

Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools®
American Indian-Focused Program
Youth Worker Position Description South High School

Title: Youth Worker

Organization: Children's Defense Fund – Minnesota

Position: Part-time - approximately 15 hours a week

Date of Employment: September 1, 2017 -May 19th 2018

Salary: \$16 per hour

Nature and Scope

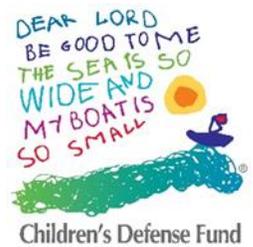
CDF's mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. The CDF Freedom Schools® program is a direct service initiative coordinated nationally by the Children's Defense Fund in partnership with local community organizations. It is an educational and cultural enrichment program that provides summer options for children and strengthens family and community involvement. The program serves children in grades kindergarten through twelfth for five to eight weeks. The activity based curriculum, which is aligned to the Common Core State Standards, integrates reading, conflict resolution, and social action, and is designed to promote social, cultural, and historical awareness.

College-age young adults and recent college graduates play a key role in the *CDF Freedom Schools* program in the position of Servant Leader Intern. Each *CDF Freedom Schools* Servant Leader Intern serves as the teacher for a maximum of 10 students. Servant Leader Interns have access to further leadership development and networking opportunities geared toward continued direct service and advocacy on behalf of children and families. American Indian Freedom School is the first of its kind to serve the American Indian community in Minneapolis. Our sites for after school are Andersen Community School, Sanford Middle School and South High School.

Responsibilities

- Supervise students at all times.
- Set up, manage and break down classroom space according to standards developed by CDF.
- Engage a maximum of 10 students per class in the Integrated Reading Curriculum as outlined in the guide provided by CDF.
- Develop relationships with children and youth in program to identify student needs for programming.
- Provide support for after school activities.
- Help plan and promote cultural activities.
- Support site coordinator with organizing registrations and inputting data into Sprockets.
- Attend all required trainings.
- Collaborate with other staff to establish and maintain a supportive and structured environment for the students entrusted in their care.
- Report any issues or concerns regarding students in the program to the Site Coordinator.

Qualifications

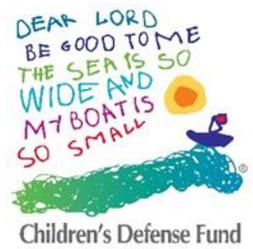


- Must have completed at least one year of college and have plans to complete the college degree (typical age range is 18-30)
- Knowledge of working with children and youth
- Knowledge and experience working with American Indian youth, community and families
- Ability to motivate others and work as part of an intergenerational team
- Strong appreciation and understanding of individual cultural history and the willingness to be open and respectful of all cultures
- Exhibit positive attitude; model a mature and professional demeanor
- Excellent written and verbal skills
- Must have completed at least one year of college
- Servant Leader Intern experience at a *CDF Freedom Schools* site is preferred
- Possess strong leadership and management skills
- Experience working with children and youth
- Exhibit positive behavior and attitude; model a mature and professional demeanor; possess excellent written and verbal skills
- Strong appreciation and understanding of individual cultural history and the willingness to be open and respectful of other cultures

Personal characteristics

The American Indian Freedom Schools should demonstrate competence in the following:

- **Creativity/Innovation:** Develop new and unique ways to create and improve the programming for children and youth at our Freedom School sites.
- **Inclusion:** Demonstrate and Express a commitment to social justice as well as diversity, inclusion and equity.
- **Build Relationships:** Establish and maintain positive working relationships with others, both internally and externally, to achieve the goals of the organization – must be able to work with people of all ages and backgrounds, skills and abilities.
- **Focus on Student Needs:** Anticipate, understand, and respond to the needs of youth in our Freedom School program to meet or exceed their expectations within the program parameters.
- **Foster Teamwork:** Works cooperatively and effectively with others to set goals, resolve problem, and make decisions that enhance organizational effectiveness.
- **Understanding:** Understand and appreciate the mission and work of CDF-MN and how public policy affects children and families.



- Plan: Determine strategies to move the organization forward, set goals, create and implement actions plans, and evaluate the process and results.
- Have fun: Bring a sense of inquisitiveness and humor as well as flexibility to the work.

How to apply:

To apply email your resume to Jen Cardinal at jcardinal@childrensdefense.org.

The Children's Defense Fund is an equal opportunity employer.