



Alumni Profile

Alana Pawley

BA '17 Social Justice & Peace Studies and Global Development

Current Career

Organization: Atlohsa Native Family Healing Services Inc.

Title: Cultural Justice Coordinator

Career Overview

I was hired to develop and oversee a new Indigenous restorative justice program for families experiencing violence that will utilize cultural Elders to facilitate conflict resolution circles. I work in a project management capacity, designing the program and doing research within the community to ensure the program will be effective in the local context. Once the program begins, I will be responsible for meeting with clients to plan conflict resolution circles, assist in facilitating circles, and providing any further supports that are needed for families such as cultural healing ceremonies, referrals, and aftercare.

How has King's helped prepare you for your current work?

Social Justice and Peace Studies (SJPS) prepared me for work in conflict resolution by better understanding power dynamics and systemic oppression at a societal, community, and interpersonal level. It provided me with the opportunity to research the history of colonization pertaining to Indigenous peoples in Canada, which is absolutely essential to my role. I also gained experience volunteering in the non-profit world which has helped me when acclimatizing to working in the field and directly with clients who are vulnerable and have complex needs.

Have you volunteered with any organization or cause that seeks to promote social justice and peace?

Through SJPS' community volunteering course, I volunteered at the Ark Aid Street Mission serving food and in their art program. I also volunteered as the Indigenous Student Representative on the KUCSC in my 4th year, which was a new position at the time. Throughout my life, I've been active in attending cultural events and ceremonies that have prepared me to work in an Indigenous organization.

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