQI people are strongly encouraged to apply.***