



POSITION POSTING

Title: Youth Support Specialist
Location: North Minneapolis
Type: Full Time – 24 hours - *Eligible for Benefits/PTO
Hours: Regular, 7a-3p, Friday-Sunday
Reports to: Program Manager at Minneapolis
Start Date: December 22, 2017

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 Counselor 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 Counselors ensure youth experience Avenues as a safe, respectful, clean and well-organized environment by:

- Fostering trusting relationships
- 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.
- Be at least 23 years of age.
- Must be able to pass a criminal background check in order to work with vulnerable adults per Minnesota State Law.
- Working knowledge of computers and ability to read and write.
- Ability to work effectively in an independent manner as well as with a team.
- Ability to handle difficult situations in a sensitive and caring manner.
- Experience with people of culturally diverse backgrounds.

HOURS: Regular positions will have 3 shifts per week of 8 hours per shift.

COMPENSATION: **\$14.50/hour, plus benefits/PTO**

HOW TO APPLY: No phone calls please. Email resume, cover letter, references and information to ztift@avenuesforyouth.org. Indicate **“Youth Support Specialist, 7a-3p”** in subject line. Or mail to:

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

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