



**Avalon**  
Sexual Assault Centre  
1526 Dresden Row, 4th Floor  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3K3

Business Line: (902) 422-4240  
Fax Line: (902) 422-4628  
SANE Business Line: (902) 422-6503  
SANE Fax Line: (902) 422-4962  
SANE Response Line: (902) 425-0122  
avaloncentre@eastlink.ca  
avalonsane@eastlink.ca  
www.avaloncentre.ca

## **Sexual Assault Awareness and Empowerment Project**

### **Coordinator Job Description**

**Job Type:** Project Contract

**Duration:** Project implemented between October 2010-November 2011. This is not a full time position. A contract outlining the deliverables with the allotted project timeframe will be developed in consultation with the successful candidate.

**Start Date:** Week of September 20, 2010 (exact date to be determined).

**Contract Payment:** \$14,000

### **Project Description:**

Avalon Centre will offer a multi-part reflection series exploring dominant attitudes towards sexual violence and themes of empowerment in response to sexual assault myths and gender stereotypes. These will be interactive educational sessions that will center on young women's expressions of lived experience and social awareness of sexual violence. This program will be offered as a series in collaboration with the YWCA Halifax Finding Leadership in Young Women (FLY-W) Program through their school-based groups for young women, an annual conference and a summer day camp. It will be offered at Avalon Centre with a group of young women who are affiliated with Avalon Centre. The young women involved have identified experiences of marginalization due to gender, socio economic and cultural factors, sexual exploitation, and of isolation from mainstream service delivery. As a result, they have also expressed a commitment to personal empowerment and taking an active role in addressing systemic sexual violence issues in their communities.

The project will run October 2010 to November 2011. During this time we will offer two 2-hour training/peer facilitation sessions for YWCA staff, project staff/volunteers, and peer leaders. The FLY-W Programs runs peer leadership groups for girls age 12-16 in 6 junior high school in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). Avalon Centre will offer 12-18 one-hour long sessions with these groups between September 2010 and June 2011. The YWCA also offers a Power of Being A Girl Conference, a 12-hour long conference, every fall and Power Camp, a summer day camp that is operated over three days and girls can participate in one or all three days. These events are for girls age 12-19. We will be offering a 1-2 hour session at Power of Being A Girl 2010 and 2011 as well as one-hour/day sessions during the three-day long Power Camps. The young women involved in FLY-W programming participate in all of these events. However, the conference and camp are also open to girls/young women from within HRM.

At Avalon Centre we will offer four consecutive sessions that are two hours long each in the winter of 2011. These sessions will be for young women age 16-19 who access our direct services or are affiliated with Avalon through student and volunteer placements, mentoring, and/or involved in our social justice activism/advocacy work. This group is made up of a diverse

group of young women from the community, local high schools, colleges, and universities who self identify as victims/survivors of sexual violence, feminists, and social activists who have expressed an interest in being involved in a formal group to explore the relationship between sexualized violence, self identity, and social justice in proactive ways that are relevant to them.

The purpose of the project is to assist young women in self-empowerment, building resilience in moving beyond sexualized victimization and marginalization, and in taking leadership roles and collective action to address systemic sexual violence and oppression. Many young women have expressed an interest in finding creative and alternative ways to learning about sexual violence, taking action against it, and in self-empowerment. While the Avalon based and Fly-W school based workshops will follow the same outline and curriculum, each will be custom designed to the specific needs and interest of the participants in each group. The first session will address the definitions of sexual violence and the sexual assault myths and gender stereotypes that condone and perpetuate sexual assault/abuse and explore how this affects young women in HRM theoretically and statistically as well as through the shared knowledge of the group. From this starting point, participants will decide collectively what aspect of sexual violence they want to focus on and how they want to explore this. The remaining sessions will be designed around this approach. It is intended that some of the young women involved in the Fly-W school programs and the Avalon based group will also be provided with peer leadership training so that they can assist with facilitating the workshops provided during the Power of Being A Girl conference (2011) and the Power Camp. With support from Avalon Centre and YWCA Halifax staff their leadership can also sustain the program beyond the funded project as they share what they have learned/created with new participants

#### **Role of Project Coordinator:**

- The project coordinator reports directly to the Executive Director. The person will work with supervision from and in collaboration with the Coordinator of Community/Legal Education and Training and the Intake Support Counsellor. This position will also work in collaboration with YWCA FLY W outreach staff.
- The project coordinator will be responsible for the overall coordination and completion of the Sexual Assault Awareness and Empowerment Project. This includes: (This is a tentative description of the project duties).
  - Development and implementation of a project work plan.
  - Development and implementation of the sexual assault awareness and empowerment workshop curriculum/activities.
  - Working collaboratively with FLY-W staff and providing consultation/support pertaining to the project.
  - Assisting with sexual assault awareness and response training for FLY-W peer leaders.
  - Writing progress and final project reports
  - Carrying out evaluations of each aspect of the project
  - Arranging for speakers/presenters to assist with the programming
  - Coordinating or Assisting with the production of any “products” that result from the project.
  - Project promotion
  - Assisting with other activities/duties relevant to the project.

#### **Requirements:**

- Knowledge and experience working with youth and youth issues, specifically girls and young women.
- An understanding and working knowledge in the areas of sexual violence, violence against women, gender inequality, marginalization, and working with community based organizations.
- Educational/work experience such as social sciences, health education/promotion, community/adult education, etc. and/or experience in peer education and/or developing and coordinating youth mobilization, education, and awareness programs.
- Self-starter/able to work independently as well as with other community partners and Avalon staff.
- Experience in coordinating and implementing projects, group facilitation, program/resource development, project evaluation, report writing.
- Working knowledge of computer programs such as Word, Word perfect, Power Point, Publisher, etc.
- Able to work within the contracted project time frame including pre-scheduled dates for specific events.

Avalon Centre is an equal opportunity employer.

Please submit resume and cover letter by 12 pm Tuesday, September 14, 2010. Please no phone call/email inquiries. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. For more information regarding Avalon Centre, please visit our website:

[www.avaloncentre.ca](http://www.avaloncentre.ca).

Attention:

Jackie Stevens

Coordinator: Community/Legal Education and Training

[communityeducationcoordinator@avaloncentre.ca](mailto:communityeducationcoordinator@avaloncentre.ca)