



CALIFORNIA **YOUTH** CONNECTION

*Our Voices, Our Future*

WITH



## CALIFORNIA YOUTH CONNECTION ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING POSITION

### Central Valley Regional Coordinator

Candidates with direct lived experience in foster care  
**strongly encouraged** to apply.

**Title:** Central Valley Regional Coordinator (Full-Time Exempt)  
**Location:** Fresno  
**Salary:** Competitive -Based on experience, plus vacation, medical, dental, and vision benefits; optional life insurance; and 401 K plan.  
**Supervisor:** Program Director

### Organization

California Youth Connection (CYC) was founded 27 years ago by former foster youth and has evolved into a vibrant statewide youth leadership, advocacy and training organization with 34 regional chapters, four satellite offices, and a budget close to \$3million. CYC empowers, and educates current and former foster youth providing them with leadership and advocacy opportunities to be the lead agents of change for system improvements throughout the state through policy and practice reform.

### Position Summary

Provide technical support for foster youth (ages 14-24) led advocacy and leadership development activities in county based chapters throughout California. Primary responsibilities include promoting leadership development, strengthening chapter processes, facilitating community and advocacy efforts, and developing curriculum and training materials. This position is based in Fresno and covers 3-4 counties in Central California. This is a 2-year, grant funded position not to exceed 2 years with possible renewal based on measurable outcomes that demonstrate need for continuance.

### Responsibilities

#### YOUTH LEADERSHIP

- Support members and volunteers in specific region of CYC's 33 youth-led chapters to identify local policy, practice and challenges foster youth face in their community and identify and strategies to address those challenges.
- Support all chapters within region of responsibility and ensure access to available CYC resources and ensure full participation at all CYC events and activities.
- Provide training and support to build youth development, including professional development skills.
- Identify and prepare members for leadership opportunities (e.g., public hearings, presentations, workshops at conferences) by helping members develop their talking points and presentations skills.
- Engage CYC members in community stakeholder meetings by preparing members for participation in meetings and drawing connections between community work and chapter work.
- Assist youth to participate in statewide policy advocacy and leadership opportunities.
- Coordinate and transport youth to regional and statewide events on an as needed basis.

## CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

- Meet the unique needs of each chapter through regular chapter visits, technical assistance, trainings and one-on-one preparation work. Assist chapters to develop annual training, fundraising, and recruitment goals based on needs assessments.
- Provide mediation and conflict resolution training and assistance to chapter members and supporters.
- Support efforts of expanding chapter membership through the development of sub-chapters. Conduct trainings throughout the year to train CYC members, supporters and chapters on local and statewide policy development and necessary leadership skills for participating in policy work.
- Assist with the development of curriculum for chapter retreats and regional training.
- Develop training curricula, recruit and train members to be trainers at annual conferences and within chapters.

## COMMUNITY ADVOCACY

- Participate in community projects related to CYC's policy agenda and expansion of local chapter work.
- Maintain and expand CYC's visibility and represent CYC at community events.
- Work with chapters to meet with local policymakers and administrators within region of responsibility and help support youth to advocate for needs of foster youth.
- Partner with CYC program staff to share resources and best practice, communicate local chapter work and build connections between chapters and member across the state.
- Build relationships with county decision makers so foster youth voice is integrated into county policy.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

- Collect, analyze, and manage chapter level data to measure the impact of various strategies.
- Track participation by members/supporters and update the database with attendance/participant information.
- Prepare and submit expense reports in a timely manner on a monthly basis.
- Review program budget with supervisor on an annual basis.
- Work coherently with other Central Valley Regional Coordinator on a needed basis
- CYC reserves the right to add or change duties at any time.

## JOB QUALIFICATIONS

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions.

- **Education and/or experience:** Two years work experience in child welfare. Bachelor's degree in political science, social welfare or communications, or equivalent combination required. Experience working with youth required. Experience with foster care issues, community organizing, state legislation, policies, and working with government agencies required. Experience in group facilitation and training required.
- **Management skills and/or experience:** Project management skills required. Experience managing youth and adult volunteers required.

- **Language skills:** Ability to read, analyze and interpret state and local legislation. Ability to effectively communicate complicated policies and ideas into youth-friendly format. Ability to effectively present information to youth, volunteers, staff, and community stakeholders.
- **Technical Skills:** Proficiency in using personal computer and various office software packages including word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, calendaring, and email management. Proficiency with social media and Windows OS preferred.
- **Professionalism skills:** Ability to demonstrate use of clear boundaries with everyday challenges of working with young adults
- **Preferred:** A Bachelor's degree in one of the behavioral sciences. (Social Science, Human or Social Services field preferred)
- **Preferred:** Experience in managing and/or leading local or statewide governmental campaigns which can include but not limited to statewide propositions, bills, referendums or other political initiatives.
- **Preferred:** Understanding of the respective uniqueness to the political, educational, economic and social systems of the Central Valley Region of California
- **Preferred:** Experience as a foster youth in the child welfare system

### **Special Requirements**

- Ability to travel up to 2-4 times per week to chapters throughout the assigned region (evening and weekend travel required).
- Ability to attend two conferences annually as well as monthly staff meetings.
- Opportunity for travel and additional professional development training.

**Application deadline: Monday, January 12, 2015 by 5 p.m.**

### **How to Apply:**

Please send resume and cover letter via email to Jenny Vinopal at [jenny@calyouthconn.org](mailto:jenny@calyouthconn.org)

***California Youth Connection is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the belief that each individual is entitled to equal employment opportunity.***