



POSITION POSTING

Title: **Youth Support Specialist**
Location: Minneapolis Avenues:
1708 Oak Park Ave N. 55411
Type: Full Time – 24 hours (3, eight hour shifts)
Hours: Regular, 2:30p-10:30p, Friday-Sunday
Compensation: Starts at \$15.00
***Plus Paid Time Off and Benefits**
Reports to: Program Manager at Minneapolis
Deadline: Open Until Filled

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION:

The mission of Avenues for Homeless Youth is to provide emergency shelter, short term housing and support services for homeless youth in a safe and nurturing environment. Through such services, Avenues supports its clients as they overcome homelessness, and make their way into a young adulthood of independence and connection with community.

At its Minneapolis house, Avenues provides shelter and transitional housing with supportive services for homeless youth ages 16 through 20. The same services will be provided at its new location, Brooklyn Avenues. Avenues also coordinates three community and volunteer-based host home programs.

PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Youth Support Specialist will provide a positive community environment to help youth heal from the trauma they have experienced and prepare them to secure and maintain stable housing of their choice. Youth Support Specialists ensure youth experience Avenues as a safe, respectful, clean and well-organized environment by:

- Fostering trusting relationships through direct engagement
- Meeting basic needs (e.g., distributing personal care supplies and clothing, preparing meals, etc.)
- Supervising youth and establishing routines
- Coaching independent living skills
- Addressing conflict and responding to crisis situations
- Managing house activities (e.g., answering phone and door, completing a full shift checklist of chores, supervising youth chores, etc.)
- Ensuring activities are communicated and documented.

KEY PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Strong team player.
- Dependable, relational, non-judgmental, calm in stressful situations, excellent listener and communicator, healthy boundaries, resourceful, organized, multi-tasker, team player, teachable, and positive role model.
- Must be able to engage in difficult conversations about actions and reactions to challenges.
- Willing to examine personal values and explore different perspectives, and adapt to change.

EXPERIENCE DESIRED:

- Life or work experience with youth from diverse cultures and backgrounds.
- Training and/or knowledge of harm reduction, trauma-informed care, and strength-based youth empowerment necessary, or must demonstrate curiosity and willingness to learn.
- Understanding of issues related to homelessness, addiction, mental health and domestic violence.
- Experience working with volunteers is a plus.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- BA/BS in social work, human services, education, or related field; three-to-five years of related experience and/or training; or the equivalent combination of education, lived and work experience, and training.
- Must be able to lift 25 lbs., possess basic computer skills and be at least 23 years of age.

HOW TO APPLY: Email resume, cover letter, references and information about overnight availability to ztift@avenuesforyouth. Indicate “Youth Support Specialist” in subject line. Or mail to:

Zachary Tift
Avenues for Homeless Youth
1708 Oak Park Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55411

No phone calls please.

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

www.avenuesforyouth.org • 1708 Oak Park Avenue North, Minneapolis MN 55411 • 612-522-1690