

Director of Counseling at the Women's Refuge of Vero Beach

About the Position:

The Women's Refuge of Vero Beach is looking for an experienced biblical counselor with exceptional people skills who can motivate and help guide the Refuge staff into its next season for God's glory.

The Opportunity:

We hear people say, "I've looked everywhere, and there's really no place that offers quite what the Refuge does." The woman who answers this call as Director of Counseling will be blessed to come alongside a unique, Christ-honoring ministry that was established and then refined by many who have served and sacrificed over the past 25 years. We're praying for the woman—for you!— to hear the call and join in the exciting and highly rewarding work being done at the Refuge for God's glory.

About Us:

The Women's Refuge of Vero Beach is a sanctuary where people can start over with a new understanding of God's plan for their lives. Founded in 1997, the Refuge is for those who are experiencing emotional, mental and spiritual difficulties. It offers a Christian residential program for women; a biblical counseling center for individuals, couples and families; and support groups for the purpose of healing the whole person through Christ.

Through this ministry, many have found freedom from the debilitation of depression, anxiety, trauma and loss and have returned to their homes, churches and communities to lead healthy lives. Women from around the world have been referred to our program by organizations such as Focus on the Family and Mercy Ministries, and by pastors, counselors, psychiatrists, families and friends.

Job Description:

- Oversees all aspects of the Refuge's residential program and community counseling sphere, and as the Director, supports the staff to fulfill tasks to ensure smooth operations.
- Supervises, mentors and equips the counseling staff, using the Refuge model of counseling.
- Maintains a flexible caseload of residential and community counsees as her director role allows.
- Promotes unity and fosters authentic community by her full participation and example.
- Acts as the Refuge's representative when there is the need either to confer with a mental health professional with a counselee's permission or to have a counselee seen by one.
- Maintains the integrity and excellence of the Refuge's existing counseling resources, and incorporates new resources that cohere with the Refuge's mission.
- Serves under the direction of the Executive Director and at the pleasure of the Board; interfaces with the Director of Development with information needed to promote the Refuge; and participates in the Refuge's community events.

Candidate Qualifications:

Educational & Theological

- A minimum of a bachelor's degree. A counseling degree, graduate degree, certification, or psychiatric nursing experience would be a plus.
- A commitment to the authority, inerrancy and sufficiency of Scripture.
- Ascribes without reservation to the basic tenets of the Apostles' Creed.
- Reformed in theology, especially believing that 1) God is sovereign over all things, 2) salvation is completely accomplished by God through Christ rather than by man, and 3) a believer's salvation is eternally secure.

Ministry Experience, Skills and Stance

- A minimum of three years of biblical counseling or Christian counseling experience that demonstrates a depth and breadth of counseling competency.
- A minimum of one year being under counseling supervision/training, either in a ministry or a professional setting.
- A minimum of one year in leadership or in a supervisory role within a counseling-related ministry or workplace.
- Experienced as a communicator, with strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Understands as she counsels that the Holy Spirit is the One who produces heart change in a counselee's life and that the counselor is absolutely dependent upon Christ for everything.
- Agrees that biblical counseling can conservatively and effectively integrate various psychological observations and findings and that psychology can be a beneficial tool that God has allowed, despite its secular limitations.
- Has a basic knowledge of psychiatric medications and psychiatric disorders.
- Has an acceptance of (but not overreliance upon) the therapeutic usefulness of psychiatric medication as being allowed by God for our potential good.
- Has at least intermediate computer and keyboard skills and is comfortable with virtual counseling.

Character

- Has a personal, mature and growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Has an exemplary personal life as expressed within her family, marriage (if married), friendships, church and community.
- Actively attends a Bible-believing, evangelical church and will actively attend a Bible-believing, evangelical church in the greater Vero Beach area after relocating.
- Is skillful and at ease in developing and maintaining healthy relationships with various people and personality types; has a genuine heart and compassion for others.
- Is able to manage conflict resolution in a group setting.
- Has a proven ability to maintain confidentiality regarding sensitive client and ministry information.

Please send resume to: cdeal@womensrefugevb.org

Ministry website: <https://www.womensrefugevb.org/>

04/12/22



The Organization. Located in the desirable town of Vero Beach on the temperate Treasure Coast of Florida, the Women's Refuge of Vero Beach is a premier biblical counseling community that offers hope in Christ to people experiencing emotional, mental or spiritual needs. Through the generous support of individuals, groups and grants and the tireless work of its staff and volunteers, the Refuge has grown its services and facilities over the past 25 years and has had thousands of people from around the world benefit from the ministry.

The Refuge maintains a conservatively integrated counseling approach founded upon a firm belief in the sovereignty of God. This approach encourages authenticity before God and each other. We emphasize biblical education and incorporate individual counseling and group interaction. Women live on the Refuge's peaceful campus, which provides them the opportunity to reflect and to receive biblical counsel and teaching. The Refuge enjoys the attentive ear of a leading Vero Beach psychiatrist who believes in the Refuge's work and provides a welcome door for those who require psychiatric evaluation and medication follow-up. In addition to the residential program, the Refuge maintains a full schedule of community counseling for individuals, couples and families, led by trained biblical counselors well-versed in spiritual guidance and mental health issues.

The Campus. The Women's Refuge campus is nestled within live oaks and located within walking distance of a vibrant shopping area and only a few minutes' drive to the beach. The campus has grown to three buildings serving office and residential needs. The residence consists of four suites staffed by a full-time, live-in house manager with an adjoining two-bedroom apartment. Our highly successful Resale Shop contributes to our operating expenses and provides a way for residents and volunteers to serve the ministry.

Vero Beach. The Women's Refuge of Vero Beach is blessed to be in a beautiful area. The local Chamber of Commerce describes it well: "Vero Beach has a friendly, unpretentious atmosphere with citrus groves, gorgeous beaches and lovely oceanfront and riverfront communities. We enjoy a climate moderated by the warm, tropical waters of the Gulf Stream. Balmy winters combine with the summer's fresh ocean breezes to keep the average temperature a delightful 73°F, allowing residents to swim, golf and play tennis all year long. And, our 26 miles of unspoiled beaches, serene waterscapes of the Sebastian and Indian Rivers, and miles of pristine woodlands and fields provide an endless array of recreational adventures. Our area is free from urban sprawl and congestion while offering the ideal setting for living life to its fullest. We boast lovely shops and fabulous chef-owned restaurants. We take pride in an amazing cultural arts community complete with local and equity state-of-the-art theatre productions, art walks and tours, the promise of a cultural arts village, and an award-winning state of the art museum."

The cost of living and median home value are below the national average.

Key Features:

- Many public beaches with close, free parking
- Ballet company, opera company, and theater guild
- Vero Beach Museum of Art
- The Riverside Theater
- Environmental Learning Center
- Indian River Citrus Museum
- McKee Botanical Garden

2/16/22