

Community Counselor

Youth Crossroads, Inc. (YC) is a non-profit community-based organization whose mission is to act in the best interest of youth, guiding them through life's challenges and inspiring them to discover new opportunities for personal development, healthy relationships and positive community involvement.

Since 1975 YC has helped tens of thousands of young people from the southwest suburbs of Chicago navigate the challenges of growing up healthy and confident. Through behavioral mental health counseling, crisis intervention, after-school academic and social-emotional enrichment, teen leadership training and community volunteer service, YC provides a range of opportunities for youth to imagine a brighter future for themselves and their community.

Qualifications

Master's degree in a Human Services Field (Counseling, Psychology, Social Work, etc)

Minimum 1 to 2 years' experience in Counseling and / or Crisis Response Services preferred

State of Illinois licensure eligible preferred (LPC/LSW)

Bi-Lingual English and Spanish required

Must have your own insured car and cellphone

Flexible and strong time manager; must be able to work independently

Must be able to respond to Crisis calls in the Cicero, Berwyn, Oak Park area in an hour or less

Be a strong team player, good communicator

Primary Responsibilities

Clinical:

1. Provide assessment, case management and short-term individual and family counseling for a caseload of identified mid to high risk youth and their parents. Focus will be on higher risk Tier 2 youth who have experienced trauma and / or are experiencing current family conflict that may lead to abuse / neglect, runaway or parental lockout situations. Average of 20 to 25 hours of individual or family contact per week at the YC main office or a school site without a YC School Based Counseling program.
2. As requested and time allows, coordinate and co-lead universal, abbreviated or full group interventions for an average of 2 to 4 hours a week. Current research-based curriculums being provided by YC SBC staff include but are not limited to: Think First, SPARCS, Girl's Circle Curriculum, The Council – Boy's Group.
3. As needed, provide intake or family consultation.

4. As requested and time permits, provide additional universal social emotional and support services for parents and students.
5. As scheduled, be on-call to respond to CCBYS Crisis Calls within 15 minutes by phone and within 1 hour in-person. On-call includes overnights and weekends. Crisis calls may come from any of the following communities: Berwyn, Cicero, Forest View, Oak Park, River Forest and Stickney. Calls relate to youth who have run away from home, have been locked out of their home by their parent or guardian, or are at risk for either of these situations due to abuse or behavioral issues.
6. At the time of the crisis, services provided include but are not limited to consultation with police and/or school personnel, families or others, in-person crisis intervention services including emergency assessment, family reunification and/or emergency placement.
7. As time permits, provide mental health screenings for individuals participating in YC Youth Development programs. Provide case management and referrals for those needing additional services.

Other:

1. Complete all casework in a timely and professional manner as defined in the YC Policy and Procedure Manual including YC paperwork and CCBYS / e-Cornerstone mandates.
2. With the Director of Counseling Services, work collaboratively with school administration and staff to ensure the success of the program at the site, resolving any issues as they arise.
3. As a Team, meet regularly with the Director of Counseling Services and /or the CCBYS Coordinator to ensure quality and uniformity of services.
4. Actively participate in individual and group supervision and, YC Staff Meetings.
5. With the Director of Counseling Services, collect data for program evaluation as requested.
6. Attend or participate in other YC events, programs, etc. as a representative of the organization.

Salary & Benefits:

Salary will be competitive and commensurate with experience. Youth Crossroads, Inc. offers generous benefits, including medical/dental coverage, vacation and sick leave.

Youth Crossroads, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will be considered for employment without unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, prior record of arrest or conviction, or current employment status.