



COVENANT CHILDREN'S HOME

House Parents

REPORTS TO: Executive Director/Program Director

EMPLOYMENT CLASSIFICATION: Full-time, Exempt

ABOUT COVENANT CHILDREN'S HOME

Covenant Children's Home is a Christ-centered nonprofit organization located in beautiful Citrus Springs, FL that provides Christ centered loving, nurturing homes with a Mom and a Dad, where each child is provided an opportunity to grow to their full potential academically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Covenant Children's Home was founded in 2002.

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION:

Covenant Children's Home is a licensed Child Care Agency for Group Homes in the state of Florida. As such, we hire house parents and provide them homes on our campus which can house up to 6 children each.

Our house parents are encouraged to use biblical values in modeling a healthy family as they care for the children residing in their home. Additionally, all house parents will develop positive relationships with other staff on campus.

PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Spiritual Development of the Child

- Foster an understanding of what it means to live by biblical principles while encouraging each child to an individual faith in Jesus Christ.
- Model a healthy family relationship incorporating Christian values and worldview.
- Actively participate in a local church and encourage the participation of the children in the activities of the church.

Emotional Development

- Create a safe environment where the children can work on their issues and practice new behaviors.
- Become familiar with each child's social history in an effort to understand the child as an individual.
- Develop a relationship with each child, actively listen to them and offer individual counseling and support. Maintain open discussions with their state-appointed counselors.
- Develop and maintain an accepting and empathetic relationship with the child's family if given the opportunity.
- Manage the group of children in your home ensuring that they all feel heard and can express themselves.
- Help the children develop habits of proper behavior, dress and safety at social and recreational activities.
- Teach children appropriate methods of building and enhancing interpersonal relationships.

Intellectual Development

Education

- Provide structured time each day for schoolwork and ensure that the children have necessary study materials.
- Assist children with homework and school projects.
- Work in close cooperation with teachers and school staff.
- Work with the office staff to enlist volunteer tutors during the week, with the goal of one tutor per child for 1 hour/day. Office staff is tasked with doing necessary background checks.

Discipline

- Teach children the choice/consequence model and consistently hold them accountable for the choices they make.
- Comply with CCH's Discipline Policy.
- Immediately report serious offenses or incidents to the CCH Executive Director or the office staff by phone or email.

Physical Development of the Child

Housekeeping

- Instruct the children on how to do their laundry and household chores.
- Supervise the children in completing household chores, assist when needed and help them develop good housekeeping habits.

Daily Care

- Prepare and serve nutritionally balanced meals.
- Model and practice good table manners and encourage an atmosphere of "serving one another" during meals. Eat meals together as a family.
- Ensure that each child is properly fitted for shoes and clothing. Use the yearly allotted DCF clothing funding.
- Encourage the development of good personal hygiene habits such as bathing, brushing teeth, changing clothes, shampooing hair, cleaning nails, etc.
- Know any special health needs of children (e.g. allergic reaction to bee stings, medicines, special medicines needed, etc.). Ensure required medication is taken at the proper time and in the prescribed amount. Keep the DCF medical logs up to date.
- Ensure that required medical and dental appointments are scheduled.

Home Maintenance

- Maintain the home and furnishings in good order.
- Keep the home van in good running condition, practice preventative maintenance and inform Directors of needed repairs.
- Advise CCH Directors of promptly when repairs to the home or furnishings are needed.

Staff Relations

- Cooperate with all members of the CCH childcare team.
- Provide documentation when required – progress reports, fire drill reports, accident/incident reports, monthly bank account information, etc.
- Respond timely to all staff requests for information.
- Perform any other responsibilities that may be assigned by a CCH Director.

Qualities:

- Regularly attend church and have a clear Christian testimony.
- Enjoy participating in Christian community.
- Have a strong desire to serve others.
- Be flexible and adaptable. Be able to adjust to sudden schedule changes.
- Maintain a teachable spirit and desire to learn.

Requirements:

- Mature follower of Christ and living a life in line with CCH's Statement of Faith
- Share with your spouse a burden to provide a Christian home for children in crisis while supporting them and their families as they work toward family reunification.
- Share a mutual belief with your spouse that God is calling each of you into this ministry.
- Maintain good character, discernment and integrity
- High School diploma. Work experience desired.
- Married at least three years and have no more than two of your own children living at home.
- Willing and able to do manual work and to physically participate in outdoor activities with the children.
- Have a valid driver's license, a good driving history and at least one spouse be able to drive a 15-passenger van.
- Live in a CCH assigned home and prepare meals for your children.
- Able to maintain good records and the home checking account
- Able to balance CCH responsibilities with those of your own family.

Training:

- TRBI training desired.
- Prior to being released from the probationary period, the couple must pass a level 2 background check and complete all required pre-service DCF training.