YouthLink Job Opening:
YOUTH PEER OUTREACH INTERN
MONDAY-FRIDAY, EVENINGS AS NEEDED
9AM-1PM; 1PM-5PM; 5PM-9PM

Be a part of building a strong and supportive community for youth.

About YouthLink
Founded in 1977, YouthLink is a leader in the Twin Cities for guiding young people (ages 18-24) experiencing homelessness from disconnection and hopelessness to self-reliance and wholeness. YouthLink provides inclusive, holistic services that move youth forward on their journeys toward achieving education, career, housing, and stability goals. YouthLink also hosts the Youth Opportunity Center (YOC), a “one-stop shop” of over 30 community partners who serve homeless youth. More than 1,800 young people seek services at YouthLink annually. In partnership with three affordable housing agencies, YouthLink also provides supportive services in more than 190 units of transitional and permanent supportive housing throughout the city.

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

Our Vision
To be a community where all youth, without regard to their living situation, have an equal opportunity to pursue their goals and dreams, and an equal likelihood of achieving them.

POSITION SUMMARY
The Youth Peer Outreach Intern works alongside YouthLink Outreach Workers provide culturally responsive street outreach specifically to the 18-24 year-old homeless population in the Minneapolis downtown community. Youth Peer Outreach Intern engage young people by providing immediate basic needs, supplies and help triage support services as necessary; they are the first points of connection to YouthLink and other supportive service organizations. In addition to working with young adults downtown, the Peer Street Outreach Team engages and educates the public about mutually-beneficial ways the 18-24-year-old population can collaborate with the business community to strengthen the culture and welcoming nature of downtown Minneapolis. This is an inclusive, culturally responsive, open and safe team for youth experiencing homelessness in downtown Minneapolis to trust and feel comfortable building a trusting relationship with.

Key responsibilities include:

DIRECT SERVICES:
- Build relationships with young adult peers to improve communication, minimize downtown altercations, and increase positive perceptions of young adults in the downtown community.
• Collaborate effectively with outreach team members to identify key resources in the downtown community.
• Connect young adults with immediate supplies, provide important information about available supportive services, and refer and divert peers to services for intervention and assistance.
• Follow-up with community resource referrals to help youth on streets make connections to services.
• Build relationships with downtown business representatives through YouthLink Outreach-hosted events that encourage positive interactions with downtown patrons.

**DOCUMENTATION:**
• Track and document activities, services, and referrals provided to young adults.
• Prepare written reports as required.

**OTHER FUNCTIONS**
• Participate in drop-in, street outreach, and other YouthLink meetings as assigned.
• Complete professional training required by YouthLink in established standards, behaviors, professional boundaries, confidentiality, health & safety, de-escalation, peer outreach approaches and standards, Streetworks protocols, cultural responsiveness and the nine principals
• Advance "Earning and Learning" capacity by completing education requirements for GED, secondary education and starting journey into some level of postsecondary education/training.
• Dedicate one shift every two weeks in drop-in, if not more -- arrange cooperatively between program directors.
• Other duties as assigned.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

**EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:**
Completion of/ or working to complete GED or high school diploma and some internship or previous work experience.
*Preferred:* experience with homelessness; current housing stability and/or defined plan.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:**
• Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with peers and adults.
• Strong communication skills, including listening, writing, presentation, and verbal communication.
• Outstanding interpersonal skills.
• Willing to enroll in college or certificate program at MCTC.
• Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines and goals.
HOW TO APPLY

E-mail a cover letter and resume with the subject line “Youth Peer Outreach Intern” to careers@youthlinkmn.org.

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.