

## Integra Social Competence Group Volunteer Co-Leader

<b>Position Title: Integra Social Competence Group Program Co-Leader</b>	
<b>Supervisor Name: Sarah Glover, Clinical Supervisor</b>	
<b>Main CDI Location for Placement: 25 Imperial</b>	
<b>CDI Program (if applicable): Integra</b>	
<b>Days &amp; Times of Placement:</b> Volunteers are asked to commit approximately four hours per week for a minimum of a term (14 weeks). Time commitments will include one hour planning/prep, one hour direct clinical service for the group, one hour supervision, and one hour documentation (writing session notes).	
<b>Start Date: TBD</b>	<b>End Date: TBD</b>

### **Purpose of the Position:**

The Integra Social Competence Group Co-Leader is an integral part of the group program and works under the direct supervision of an experienced Child & Family Clinician to co-lead an Integra Social Competence group. The groups are evidence-informed and experiential- based, requiring some clinical skill and knowledge to implement. The volunteer group co-leader works collaboratively with the Integra clinician to plan each group, to assist with the preparation for group activities and snack, to lead group activities where appropriate, to provide coaching and 'in the moment' teaching, to assist with the documentation of session notes, and to contribute ideas and comments for individual client treatment planning,

### **About the Integra Social Competence Group Program:**

Children and youth with learning disabilities experience more difficulties than most children in developing social competence. Social competence is a complex and interconnected set of knowledge and skills that come naturally to most people, but can be a challenge for children with learning disabilities. Social competence can include understanding social context and knowing what behaviour might be appropriate in a given social situation. Social competence can also include the ability to understand non-verbal cues, like facial expressions and body language; to be organized; or, to manage emotions. Difficulty with social competence can be devastating to a child or youth with a learning disability and can lead to social isolation, peer rejection and loneliness.

The primary goal of the Integra Social Competence Group Program is to improve the child/youth's social functioning and social skills at school, home and in the community. Group composition is carefully determined, factoring in each child's individual learning and mental health needs to ensure success. Groups can range from two to eight participants, and children are matched carefully based on evidence-informed factors that affect social competence. Social competence is taught experientially in groups that are guided, safe, fun and engaging.

### **Skills Required:**

- Graduate level training in a field that is relevant to children's mental health, or equivalent
- Interest in acquiring knowledge about social competence and/or Learning Disabilities/Mental Health (LDMH)
- Experience and/or interest in working with children and youth ages 8 to 18
- Ability to work collaboratively
- Receptivity to feedback and direction
- Demonstrated written and oral communication skills
- Current criminal reference check

### **Key Responsibilities:**

1. Training & learning:

- a. Participation in one day training workshop Attendance at a Walk a Mile in My Shoes workshop on LDMH or readings
2. Co-leading the Group:
  - a. Co-leading the 10 week group for 1 hour per week
  - b. Assisting with set-up and activity preparations
  - c. Weekly supervision and meetings with the group co-leader
3. Documentation:
  - a. Assisting with the write-up of weekly session notes, weekly parent hand outs
  - b. Participating in discussions about the individual child's progress and group progress for inclusion in a final group report

**Program Times:**

- Groups run once a week, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 4:30-5:30 or 5:30-6:30 for 10 weeks over 3 terms (Fall, Winter, Spring)

**Commitment:**

In the interest of the clients who we serve, volunteers are expected to make a commitment to a minimum of 4 hours per week per term, with an expectation of volunteering for 2 terms.

**Application Process:**

Submit an online application to Sarah Glover ([sglover@childdevelop.ca](mailto:sglover@childdevelop.ca))

**Orientation/Training:**

Orientation: Dates TBD

In addition to providing all volunteers with a formal orientation prior to the start of involvement with Child Development Institute, we provide monthly learning sessions for volunteers, students and employees.

**Supervision:**

The volunteer Group Co-leader reports directly to the Integra Child & Family Clinician who is leading the particular social competence group. In addition, the Integra Clinical Supervisor is responsible for overseeing the Group Program and for ensuring appropriate supervision and support for the volunteer.

**Evaluation:**

Child Development Institute evaluates volunteers annually in June. Volunteer receive their evaluation via mail unless an in-person meeting is requested. All mailed evaluations will be sent by August 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Due to the high volume of applicants, please note that only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.**

[Click here to fill out the online volunteer application form](#)