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Hello Everyone!

Another summer is nearly complete and we are now beginning to plan for fall. It is the time of year when students are confirming their internships and non-students are settling back into the routine after a very warm summer.

We still have volunteer and internship positions available. You can contact us for more information on how you can be a part of our team, assisting in one of our many programs. Programs are continually expanding, growing and developing so there is definitely something for everyone! While many of our programs are administrative in nature, we do have some that offer more interaction with children and families. We are looking for Practicum Students for some of these positions as well. It is a great opportunity to take ownership of a particular area of a program and help it grow.

Our annual *A Home for the Holidays* event will be held on Tuesday, November 17. If you are local to the Eugene/Springfield area and are interested volunteering, yet have limited availability, this is a great time to help us prepare for the evening's festivities. We have many positions available including donation pick-up, set up, decorations, and more! This is also a chance for some of our former volunteers and interns to return for a few days to offer their assistance for a day or two.

For more information on any of our programs or volunteer opportunities both in our offices or from home, feel free to contact me at: <u>info@afamilyforeverychild.org</u>

Finally, we could not do this important work without each and every one of you. AFFEC is incredibly fortunate to have such involved and committed volunteers!

With Deep Gratitude from Everyone at AFFEC,

Kelli Smith Child and Family Operations Coordinator Volunteer Coordinator A Family For Every Child

AUGUST 2015 Volunteer Of the Month!



Hailey Clark

Hello my name is Hailey Clark and I'm a student at the University of Oregon studying Linguistics. I began interning at A Family For Every Child in the Spring. I am so grateful for the opportunity I've gotten to work with a wide variety of people and youth. Interning under Mavis in the Mentor Program has been so great and I've gained so much experience doing what I love. As a Linguistics major at the University of Oregon I work with a lot of international children at my job and I wanted to gain more experience working indirectly with at-risk families and foster youth in my community. I love working

with children and I began helping Mavis start the "new" Life Skills Program aimed at giving our waiting youth an idea of what it would be like having a mentor with our program. Our first two outings have been a success and I look forward to planning more!

5 Ways Volunteering Can Help You Find a Job and Advance Your Career

1. You expand your personal and professional networks.

2.You learn new and transferable skills.

3. It's an opportunity for career exploration.

4. You build a track record of work for a specific cause.

5. Hiring managers value volunteerism

Read More Here

Volunteer Opportunities

Below you will find a number of volunteer opportunities with our organization. The best way to connect with the program that is the right fit for you is to contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Kelli Smith, at info@afamilyforeverychild.org for more information and to schedule an interview.

Family Preservation Program Parent Mentor

The Parent Mentor program works with families to bring about constructive change through support, guidance, instruction, and/or treatment. They are also able to assist families meet with success as children transition from foster care and residential programs. The ultimate goal is to maintain children safely at home in order to spare them the trauma of separation.

Focusing on the goal of enhancing and improving permanency outcomes for families, Parent Mentors are role models who provide guidance based on a combination of training and personal firsthand experience. Empowering and coaching parents through the process with DHS, the courts, and other family centered community partners is an important aspect of this work. The parent mentor works to lead by example; after the initial 12 months it is the hope that the parent feels more empowered by the skills they have learned from the mentor and are able to advocate for themselves and their family in a productive and healthy manner.



people Helping People



Education Outreach Intern:

Many children in foster care do not receive the academic assistance that they need. Due to the lack of aid and the probability of a higher rate of school transfers, many foster youth struggle to remain academically on track.

With Assistance from the Oregon Community Foundation, our Educational Outreach Program connects mentors to their mentee's school so they may help their mentee if he or she is struggling. Our Education Outreach Coordinator helps guide the mentor by connecting them to key individuals, meetings regarding their mentee, offering trainings, and more. A high level of oral and written communication as well as computer proficiency and a professional demeanor combined with attention to detail are required for this position.

Family Finding Specialist:

Work within the Family Finding Department involves working closely with Department of Human Services (DHS) caseworkers and the Family Finding Director. Inter/volunteers will perform research and establish contact with positive, safe family members and meaningful people for deserving children in foster care.

A background check is required for this position. While each case is different, the typical case takes approximately three months to complete and approximately 5-10 hours a month in phone calls and research. This intern/volunteer can be located anywhere nationwide. Local intern/volunteers can expect to do file mining at a DHS location and to attend two meetings; including a family meeting. Family Finding is an intensive relative search model with the goal of achieving permanency and supportive family connections for children in foster care. These interns/volunteers must have attention to detail and a high level of computer and phone proficiency as well as excellent written and oral communication skills.





Mentor Program:

Mentors would need to be enthusiastic, dedicated, and caring adult members of the Eugene community who can positively influence youth in foster care. As a mentor, you would help children develop confidence, independence, and everyday life skills. Mentors also provide friendship, encouragement, and support foster youth through the various transitions in their lives. You must be a stable and positive role model who can commit to at least 10 hours a month to their mentee.

Data Entry Specialist and Special Projects Volunteer:

Data Entry Specialist enter written into our database, effectively communicating with foster care professionals, in addition to being able to problem solve and correct discrepancies. Individuals interested in this role would provide essential support by carrying out database clean up projects, internet search projects, survey projects, among other tasks. High level of written and oral language skills are required. This position does not include numerical entries.





Child Recruiter:

Child Recruiters work with Child and Family Operations to develop outreach plans to engage casework in other states and recruit more children nationwide. They help make plans for kids coming into the program and identify possible barriers and solutions. Recruiters would need to be well organized, have excellent oral and written skills, and have the ability to make deadlines.

Marketing Intern/Volunteer:

The Marketing Interns work in all areas in our organization. From targeted email outreach,

webinars, fundraising and awareness, to in person and phone contact, and everything in between, there is a lot to do and even more to learn with us. Marketing interns help us to grow, develop plans of action, and conduct important outreach to individuals nationwide. This position requires a high level of computer skills, excellent oral and written communication as well as proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, and other forms of media.





Family Adoption Specialist:

Family Adoption Specialists are responsible for supporting families through the adoption process, being available to help answer questions, and assuring that families are kept informed throughout the process. Volunteers would need to be supportive, empathetic, and well-organized along with being able to work unsupervised and have excellent oral and written skills. This position also requires a high level of professionalism and specific training is provided.

Web Volunteer/Intern:

AFFEC is looking for volunteers who are educated in these areas: PHP/HTML/CSS/Dreamweaver CS5, SMS/texting, familiar with frameworks, object oriented programming in C#, Java, or C++, familiarity with TCP/IP, familiarity with SQL and interfacing to programs.



Search Engine Optimization Intern:

Our SEO Intern would explore all avenues of Google and Bing Search Engine Optimization, including: oral and written communication skills, with ability to communicate with diverse populations, computer skills / ability to understand HTML, experience using Dreamweaver or equivalent ,well organized with A Family For Every Child Volunteer Newsletter August 2015



attention to detail and the ability to carry out tasks independently, and to meet deadlines.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AT AFFEC, PLEASE FILL OUT OUR VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM <u>HERE</u>

AFFEC would like to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who make our organization and its related programs so successful! It is only with your dedication and hard work that we are able to achieve our goals and continue to grow as we have each and every year!



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT AFFEC'S MISSION AND PROGRAMS, VISIT

www.afamilyforeverychild.org

info@afamilyforeverychild.org, 541-343-2856 A Family For Every Child | 1675 W 11th Avenue | Eugene | OR | 97402