



JOB OPENING

JOB TITLE: Direct Care Staff
DEPARTMENT: Homeless Services
SUPERVISOR: SKYS Programs Manager
STATUS: Full-time/Part-time
Pay Grade: 4

OUR MISSION: Restoring hope, building futures, and strengthening our communities through programs with youth, young adults and families.

JOB SUMMARY: Direct Care Staff (DCS) are responsible for supervising and counseling youth in a residential setting. It requires providing a safe and structured environment and ensuring that the residents needs for food, transportation, clothing, etc. are met. A DCS also facilitates groups on effective communication and life skills, as well as provides crisis intervention counseling. Additionally, the DCS is an active participant in the shelter advocate program, attends weekly staff meetings and trainings as required.

ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES, DUTIES AND TASKS:

1. Assures that the residents' daily needs for food, clothing, transportation, appointments, etc. are met.
2. Assist youth in meeting daily/weekly expectations by:
3. Providing support and necessary help with individual incidence and/or crisis situations.
4. Role model appropriate social skills.
5. Provide tutoring support with homework assignments.
6. Participate in the development and implementation of a program of activities for shelter residents to include group/house meeting, recreation, outings, household chores, and opportunities for individual goal setting/planning meetings.
7. Process program referrals, screen for eligibility, and conduct client program intakes including room check in. At termination, conduct client discharge and room check out.
8. Work with NEXUS clinical staff and function as a member of the treatment team by participating in the Youth Advocate Program and by adhering to the behavior management system, maintaining confidentiality and documenting progress of youth.
9. Co-facilitate and document regular group counseling meetings, and community meetings and document group activities.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.

EDUCATION and EXPERIENCE:

Requires one of the following:

1. Associates degree in Social Services or related field of study **OR;**

2. 1 year experience working directly with youth, preferably with the homeless population **OR**;
3. Any combination of education, experience and measurable performance which demonstrates the capability to perform the duties of this position **AND**;
4. Must be 21 years of age unless person is licensed by DOH, have an Associates or equivalent degree and are enrolled in an internship program **AND**;

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Demonstrated ability to appropriately intervene in crisis situations (Crisis intervention skills).
2. Willingness and ability to work with people from a variety of racial, cultural, educational and economic backgrounds with various lifestyles, sexual orientations, and of all ages;
3. Ability to maintain confidentiality.
4. Ability to communicate and set clear and firm limits with youth in crisis.
5. Ability to communicate clearly both written and verbal.
6. Proof of negative TB Test or x-ray.

REQUIRED LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, OR KNOWLEDGE:

- Current Washington State driver's license and proof of valid automobile insurance.
- De-escalation and/or conflict resolution experience preferred, or acquire within 3 months of hire.
- Current Washington State Affiliated Counselor Status.

SAFETY HAZARDS OF THE JOB:

- Intermediary safety hazards due to work in a shelter environment.
- Potential violence and/or maltreatment from clients.
- Potential damage to personal property.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS/WORKING CONDITIONS: This position works in a shelter environment, 90% of the time with clients, and 10% of the time on a computer or driving. Work may be interrupted by the immediate needs of a client in crisis. Work involves physical movement throughout the facility and the ability to climb stairs. Position requires employee to lift/carry 35 pounds occasionally, and push/pull 20-35 pounds occasionally. Position has the ability to sit/stand as needed.

HOURS & COMPENSATION: This is a full-time or part-time position. Compensation for this position is placed on Grade level 4 with a robust benefits package for those working at least 20 hours/wk.

TO APPLY: Applicants should submit a resume with a cover letter to DelethaWr@nexus4kids.org.

CLOSING DATE: Open Until Filled.

Nexus Youth and Families is committed to equal employment opportunity in all employment practices for all individuals without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, handicap, marital status, or veteran status.