

# Foundation for Youth Resiliency and Engagement (FYRE)

Practicum: Youth Advocate Intern

Salary: \$13.69 per hour, 24 hours/week for 10 weeks (*paid by the Office of Sustainability*)

Supervisor: Mady Sandoval, Co-Founder and Program Manager

Period of Employment: June 21, 2021 – August 27, 2021

## **Overview**

FYRE's mission is to advocate for equitable opportunities that allow all youth to thrive. The Foundation for Youth Resiliency and Engagement (FYRE) is the only youth center located in Okanogan County, Washington State's largest county by land mass. Living in a rural community often means there is a scarcity of resources but elevated needs. FYRE offers wraparound services to our most vulnerable youth ages 12-24 -- this includes educational advocacy, increasing accessibility to whole-person health services, providing referrals and resources to youth experiencing homelessness and youth who have been sexually exploited, supporting teen parents, and more. In addition to these direct services, we strive to reach all youth by offering a safe space for them to hang out and play games, attend life-skills workshops and support groups, grab free food, and attend event nights.

We are developing an array of robust services capable of meeting the needs of all youth. The Youth Advocate Intern will have the opportunity to participate in several different areas of our work, including direct mentorship and involvement with our youth, supporting youth and families access basic needs, internal policy building, and program building. Interning for FYRE presents the opportunity to gain a wealth of knowledge about our rural complexities, historical trauma, and resiliency. Come be a part of the emerging radical change FYRE is fighting for!

## **Responsibilities**

- Co-Facilitate Youth Advisory Committee Meetings (FYRE's Youth Board)
- Assist co-workers in securing concrete goods (grocery drop offs, school clothes, Wi-Fi jetpacks) for youth and families facing food and/or housing instability
- Work with FYRE team to code-switch outreach materials, aimed at making information about resources more accessible to folks who need it most
- Plan and facilitate Youth Event Nights (trivia nights, board game night, dances, etc.)
- Help FYRE maintain a social media presence
- Attend community partnership meetings, identify community disparities
- Assist in various youth needs assessments
- Internal planning for making FYRE a more environmentally sustainable organization
- Work at the Youth Center front desk

## **Required Qualifications and Experience**

- Ability to work some nights and/or weekends
- Familiarity with social media platforms
- Deep sense of empathy for youth

### **Educational/Professional Benefits**

This position will allow our Interns to intimately learn and understand the unique challenges rural communities face, including how environmental and systemic racism and bias show up in our most vulnerable communities. Interns will learn about the significance that colonization, boarding schools, and forced assimilation has had on our local Tribe, and the resulting generational trauma. Interns will be a part of a team dedicated to looking at social work through an equity lens, gaining insights from BIPOC about unintentional harm that white-led organizations often inflict upon the very people they are trying to help. Working with a majority BIPOC team will increase cultural competency and will directly benefit future social work endeavors. Lastly, FYRE aims to minimize hierarchy and welcomes interns to be involved in mission-critical conversations around our direct-service work, internal structures, and larger systems changes. Working for a brand new organization offers a unique opportunity to leave your fingerprints on something meaningful and make a true impact.