

Child and Family Charities
Posting
Community Outreach Specialist

Position Summary: Under the supervision of the Street Outreach Program Manager, the Community Outreach Worker will locate, contact, and provide information, referrals, and services to runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth while also increasing community awareness and support.

Qualifications:

- Prefer a minimum of an associate's degree or equivalent in the area of social work, psychology, or other human services field **OR** direct experience working in a street outreach capacity
- Prefer experience working with high risk and disadvantaged youth or families
- May waive degree and experience requirements if have direct experience as a runaway, homeless, or street youth. Gateway encourages persons with a prior history of life on the street to apply.
- Valid Driver's License and Insurance
- Strong verbal and written communication Skills
- Ability to adapt to new surrounds
- Strong understanding of office suites, spread sheets, presentation software and social media outlets

Essential Job Functions:

1. To present a professional, courteous, efficient appearance to those parents, clients, and members of the community who have contact with the agency
2. To be a cooperative, effective team member, whose behavior and actions are supportive of co-workers and the administrative policies set forth by the agency
3. Engage street youth in areas where they congregate
4. Build relationships with local community businesses who can help us identify geographic areas where "at-risk" youth congregate and strategies to best reach out to these youth
5. Teach the local community about the prevalence of runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth and how they can help Gateway Youth Services educate youth on services available to them in order to move youth from the street to a safer alternative living situation
6. Provide Crisis Intervention Services to individuals, youth, families, and unrelated caregivers, who do not currently have an open case, and who present with a critical need that places a youth at risk for running away or becoming homeless. Increase awareness of and access to opportunities and services. Document all crisis intervention and referrals offered to or on behalf of a youth. Immediately connect youth interested in Gateway's services who do not enter emergency shelter with the Intake Coordinator for intake and assessment.
7. Provide street-based crisis intervention services informing youth of alternative living situations and other services available to them providing each youth with a minimum of 2 referrals each to meet their immediate needs
8. Assist youth in moving off the street by connecting youth to immediate shelter, through Gateway Youth Services' Emergency Shelter or Transitional Living Program, or through other community based shelters
9. Be able to lift 20+ lbs

Must be flexible and available to accommodate operational needs.

Resume and Cover Letter To:

Director of Administration Child and
Family Charities 4287 Five Oaks
Drive Lansing, MI 48911

liz@childandfamily.org

*Child and Family Charities is an Equal Opportunity Employer
In our agency and the communities we serve,
we celebrate and value diversity, equity, and inclusion*