



Promoting safe, healthy & resilient communities

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Job Description#

Position Title: Safehouse Child Advocate

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Position Type: 40 hours per week

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Job Description: Under the supervision of the Shelter Director, the Child Advocate is responsible for the Children's Program, including intake, services, advocacy, activities and camps for children residing at the confidential safehouse. The Safehouse Child Advocate will provide survivor-driven advocacy, trauma-informed assessment, and culturally-responsive case management to children residing at the confidential Safehouse. This will include crisis intervention, risk & needs assessment, safety planning, weekly goal meetings, playtime and summer camp activities.

Reports To: Shelter Director

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Pay: \$20 an hour (+ \$.50 bilingual incentive) + benefits (medical, dental, vision, life insurance, and 403(b) match)#

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Job Responsibilities: #

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1. *Risk assessments and safety planning:* Assess each child/teen for issues related to risk of further abuse/trauma; provide options in planning for personal safety on an ongoing basis; develop culturally responsive individualized case plans that prioritize needs and coordinate necessary services specific to each child.
2. *Crisis intervention and peer counseling:* to children and their parents (if applicable); provide intensive strength-based, solutions-oriented services; and maintain confidentiality.
3. *Client advocacy:* Assist in obtaining services or exercising their rights with agencies and service providers in the community who can assist in gaining safety and access; facilitate weekly goal meetings with parents and develop survivor-centered case management plans; assist children in obtaining educational needs including enrollment, afterschool programs and other services available; provide childcare to children whose parents are attending required meetings; may be asked to provide transportation as needed; attend support meetings as requested.
4. *Facilitation of group activities:* Facilitate/coordinate daily activities for children including activities with volunteers; plan and facilitate daily activities for summer camp program including play activities, games, and fieldtrips; facilitate child and teen support groups in partnership with therapy department.

5. *Ensure safety of shelter and residents:* Monitor safehouse security system and assist with conflict resolution.
6. *Indirect Services:* maintain accurate client records and complete data entry and service notes in a timely manner; participate in departmental/agency team meetings; collect and maintain client data; crisis line coverage; assist with safehouse maintenance and cleanliness as needed.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Strong desire and interest in supporting children who have experience trauma
- People with lived experience are encouraged to apply
- Must have the ability to work under conditions requiring flexibility and team member response to crisis
- Peer counseling certification in the areas of domestic violence and sexual assault as described in California Evidence Code sections 1035.2 and 1037.1, required upon hire.
- Effective communication skills including writing (especially written procedures and grant reports), public speaking, active listening skills, and conflict resolution/mediation skills.
- Provide copy of valid California driver license, have reliable transportation, and submit current proof of vehicle insurance
- CPR/First Aid certificates strongly encouraged
- Must be comfortable and confident working and interacting with law enforcement, probation and Child Protective Services
- High degree of sensitivity to and respect for diversity and cultural issues involved in working with clients of varying ethnicities and income
- High tolerance and respect for individual survival strategies while promoting ever-increasing healthier choices
- Must be able to pass a criminal background check

This position requires you to directly supervise children without the presence of a legal guardian, or is a professionally licensed role that is listed in California's Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA). As a result, you are a mandated reporter of suspected child abuse under CANRA and must become familiar with your obligations and how to carry them out in compliance with other federal and state funding obligations. You must advise any client before speaking with them that you are a mandated reporter, and what those entails. In the event that you determine a report of suspected abuse must be made, you must take all reasonable steps to advise your client before making the report. You should also discuss with your client the option of making the report themselves, as opposed to your making the report about them or their children. You must notify your supervisor anytime you make a mandated report.

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AGENCY DESCRIPTION#

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Mission Statement:#

Empower Yolo's mission is to promote safe, healthy, and resilient communities.

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Empower Yolo's purpose is to provide:#

(a) Twenty-four hour crisis intervention, emergency shelter, confidential counseling, training, legal assistance, and other services for individuals and families affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, and child abuse;#

(b) Resource centers for community services to improve the health, social, educational and economic outcomes of Yolo County residents; and#

(c) Community outreach and educational programs about available resources to promote health, reproductive equity, stability, and self-sufficiency for individuals and families.#

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All services are to be provided in a manner that appreciates, enhances, and utilizes the strengths of Empower Yolo's clients and honors their cultural practices and traditions.

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EMPOWER YOLO is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in regard to race, age, cultural or religious background, disability, gender, gender identity/expression, or sexual orientation. All qualified candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.#

Please submit resume and cover letter to Sandra Soloranzo at sandra@empoweryolo.org

Position open until filled.#