

## YouthLink Job Opening: **TRANSITION COACH: FOSTER CARE**

Build trusting relationships with young people and help guide them toward independent, empowered futures.



### **About YouthLink**

YouthLink is a recognized leader in the Twin Cities and beyond for our work to build pathways of opportunity for homeless young people ages 16 – 24. Our youth-focused team provides innovative, evidence-based services that guide youth on a holistic level toward futures of education, employment, health and wellness, and housing stability. Since 2011, YouthLink has been home to the Youth Opportunity Center (YOC), a first-of-its-kind collaborative center where over 30 community partners make vital resources available onsite to provide efficient and effective interventions and strategies for youth in crisis.

### **Our Mission**

At YouthLink, our mission is to support and empower young people on their journey to self-reliance.

## **POSITION SUMMARY**

The Foster Care Transition Coach is an essential figure in guiding young people in or transitioning out of foster care toward achieving independence and reaching their goals. Under the supervision of the Clinical Supervisor, the Transition Coach works actively with up to 20 young people at a time to assess their individual strengths, holistic needs, and aspirations, develop and document case plans, and connect them within a collaborative network of internal and external providers and resources. The Transition Coach also maintains a presence in the YouthLink drop-in center to build relationships with youth through conversation, activities, workshops, and group discussion, and to ensure youth are connected with appropriate YouthLink and YOC services.

Key responsibilities include:

- Actively working with 10-20 young people at a time and providing a minimum of 60 documented service hours per month, including transition coaching, crisis intervention, and offsite youth support.
- Assessing youth needs, developing and documenting goal plans, making appropriate internal and external referrals, and ensuring follow-through.
- Providing transition coaching services based on a harm-reduction and trauma-informed approach.
- Maintaining a strong professional relationship with Hennepin County Foster Care.
- Providing services through the drop-in a minimum of 12 hours per week, including behavioral management and linking youth to YOC and community services.
- Engaging with clients and working to proactively create a welcoming, inclusive environment.
- Assessing and appropriately responding to youth crisis.
- Organizing and facilitating group activities.
- Accompanying youth to appointments as a YouthLink representative to support and advocate for youth.
- Maintaining thorough and accurate records and ensuring complete, timely documentation.
- Ensuring positive and professional representation of YouthLink and maintain professional boundaries in all interactions with youth, co-workers, partners, and the community.

- Other duties as assigned.

## QUALIFICATIONS

A Bachelor's degree in human services or a related field or 2-4 years of experience working with high-risk youth is required.

Qualified applicants must:

- Be able to provide non-judgmental services, including demonstrating acceptance of a variety of lifestyles, behaviors, and cultural and spiritual practices.
- Be able to verbally and physically respond to aggression when necessary in ways that de-escalate and establish and maintain staff and client safety.
- Have strong interpersonal skills.
- Be able to manage time effectively.
- Have effective oral and written communication skills.
- Exhibit a high degree of professionalism.
- Be mission-driven and willing to incorporate agency philosophy in service delivery.
- Be comfortable with Microsoft Office applications.
- PREFERRED: Have knowledge of or experience with the foster care system, and/or experience with HMIS.

The winning candidate must have a valid Minnesota driver's license, insurance, and access to reliable transportation upon date of hire.

**Hours:** Full-time, 40 hours per week, Monday – Friday. Must be available to work evenings as required.

## COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

\$17.30 - \$18 per hour, depending on experience. YouthLink's competitive and comprehensive benefits package includes:

- Medical
- Dental
- Life Insurance
- Long Term Disability
- Elective benefits: Short-term disability, FSA, 401(k)

## HOW TO APPLY

E-mail a cover letter and resume with the subject line "Transition Coach: Foster Care" to [careers@youthlinkmn.org](mailto:careers@youthlinkmn.org). Cover letter should include an explanation of how you have applied one or more of YouthLink's [Guiding Principles](#) in your work.

**Equal Employment Opportunity:** YouthLink shall seek to ensure and provide equal opportunity for all persons seeking employment without regard to race, age, color, religion, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, national origin, disability, or any other characteristic as established by law.