
**FAMILY SERVICES OF THE MERRIMACK VALLEY
JOB POSTING**

This role is eligible for a \$1,000 BONUS!

Job Position: Youth Development Specialist

Reports to: Youth Development Programs Supervisor

Status: Full-Time (40 hours/week)

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Family Services of the Merrimack Valley is seeking a full time (40 hours/week) Youth Development Specialist for its Youth Development programs. The Youth Development Specialist will be responsible for co-facilitating curricula designed for youth ages 12-19 which interactively teaches abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Facilitated on-site at schools or at other community locations, these curricula also cover many adult preparation subjects including healthy relationships, adolescent development, financial literacy, educational and career success, and healthy life skills.

DUTIES

- Co-Facilitate the Making Proud Choices, VOICES and ARISE curricula to youth ages 12-19 who are at risk for teenage pregnancy, STI's and HIV infection, gang involvement and school drop-out in schools and in community settings.
- Facilitate Adult Preparation Subjects using the MA Department of Public Health's approved material such as Preparing Adolescents for Young Adulthood (PAYA) and FLASH curricula.
- Provide clients with information and advice concerning family planning, growth and development, sexually transmitted diseases and other sexual health-related concerns.
- Collaborate with school personnel and agency staff as well as other team members to determine appropriate services and/or referral to outside resources (if applicable).
- Assist in developing, reviewing and maintaining Behavior Agreement Plans as well as positive character and academic rewards and incentives.
- Maintain current knowledge of family planning, growth and development, sexually transmitted diseases and other sexual health related concerns.
- Provide data as needed for agency reporting requirements.
- Lead outdoor field trip expeditions when necessary.
- Other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

Required Qualifications:

- Have successfully completed the requirements of an Associate's degree in a human service field of study or at a minimum a High School Diploma with five years of adequate experience working with at risk youth and group facilitation.

- **Proof of full series of COVID-19 vaccination is required.**
- Experience working with at-risk youth and facilitating youth group activities.
- Must have a passion for educating others about sensitive topics including sexuality.
- Energetic, enthusiastic and a strong desire to support and empower high risk youth.
- Demonstrated skill in public speaking to both small and large groups.
- Must be sensitive to different opinions, sentiments and cultural beliefs.
- Verbal and written fluency in Spanish and English.
- Personal transportation for agency business purposes is required including acceptable MVR and appropriate insurance coverage.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite products as well as in data entry.
- Ability to work evenings and some weekends required.

Desired Qualifications:

- Capable of working independently, or within a team structure.
- Experience and competency working with diverse families and cultures, including the LGBTQ community.
- Knowledge about Lawrence community and resources within the community.

ABOUT FAMILY SERVICES OF THE MERRIMACK VALLEY

Family Services is a non-profit, social service organization located in Lawrence, MA. The organization helps more than 7,000 people in the Merrimack Valley each year through 20+ programs focused on youth development, parent education and emotional health. All of its services are infused with a sense of hope and possibility and enable individuals to thrive in their family, community, workplace and school. For more information, please visit www.FSMV.org. FSMV is an equal opportunity employer.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

- This is a 40 hour per week, non-exempt benefited position with a pay range \$17.50-\$18.50 per hour, commensurate upon experience.
- Benefits include competitive health and dental insurances as well as fully paid life and long-term disability insurances along with training and professional development opportunities.
- A generous time off policy for employees working 30 hours or more per week including 4 paid weeks of Earned Time Off as well as 13 paid holidays per year.
- **This role is eligible for a \$1,000 BONUS!**
- An opportunity to work with and learn from a team of dedicated, passionate individuals in a diverse environment that serve children, youth, and adults.

TO APPLY

Interested candidates should email a cover letter and a resume to: Aida Castro, Director of Community Support Services to acastro@fsmv.org by 2/11/22.