

Family Engagement Worker – Early Years – Mat Leave 18 months

Salary Range - \$54,175 - \$63,735

Full-Time | Gateway Community Health Centre | Tweed, ON

At Gateway Community Health Centre, we're more than just a healthcare provider – we're a vibrant community where passion meets purpose. While we may not have the same financial resources as some larger healthcare organizations, we more than make up for it with a supportive work environment, good benefits, and a culture that values work-life balance. At Gateway CHC, your work has real impact. Every day brings the opportunity to contribute to meaningful change in the lives of people and communities we serve – and to grow both personally and professionally along the way. If you're looking for a rewarding role in a values-based organization, Gateway is the place for you.

We're currently seeking a **Family Engagement Worker**—someone who is passionate about supporting families and giving children the strongest possible start in life. This is a unique opportunity to work with children and families in a holistic way, supporting not just early childhood development, but also the broader physical, emotional, and social well-being of parents and caregivers.

What You'll Be Doing:

- Developing and leading inclusive, family-centered programs that promote early childhood development and positive parenting.
 - Supporting the holistic health and well-being of families by connecting them to resources, services, and education that meet their individual needs.
 - Building strong, trusting relationships with families, schools, primary care providers, and community partners to ensure wraparound support.
 - Acting as a connector and advocate for families—especially those who may face barriers due to income, housing, access, or other social determinants of health.
 - Designing and running a forest-based program for children that encourages outdoor exploration, unstructured play, and connection with nature.
 - Supporting children's risky outdoor play in safe, age-appropriate ways, helping them build confidence, resilience, and physical literacy in natural settings.
 - Promoting resilience and confidence in parents and caregivers through compassionate support and evidence-informed practices.
 - Supporting a culture of inclusion, equity, and respect for diverse family structures, backgrounds, and experiences.
 - Collaborating with other Gateway CHC team members to ensure services are coordinated, accessible, and community focused.
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What You Bring:

- A diploma or degree in **Early Childhood Education, Child and Youth Work, Social Service Work, Developmental Services**, or a related field.
- Registration in good standing (if applicable) with a relevant college such as the College of Early Childhood Educators (CECE) or OCSWSSW.
- Experience working with children and families, especially in community-based or outreach settings.
- A love for the outdoors and a comfort level with running nature-based programs, including supporting children in risky outdoor play in a safe and intentional way.
- A strong understanding of child development, family dynamics, and the challenges families may face.
- Empathy, flexibility, and a passion for helping people—especially those who may be vulnerable or navigating complex situations.
- Excellent communication and relationship-building skills with both individuals and groups.
- An understanding of the social determinants of health and how they impact early childhood and family well-being.
- Training and/or experience with the implementation of the Ages and Stages Screening Tool would be an asset
- Comfort and competence with documenting client interactions and program activities in an Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system (training can be provided, but previous experience is an asset).
- Ability to work independently, collaboratively, and creatively in a dynamic environment.
- A valid driver's license and access to a reliable vehicle (some travel within the region may be required).

Why Join Gateway?

- Work with a passionate, supportive, and down-to-earth team.
- Enjoy vacation time, health benefits, and a true commitment to work-life balance.
- Be part of an organization that believes in equity, compassion, and community-based care.
- Have a real impact on families in our community—every single day.

How to Apply: Please send your resume and a brief cover letter telling us why this role speaks to you to humanresources@gatewaychc.org by May 9th, 2025