PeaceJam Young Adult Diversion Court Coordinator

2013-2014 Job Posting

Position Description

A new program is being developed in Kalamazoo to provide support for youth aged 17-21 who are on probation, and at risk of losing their diversion. This innovative program links the court with community partners working to address any issues they may be facing in their lives which are preventing them for reaching their full potential.

The Young Adult Diversion Court program will meet once a week from 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm (dates to be determined). The PeaceJam Coordinator will be responsible for working directly with the youth participants in delivering the PeaceJam curriculum, coaching clients as the design and implement service learning projects, attending regularly scheduled court planning sessions, and ad hoc individual support as needed.

The PeaceJam Coordinator will also take responsibility for managing the logistics of the overall program including, but not limited to, setting dates for coordination meetings, organizing food for the weekly meetings, working closely with the probation case manager, and generally facilitating the smooth running of YADC weekly meetings.

The Coordinator will work under the guidance of the Executive Director and will be the first level of support for participants.

The focus of the PeaceJam curriculum is to educate participants in how to understand the root causes of the social justice issues they face in their daily lives, inspire them through the lives of Nobel Laureates to tap into their full potential, and through service learning projects, to give them the authentic experience of being leaders in their neighborhoods and communities.

The PeaceJam curriculum will be delivered through an integrated team approach to programming in conjunction with the 8th District Court, Kinetic Affect, Community Mental Health, Center for Health Equity, and Youth Opportunities Unlimited. Extensive collaboration between existing and other potential partners is key to this position.

Each group of clients will be in YADC for a minimum of 6 months. This is a grant funded position and will be reviewed prior to each new funding cycle.

Required Skill Sets

- Familiar with and experience in youth development programming and social justice work and initiatives
- Experience with the judicial system
- Familiar with local issues, community needs and concerns and how they relate to global issues
- Understanding of and appreciation for various learning styles
- Experience with group facilitation and awareness of group dynamics
- Proven ability to effectively communicate
- Proven organization, preparation and documentation skills
- Ability to accommodate curricula for individual participant needs
- Knowledge of oppressive behaviors, systems and programming that create and contribute to maintaining dominant and marginal populations
Openness and willingness to facilitate from the philosophy of “everyone teaches and everyone learns”
Experience with individuals belonging to one or more identified marginalized populations
Commitment to confidentiality and modeling a lifestyle supportive of non-oppression of all peoples
Attendance, punctuality, reliability and consistency are a must

Desirable Skill Sets

- Lifestyle and background similar to participants
- Kalamazoo County Resident
- Previous experience with a local non-profit working to support youth

To Apply – application deadline March 1, 2013

Send letter of interest, resume and references to: Email: martha.huckabee@greatlakespeacejam.org or U.S. mail to: Martha Huckabee, 625 Harrison Street, Kalamazoo MI 49007.