

LAKELANDS FAMILY HEALTH TEAM
POSITION SUMMARY

TITLE: Dietitian

Lakelands Family Health Team is a multidisciplinary team of health care professionals who provide primary health care services to the people of our Service Area which includes Addington Highlands Township, North Frontenac Township as well as portions of surrounding Townships. Employees/contractors of Lakelands Family Health Team (LFHT), work in a fast paced community health care environment. LFHT is committed to providing a safe and compassionate working environment for all its staff, allied health professionals and physicians. It is critical that all staff and contractors are willing to work as a team to ensure the best care possible for the patients we serve.

JOB SUMMARY:

Nutrition is a recognized factor in promoting and maintaining health. The incumbent will provide nutrition screening, assessment and treatment, which are key factors to help maintain the health, independence and quality of life of patients. Nutrition services, provided by the incumbent are an important factor in reducing the cost of health care overall. Through assessment, counseling and health education the Dietician will promote strategies that encourage healthy eating and active living which will help to reduce the incidence of chronic illnesses.

The incumbent will work collaboratively with family physicians and other members of the health care team to provide comprehensive primary care service to enrolled patients as part of a Team of primary care health professionals. The incumbent will also be required to provide preventative care and health education clinics to groups of patients on a regular basis and will help design programs targeted at the health needs of the enrolled patient population. The incumbent will work as part of the chronic disease program team offering services in all LFHT locations under the diabetes program, the COPD program, and the maternal and childhood health program.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES: (list the main duties and responsibilities)

- Dietetic assessment of enrolled patients; completes nutrition screening and/or assessment of patient's nutritional status and establishes a nutrition care plan with the patient
- Participation in LFHT programs such as the diabetes clinic
- Lead specialized programs such as Weight Management and Nutrition clinics, pediatric obesity clinics and pre-natal nutrition clinics for enrolled patients.

- Provide dietary counseling services for enrolled patients upon referral.
- Documentation of pertinent nutritional information in the health record, using established standards.
- Identify and support access to community, volunteer and professional food services and programs appropriate to the care needs of the patient
- Provide house calls and community outreach visits when appropriate.
- Liaison with physicians and other team members as required.
- Liaison with other care providers in the health care system and community as required
- Patient education; provide individual and group sessions to patients in the understanding of diet management
- Travel to other locations in our Service Area to provide programming, patient care and/or
- “Seamless Care” Activities – Provide communication to hospital and community staff and other interdisciplinary team members as required to ensure smooth transition for care between care sites.
- Participate in quality management activities
- Other Activities – Other activities may be assigned in collaboration with the multi-disciplinary team
- Support effective information processes and technologies that facilitate evaluation of effectiveness and efficiency of decisions, plans and activities in relation to client-centered care.
- Participates in the preparation of statistical reports for the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Each employee is also accountable for:

- Following safe working practices
- Carrying out duties in a way that embodies the mission and values of the LFHT.
- Working cooperatively with fellow Team members to the benefit of patients.
- Maintaining and developing professional competence through ongoing professional development.
- Staying current and aware of opportunities to implement new, evidenced-based methods of client assessment, treatment and programming.
- Participating in self-directed learning to ensure best practices.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS: (formal training, experience, special skills)

- Bachelor of Science degree with major specialty in Foods and Nutrition from a recognized University.
- Completion of a Dietetic Internship (either integrated or as a separate year after graduation).
- Master’s Degree will be considered an asset.
- Active membership in the College of Dietitians of Ontario will be considered an asset.
- Registration with other appropriate professional associations is encouraged.

- Minimum of 3 years' experience as a Dietician with patients and families in a health setting.
- Demonstrated competence in working within a multidisciplinary team, conflict management, and interpersonal effectiveness.
- Experience working in a rural setting will be considered an asset.
- A current Ontario Driver's License.

SPECIAL SKILLS:

- Excellent oral / written skills.
- Strong clinical skills.
- In depth knowledge of clinical nutrition.
- Ability to develop and maintain networks at the local and provincial level.
- Flexibility.
- Autonomous.
- Ability to work effectively with all members of the health care team.
- Ability to work in an interdisciplinary team environment.
- Ability to prioritize, manage time effectively and be flexible in a very active work environment.
- Ability to participate in program design and implementation.

DECISION MAKING:

- Makes decisions regularly regarding patient care within the legal scope of practice of a Dietician, including but not limited to:
 - provide wellness care including nutritional screening activities and monitoring infant growth and nutrition;
 - provide group counseling, support and education services; and,
 - educate people with stable chronic disease, such as hypertension and diabetes.