Postdoctoral Associate Position in Aging and Inclusion, University of Western Ontario

Researchers in the School of Occupational Therapy and Department of Geography at the University of Western Ontario invite applications for a postdoctoral associate position in Aging and Inclusion in Neighbourhoods. A PhD in Gerontology, Aging Studies, Health Sciences, Sociology, Human Geography, Rehabilitation Science or other relevant discipline is required at the time of appointment, with completion within the last three years. The position is available effective September 3, 2019 (later start date may be negotiated) and will be for an initial period of one year with potential to renew.

The appointment involves full-time scholarship and research and the postdoctoral associate will be located in London, Ontario. The successful candidate will work with Dr. Carri Hand in the School of Occupational Therapy, a group of interdisciplinary faculty members at Western, and community research partners, primarily on the SSHRC-funded study, *Exploring and Promoting Older Adults’ Inclusion in Neighbourhoods*. This 2-phase project aims to enhance understanding of how and why older adults experience exclusion within their neighbourhoods and develop and implement strategies that strengthen inclusion amongst older residents. In Phase 1, which is currently ongoing, we are applying a novel interdisciplinary research approach to explore the complex processes by which inclusion and exclusion occur within neighbourhoods. This work involves an ethnographic design and geo-spatial and narrative methods focused on older adults’ activity participation, social engagement and community mobility in two London neighbourhoods. In Phase 2, we will engage stakeholders and older adults as co-researchers to implement an iterative participatory action research cycle to promote the inclusion of older adults in their neighbourhoods. The postdoctoral associate will play a key role in Phase 2 of this project.

The postdoctoral associate will also engage in one or more research projects related to older adults’ participation in occupations and social engagement and will be involved in project management, supervising research assistants, collecting and analyzing data, interacting with cross-sector collaborators, writing academic journal articles, and preparing reports and presentations for funders and community knowledge users.

The ideal candidate will have excellent writing, verbal communication, and interpersonal skills and will be an organized project manager. The candidate will have research experience with older adults and with community development or participatory action research. In addition, the ideal candidate will have experience in qualitative methods, including conducting various forms of data collection, facilitating focus groups and/or meetings, and conducting qualitative data analysis. Familiarity with quantitative and/or geospatial methods will also be considered assets.

This position includes funding for conference travel related to the study as well as time to pursue independent research goals relevant to the postdoctoral project focus. The University of Western Ontario offers excellent supports to postdoctoral scholars, see [grad.uwo.ca/postdoctoral_services/](http://grad.uwo.ca/postdoctoral_services/).

For information about Dr. Hand’s research lab and the School of Occupational Therapy, see [www.engageresearch.ca](http://www.engageresearch.ca) and [www.uwo.ca/fhs/ot/](http://www.uwo.ca/fhs/ot/).

To apply, please submit a cover letter including a brief statement of research interests, curriculum vitae, 1 to 2 peer-reviewed articles either authored/co-authored, and names and contact details (email and telephone) of three referees we may contact. Please send the application by email and address any inquiries to Dr. Carri Hand, School of Occupational Therapy, University of Western Ontario, 1201 Western Rd., London, ON, N6G 1H1, chand22@uwo.ca. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. We appreciate all applications, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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