



Urban Native Youth Association

Training the Leaders of Tomorrow

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Youth Worker - Relief

Urban Native Youth Association has an employment opportunity for Relief Youth Workers with our Short-term Residential Foster Care Program. This program uses Culture as Therapy to help increase stability, continuity, and a sense of belonging of Aboriginal youth by creating a culturally focused family environment, and will utilize a Holistic model of care which focuses on the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual aspects and strengths of youth. Youth Workers are responsible for implementing the day-to-day operations of the program, which include but are not limited to, positive role-modeling, infusing culture in the resident's daily lives, and teaching life skills. They provide and maintain a safe, supportive environment that is culturally open and accessible in order to support the personal development of resident youth whose families are unavailable or unable to meet their needs. The resource is double-staffed 24 hours per day divided into 3 shifts morning, evening and over-night (awake) shift.

Qualifications and Conditions:

1. Relevant College Diploma or University Degree
2. Minimum 2 years experience in child & youth care, or a combination of relevant education & experience working with street-involved youth.
3. Previous experience working with Native youth.
4. Must have a broad based knowledge of the family and social issues that Native youth face today, including the generational impacts of the residential school system on Native families and communities.
5. Must have a solid knowledge of Aboriginal Culture and Traditions, and experience with facilitation of Cultural Ceremonies.
6. Have current First Aid, and a Class 4 Drivers License.
7. Must demonstrate a good working knowledge of community resources in Vancouver, particularly youth & Aboriginal-specific resources.
8. Will have the ability to work independently as well as part of a team.
9. Will have the ability to identify with mandate, policies and procedures of the organization.
10. Must possess a good working knowledge of computer systems and programs.
11. Must have strong written and oral communications skills, including the ability to compile accurate records and prepare reports.
12. Must have a personal support system and self care plan in place.
13. Must have a criminal record check completed by and satisfactory to UNYA.
14. Preference will be given to qualified Aboriginal applicants.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Supervise residents in their day-to-day living, including establishing a trusting, non-judgmental, non-exploitative rapport with youth. Positively participate in programming and activities in order to provide a positive role model experience for youth residing in the resource. Educate youth with regard to safe health practices.
2. Ensure Cultural integration into all aspects of the program, while focusing on the Family Systems perspective which focuses on all of the systems surrounding the youth which either positively or negatively impact their health and wellbeing.
3. Maintain the day-to-day operation of the house, including shopping, meal preparation, cleaning, and maintenance.
4. Consult with youth, Coordinator, staff, and other relevant individuals to identify the needs and goals of individual youth. Ensure that case plans are implemented.
5. As required, liaise and advocate for the best interests of youth with MCFD and other relevant individuals, including participating in case planning and implementation.
6. Work in cooperation with others, including other UNYA programs and other community partners, as needed to plan and implement diverse programming for Aboriginal youth. Plan, support and/or deliver culturally appropriate programs, services, workshops, and outings (cultural, social, educational, and recreational). Supervise and positively participate in programming and activities in order to ensure safety and provide a positive role model experience for youth participants.
7. Build and maintain a network of positive working relationships with other service providers to ensure effective referrals and a good continuum of care.
8. Keep abreast of all current social concerns and street trends and, as required, attend professional development activities in order to remain informed regarding issues affecting street-involved youth.
9. Actively assist in the ongoing development and review of program components. Positively address all concerns, incidents or crises which affect program mandate, UNYA policy, personal issues, community relations, resident youth, etc.
10. Respect and maintain confidentiality of staff issues within the team, with the exception of the Program Coordinator and/or their direct supervisors. Respect and assure residents of confidentiality in the community and with other service professionals.
11. Consult with and report to immediate supervisor, and prepare and submit reports to supervisors, as required. Maintain accurate logs and compile statistical records to support program needs and inform ongoing program development and evaluation.
12. Perform any other duty that the Coordinator deems necessary to ensure the safe, healthy, and productive operation of the program.

Please send a resume and a cover letter stating the position that you are applying for to the attention of Program Coordinator at **ravens.supervisor@unya.bc.ca** Resumes will not be reviewed without a covering letter. No enquiries. Only those short-listed will be contacted.