



## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

|                   |  |               |                                   |
|-------------------|--|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Date of Notice:   | August 16, 2023  | Closing Date: | When filled                       |
| Name of Position: | AmeriCorps Peer Advocate   | Status:       | 33 hours/week for at least 1 year |
| Respond to:       | Amber Gierach- Youth Shelter Program Manager<br>164 East Kane Place<br>Milwaukee, WI 53202 | Contact:      | agierach@pathfindersmke.org       |

### Job Purpose and Reporting Structure:

Funded through a grant from the Federal **AmeriCorps Member** Program administered by the State of Wisconsin, **AmeriCorps Members** commit to a year of community service averaging 33 hours per week (minimum of 1,700 hours annually during the grant period of September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024) and in return receive a living allowance of \$750 semi-monthly paid on the 15th and last day of the month (\$18,000 total), plus an educational award of \$6,895 upon successful term completion that can be used to pay off federally subsidized loans or to pay tuition at schools that accept federally subsidized loans. Health insurance is available at no cost for AmeriCorps Members, and child care benefits assistance is provided to members who meet the required qualifications. Extensive pre-service and in-service training opportunities are required and are provided free of charge to participating **AmeriCorps Member** throughout Wisconsin

### Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Supervise the daily activities of runaway and homeless youth within the Pathfinders 24-hour licensed shelter. Provide support, care, supervision, and guidance for youth, which includes meeting physical, emotional, and crisis needs. Support youth in developing independent living skills such as cooking, cleaning and laundry. Provide positive role modeling and reinforce positive behavior and administer appropriate discipline as needed under the direction of the Youth and Family Advocate on shift. Provide family support and assistance. Develop professional skills in empathy, relationship building, active listening and trauma informed care by participating in the day-to-day activities of resident youth. Ensure meals are properly prepared and in compliance with established nutritional standards.
- Support youth in accessing program aftercare services. Co-facilitate aftercare group at the Pathfinders Drop-In Center with other Pathfinders staff by providing a safe place for aftercare clients to participate in the program's groups; which allow youth to socialize, discuss issues of importance, provide feedback on program functioning, receive life skills training, and participate in prevention education activities that give youth opportunities to make informed decisions, develop a plan for permanency, identify and achieve their personal goals.
- Conduct youth intake assessments, assist callers utilizing the program's crisis hotline, facilitate group.
- Accurately complete and maintain client files and program documentation.
- Additional duties include maintaining appearance and safety of the shelter facility.
- Position involves a variable work schedule
- Other duties as assigned.

### Qualification/Requirements:

- Applicants must be at least 21 years old. Applicant must have a High School degree or its equivalent OR will work to obtain a HS diploma, GED, OR HSED during the term of service AND obtain a HS diploma, GED or HSED prior to using the Education Award AND have not dropped out of elementary or secondary school in order to enroll as an AmeriCorps member.
- At least two years related experience working with youth and families is preferred. Previous experience working within a youth residential setting is a plus.
- Expected to attend weekly staff meetings.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Organized, reliable, and able to maintain privileged client information.
- Ability to work effectively within a nontraditional youth shelter setting with a diverse population
- Must commit to the position for the full year from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024.

### Response

Send a letter of interest and, if possible, a current resume, via mail or email to the address noted above. Applications can be downloaded and agency information obtained at [www.pathfindersmke.org](http://www.pathfindersmke.org).

**An Equal Opportunity Organization** - Pathfinders is deeply committed to diversity in all that we do. We welcome applications from all individuals including those who mirror the diversity of our youth and the community we serve.