



JOB TITLE: Youth Advocate and Engagement Specialist (Case Manager), GLBT Host Home Program

REPORTS TO: GLBT Program Manager

JOB SUMMARY: The position is primarily responsible for providing case management to young people by working with the youth who are participating or are potential participants in the GLBT HHP, helping them identify and pursue goals, supporting them as they develop new relationships with hosts, and assisting them in accessing community resources and future housing

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work with youth interested in applying to the GLBT HH Program and assist them through the process.
- Help youth create their individual goal plans and follow through with completion of goals. Coach, guide and support the youth, but ensure the plans are youth-driven. Listen to youth.
- Help youth navigate multiple systems to access appropriate resources they need/want. Advocate for youth when necessary.
- Support youth in gaining skills/information they need to transition out of host homes. Refer youth to internal and external resources.
- Support youth in addressing their health and wellness needs. Refer youth and ensure they get to appropriate appointments with outside health professionals and services, as needed.
- Actively and collaboratively engage with youth and develop supportive, trusting relationships. Maintain professional boundaries with youth.
- Help ensure the safety of the host home by addressing possibly physically, emotionally-threatening and crisis situations in a timely, proactive and professional manner.
- Help youth connect to community.
- Engage youth in mediation and problem solving. Respect their self-determination.
- Communicate consistently and effectively with youth and, when appropriate, with hosts.
- Complete and maintain timely documentation in individual files so that they reflect up-to date information regarding youth.
- Work in partnership with Program Manager to support youth and hosts.
- Provide after-care for youth who have left host homes.

JOB SPECIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate will have experience working with homeless youth and young adults, be able to take initiative and follow-through, enjoy working in a community setting, have excellent communications and problem-solving skills, possess a keen focus on the youth we support and knowledge of youth issues, as well as have an understanding of systemic oppression and a commitment to social justice, especially racial justice.

Skills and Knowledge Required:

- BA/BS in social/human services or other related field preferred. Candidates with combination of education and lived experiences encouraged to apply.
- 3-5 years experience working with culturally diverse, disenfranchised youth; demonstrated ability to connect youth with community resources; proven experience working with communities of color and transgender youth.
- Understanding of, experience with and commitment to positive youth development, harm reduction, trauma-informed care and strength-based youth empowerment models.
- Knowledge of addiction, mental health issues and domestic violence often experienced by youth who have experienced homelessness. Knowledge of day-to-day discrimination and violence often experienced by GLBT youth of color, especially transgender young women of color.
- Knowledge of systems of oppression and ability to recognize and challenge such systems.
- Strong oral and written communication skills. Comfortable speaking with diverse groups of people.
- Knowledge of and comfort using a computer, including email, word processing and data management.
- Organizational, social and problem-solving skills.
- Detail-oriented.

REQUIRED WORK SCHEDULE

- This is a full-time, 30-40 hours/week position.
- Work hours are a combination of day, evening and weekend hours.
- Weekly meeting with GLBT HHP Manager required.
- Weekly meeting with youth.
- Monthly home visits, along with Program Manager.
- On-going and self-directed community engagement.

TO APPLY

Send resume, cover letter and references to Raquel (Rocki) Simões, GLBT Host Home Program Manager, at rsimoes@avenuesforyouth.org. Deadline – May 15th, 2017.

Avenues for Homeless Youth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Persons of color are encouraged to apply.