



JOB DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Youth Advocate

Position Type: Full time, Non-Exempt + benefits

Reports To: Associate Director

Salary: \$18 - \$20 (plus \$.50 bilingual incentive) DOE

Location: Woodland and confidential safehouse; some evenings and weekends required

Job Description: The purpose of the Youth Empowerment Program is to provide advocacy and support services to unserved/underserved child and youth victims of crime, with a focus on supporting foster youth and rural crime victims. Applicant must have a strong desire to support children/teens who have experienced trauma with an ability to provide support, guidance, and advocacy. The Youth Empowerment Program will provide an ongoing investment to strengthen community relationships, promote social norms that protect against adversity, connect youth to caring adults and activities, and increase social emotional learning. The Youth Empowerment Program will work closely with collaborative partners including, Yolo CASA, Family Resource Centers, Child Welfare Services, the criminal justice system, educational institutions, and other youth serving organizations.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. **Risk assessments and safety planning:** Assess each client for issues related to risk of further abuse; provide options in planning for personal safety on an ongoing basis.
2. **Crisis intervention and peer counseling:** Guide, empower and educate youth and, if appropriate, non-offending caregivers in achieving safety and recognizing options; provide intensive strength-based, solutions-oriented support; and maintain confidentiality.
3. **Client navigation and case management:** Provide support to youth and caregivers that address housing and legal needs, immigration remedies, emergency food and clothing; relationship building and empowerment of the individual's community; arriving at mutually agreed upon and achievable goals; referral and coordination with community organizations; and assistance with crime victim applications. Provides navigation and case management to children who have exited the safehouse.
4. **Outreach:** Coordinate with community partners, governmental and educational institutions; partner with Empower Yolo staff to plan and execute outreach strategy reaching foster youth and rural crime victims. Develop and implement life skills programming for safehouse residents and family resource in Knights Landing.
5. **Advocacy and Accompaniment:** Provide advocacy and accompaniment during law enforcement interviews, child forensic interviews, forensic medical exams, prosecution interviews, court, educational and/or other supportive meetings during criminal justice or dependency system investigations or proceedings.
6. **Indirect services:** Attend staffing and other meetings as required; case review and coordination; assist with crisis line; maintain client files; other duties as assigned.

Knowledge, Skills, & Abilities:

1. Ability to work well with others
2. Good listening skills; empathetic non-judgmental attitude
3. Ability to work well on one's own and/or within a team environment
4. Extensive knowledge of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and human trafficking
5. Basic knowledge of computer programs (word, excel, publisher, outlook, etc.)
6. Strong writing skills including client case illustration and documentation
7. Must have reliable transportation

Education, Experience, & Requirements:

1. Peer Counselor Certification – or within 6 months of hire
2. Bilingual Spanish-speaking a plus
3. B.A. or some college experience a plus

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

Mission Statement:

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

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, stability, and self-sufficiency for individuals and families.

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.

Application Process

Please submit a cover letter, current resume and three references to: celina@empoweryolo.org

Application deadline: Open until filled.

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.