

TITLE: Young Adult Shelter Volunteer

REPORTS TO: Keylee Marineau

PROGRAM: Young Adult Shelter (YAS)

Volunteers are needed primarily to help set up and clean up shelter areas, support staff in reinforcing program guidelines, ensure safety of youth and staff and to interact and build positive relationships with participants.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Engage youth experiencing homelessness and street dependent youth ages 18-24 in a shelter setting,
- Assist in providing immediate crisis intervention and conflict resolution to youth,
- Stay calm, alert, and open to the dynamics of the participants and staff,
- Demonstrate teamwork and open communication with the shelter team,
- Attend YAS staff meetings in addition to ongoing trainings on an as needed basis, and
- Follow all program policies and procedures, RCWs, WACs, external regulations and Code of Ethics.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must pass Washington State Criminal History background check
- Positive regard for young people, and a desire to work with this population
- Ability to maintain the confidentiality of participant information
- Ability to approach young people and situations with a non-judgmental attitude
- A strong awareness of one's own personal boundaries, non-verbal communication styles, and a commitment to maintaining professional boundaries
- A strong awareness of one's own personal values and ability to not let those values impact your ability to meet youth where they are at
- Commitment to maintaining a positive work environment that values diversity and does not tolerate discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, class, faith or age

TIME COMMITMENT:

We ask all YAS volunteers to commit to at least 6 months of service with the minimum of 1 shift every two weeks. This time commitment ensures that we can properly train you as a YAS shelter staff and that the relationships you establish with youth remain consistent over a period of time. YAS shifts are 10 hours long. We operate 7 days a week from 8:45 pm to 6:45 am. Shelter Volunteers would be allowed to sleep during the overnight.

BENEFITS:

- Exposure to working with a diverse group of young people

- Training and skill building opportunities that will be useful to you in many ways beyond the Young Adult Shelter Program (i.e. conflict resolution, crisis response, etc.)
- Having a better understanding of the plight of youth experiencing homelessness and solutions to addressing homelessness in general
- Using your skills to directly impact the lives of young people in a positive way
- Better understanding of local resources and how to navigate those resources
- Giving back to your community in a substantial and meaningful way

TO APPLY:

- E-mail completed Volunteer Application to hr@communityyouthservices.org. The application can be found at www.communityyouthservices.org. Please list 'YAS Volunteer' in the subject line.
- Applications can also be delivered to 711 State Ave NE Olympia, WA 98506.