

VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

BASIC FUNCTIONS Under the supervision of the Program Director and Lead Outreach Specialist the successful candidate will be responsible for reaching out to identified gang members and linking them to services and institutions, providing access to resources, reducing attachment of project youth to gangs and gang activities, and assisting in community mobilization in the target area. The incumbent will be a member of and participate in all Intervention Team meetings.

SUPERVISION: Supervised by the Program Director (or a lead outreach worker, as applies).

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES: Provide outreach services, including street, home, and institutional contacts with project youth. Serve as an advocate for project youth in securing social services, education, and job-related opportunities; providing information about services; and assessing needs. Assess the needs of family members as related to the target youths' gang involvement, identify gang-affected siblings of target participants, and make referrals to appropriate services. Provide information on available services for participants' family members. Provide appropriate referral and follow up to ensure that target youth are aware and able to access services. Plan and attend social and recreational activities for the target youth. Maintain records of contacts with youth and write reports on status of clients. Identify community resources to assist in implementation of the project. Complete documentation paperwork as required for contacts with and services provided to target youth on a timely basis. Other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS: Desired Knowledge Familiarity with the community. Knowledge of gang culture in general. Familiarity with the ethnic culture of the target population. Knowledge of local agencies' programs and services (schools, social services, law enforcement, courts/corrections), local units of government, and grassroots organizations.

The Role of Street Outreach in the Comprehensive Gang Model states one must possess strong communication and interpersonal skills. Work effectively with agency staff and service providers and with gang members and their family members. Work a flexible schedule, including nights and weekends. Clearly communicate ideas in both written and verbal form. Understand and relate to the needs of project participants of diverse ethnic, cultural, educational, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Work effectively with high-risk, gang-involved populations. Operate a computer to enter data, maintain records, and generate reports. Network effectively with various types of organizations, including government agencies, law enforcement agencies, schools, social service agencies, courts/probation/corrections, and grassroots organizations. Work effectively with community residents, diverse population groups, and youth. Exercise judgment regarding appropriate information sharing, confidentiality requirements, and human relations. Prioritize tasks and work independently in the absence of supervision.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: Education: High school graduate (minimum) Experience Preferred: At least one year in performing client-directed services in a field such as social service, grassroots organizations, community advocacy, or youth intervention.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: Valid driver's license and car insurance by date of hire.