

## Family Services Ottawa Board of Directors Recruitment

Family Services Ottawa (FSO) has an opportunity for one individual to join our Board.

The Board of Directors provides strategic direction to FSO to further its mission and vision. In particular, the Board ensures that FSO operates with excellent financial oversight, legal and ethical integrity, and overall accountability.

We are looking for an individual who is passionate about making a difference in our community and who shares our commitment to inclusivity. The individual should want to build a community where families and individuals are strong and resilient and have the support they need to live healthy, fulfilling lives.

**FSO is specifically looking for candidates with Corporate Law experience.** Multiple factors point to an upcoming period of change for the public and mental health sector, not the least of which is the “new normal” under which service providers like FSO will be operating. Our Board seeks expertise in areas including not-for-profit law, corporate governance, mergers, acquisitions, amalgamations, employment, human resources, real estate, and change management.

### About FSO

Since its inception in 1915, FSO has been a registered charity and incorporated not-for-profit organization serving vulnerable and marginalized individuals and families who struggle with mental health, social, economic, and cultural challenges. FSO’s client base includes:

- 70% below the poverty line
- 25% living in supportive housing
- 12% who are new Canadians
- 70% who have NO other access to mental health support

FSO provides Ottawa’s only walk-in counselling centre for all ages with a wide range of mental health services. These services include (1) intervention-based programming, such as counselling and support groups, court mandated services, and (2) prevention-based programs that provide education on parenting, healthy relationships, anti- violence, and anti-bullying.

### FSO’s Vision

FSO’s vision is a community where families and individuals are strong and resilient and have the support they need to lead healthy, fulfilling lives.

### **FSO's Mission, Mandate and Impact**

FSO provides services and programs that help make lasting improvements in people's lives.

To achieve this, we do the following:

- Welcome individuals and families in any form;
- Provide a wide range of counselling services and educational and supportive programs to enhance mental health;
- Collaborate with others who share our vision; and
- Advocate for changes that will have lasting improvements on one's life.

FSO's impact is the improvement of mental health, resilience, emotional well-being, and social connection for children, adults, and their families.

### **Expectations of Board Members**

- Initial three (3) year commitment
- Attend regular Board meetings
- Be prepared and engaged at Board meetings
- Support fundraising activities throughout the year
- Participate on committees/working groups
- Time commitment: 4 hours /month (on average)

### **Competencies/ Attributes That Matter to FSO:**

- Integrity
- Leadership
- Strategic thinking
- Engaged participation
- Strong communicator
- Collaborative
- Inclusivity

### **To Apply:**

Please email your résumé and cover letter, describing your interest, by July 31st, 2020, to:

**Nominating Committee**

**c/o Deirdre Speers, Executive Director : [dspeers@familyservicesottawa.org](mailto:dspeers@familyservicesottawa.org)**