

Trauma Informed Program Specialist

Reports to: Trauma Informed Program Coordinator

Status: Full-time; Exempt with benefits: Blue Cross Medical/Dental/Vision, 403(b) retirement plan, Holidays, 4 weeks Paid Time Off, 10 weeks paid Parental leave

Salary: \$51,000



Heal • Restore • Transform

Alternatives Overview

Our mission is to inspire young people to create a just future through practices that heal individuals, restore communities, and transform systems. Since 1971, Alternatives has modeled innovative alternatives to the status quo in Chicago's youth services field. Our school and community-based therapy, prevention and leadership development programs support young people to individually and collectively address causes of substance abuse, grief and trauma while building social-emotional, career and social change skills. In addition to working directly with young people, we train, coach and advocate for youth-serving institutions like Chicago Public Schools to be restorative and trauma-informed.

Position Overview: The Seelt Program Specialist supports and ensures the implementation of the Seelt program (Systemic Evaluation, Enhancement and Institutional Training) in the Behavioral Health Department. This program ensures trauma-informed capacity building in Chicago Public Schools.

Responsibilities:

Perform the following from a racial, gender, sexuality, and ability equity lens:

- Support implementation of BH program and all components of Seelt model through training and collaborative service provision
- Develop and maintain appropriate external partnerships and relationships with schools
- Collaborate with Restorative Justice team and Behavioral Health team members
- Actively work with Seelt Program Coordinator to ensure accurate data collection and evaluation of the program
- Work with assigned staff to manage budget lines related to direct service with program participants
- Actively participate in all agency meetings, clinical staffings, weekly clinical supervision, professional development trainings and assigned partner/school meetings
- Stay current with behavioral health, youth development, restorative justice, racial equity, and SEL best practices
- Support process for youth to be referred to Alternatives' for therapy; ensure youth have access to other options if they fall outside of Alternatives' eligibility guidelines
- Provide education and interactive trainings for Alternatives and School staff using a positive youth development philosophy, trauma-informed, and Restorative Justice framework for working with youth
- Demonstrate knowledge of Alternatives, Inc. policies, practices, and services
- Represent Alternatives at relevant forums and events as assigned
- Participate in Alternatives' fundraising initiatives
- Complete in a timely fashion all other tasks as assigned

Qualifications:

- Bachelors' degree in Social Work or related field
- Knowledge of adolescent/family dynamics, substance abuse, trauma and child abuse issues.

- Interest and commitment to working in a community-based youth service organization.
- Use of car during working/on-call hours and valid insurance.
- Consistently learning and working within the following frameworks: Anti-oppression, Positive Youth Development, Trauma-informed and Balanced and Restorative Justice.
- Skilled at working with young people at high risk for juvenile justice and child welfare system involvement.
- The COVID vaccine is mandatory for all employees to the full extent permissible under applicable law

Please send a copy of your Resume and Cover Letter to careers@alternativesyouth.org

Applicants from the communities we serve are strongly encouraged to apply.