

Title: House Parent

Hours: 32-36 hrs. per week, (this is an exempt position)

Compensation: \$1, 350 per month in addition to housing

Position open until filled

Position Summarized:

Being a House Parent is a calling. A House Parent lives on the property and must be able to take on the role of 'parent' in the shelter. The House Parent lives in close community with two other House Parents, growing, learning and serving together. An effective House Parent has a strong sense of responsibility, is organized, has good boundaries, is able to work in close proximity to others, and be in good health and physical condition.

We are looking for nurturing souls with servant hearts who are missionary minded. They must have an innate concern for the wellbeing of our youth and staff. We don't choose the youth placed in our care, so a good understanding and acceptance of cultural and lifestyle differences is important.

Position Description:

Can you place yourself in shoes that have walked through hardships that most can't imagine? Do you envision yourself showing your love for Christ by giving hope and helping youth face life's storms? Do you wake up - even in the midst of other people's challenges including your own - and still have the ability to help others create a positive day? Then prayerfully consider joining our team whose purpose is to serve teens who feel the world has left them behind. None of us does this perfectly, but we, at Fairbanks Youth Advocates, are on a journey to be a father to the fatherless, a mother to the motherless and to serve Christ by serving others. Your commitment to this cause could make a change in a life forever.

The House Parent lives in close community with two other House Parents, growing, learning and serving together. If you join us in this endeavor you will join a team that holds strength in unity and understanding, supports each other's needs for self-care, and knows all too well what it means to love unconditionally.

Qualities you should have:

- *be a missionary-minded person*
- desire to live in close community with others working toward a shared goal
- a sense of humor
- an innate concern for the well-being of others
- the ability to take on the role of 'parent'
- an interest in assisting with street outreach
- an interest in helping to maintain the building and grounds
- the ability to commit to a minimum of 1 year
- a personality that is responsible, organized, and works well with a variety of people

Qualifications:

- Adult[s] with a desire to serve Christ by serving others
- Member/regular attender of a local Christian Church
- In agreement with Article 3 of Fairbanks Youth Advocates Bylaws (see website: www.fairbanksyouthadvocates.org)
- 60 hours of college credit or an associate degree in a human services (or a related) field and two years experience in a child welfare agency, or other setting that serves children, adolescents, or both children and adolescents; preferred
- 21 or older
- Experience working in a residential setting preferred (camp counselor, RA, etc.)
- Exercises good judgment at all times,
- Takes initiative in addressing shelter needs and tasks,

- Spiritually and emotionally mature, Ability to self manage and take initiative,
- Able to model healthy communication, and desire to work through conflicts and problems that arise in living in close community,
- A willingness to learn, grow, and change personally and collectively as part of a team,
- CPR and First Aid Certifications or the ability to obtain them,
- Must have the physical ability to climb stairs and carry up to 25 pounds up or down a flight of stairs
- Ability to keep confidentiality
- Able to pass State and Federal Background checks

Duties and Responsibilities: Includes that of a parent: provision of material, physical, spiritual, & emotional needs, and at times, disciplinary needs, including:

- Act as role model & uphold standards
- Facilitates building community with staff, relationships with kids, and sharing the love of Christ, in a one on one environment,
- Assist with preparation of meals, household cleaning, laundry, etc
- Facilitate building cleaning, yard maintenance, & snow removal,
- Assists staff in handling emergencies and difficult situations,
- Assists Shelter Supervisor with maintaining a safe physical environment including routine building checks of items needing attention, repaired, exchanged, etc.
- Assist staff in caring, supervising, and supporting youth,
- Participate in TEAM meetings, including some case planning/review,
- Assist with outreach and connecting with other community resources,
- Able to work mornings, evenings and weekends as needed
- Flexible in schedule to fill in as needed,