



JOB DESCRIPTION

Program Youth Worker

ABOUT RED HOOK INITIATIVE (RHI)

[Red Hook Initiative](#) (RHI) is a community-based nonprofit working to improve the lives of the more than 6,500 residents of Red Hook Houses, Brooklyn's largest public housing complex. RHI believes that the social change to overcome systemic inequities begins with empowered youth, and that change in communities should come from within. In partnership with community adults, we nurture young people in Red Hook to be inspired, resilient, and healthy, and to envision themselves as co-creators of their lives, community, and society.

Youth development, community building, and community hiring are at the core of RHI's approach to strengthen Red Hook's future. Our model gives young people and residents the tools, resources, and opportunities they need to interrupt the systems and barriers that perpetuate historic inequities for the community. Residents lead the way toward a more equitable, hopeful future.

RHI's programs include:

- **Youth Development:** RHI engages over 450 adolescents each year, from middle school through young adulthood, endeavoring to interrupt cycles of injustice and to build hope.
- **Building Community:** Working with Red Hook youth and adults to organize, exercise leadership to drive positive change for the community, and increase social cohesion to build a more resilient neighborhood.
- **Investing in Residents:** RHI hires locally and invests in residents who will improve their lives and the community in which they live. More than \$1.5M was earned in the last year by people from Red Hook.
- **Red Hook Farms:** A youth-centered urban agriculture and food justice program operating one of Brooklyn's original and largest farms. Red Hook Farms cultivates affordable, fresh produce and provides STEM and nutrition education, leadership development, and employment opportunities for local youth and residents.

Over our 20-year history, RHI's model and dedicated team have been nationally recognized for its innovative, place-based approach to social change.

Learn more about our mission, programs, and impact:

[RHI's 2021 Impact Report](#) further highlights our work with neighborhood allies to bring Covid-19 resources into the Red Hook community through a recovery plan that is rooted in healing and aims to improve outcomes across health, education, economic mobility, and food access.

THE OPPORTUNITY

RHI is seeking a Youth Worker who can assist in providing programs and services to young people in RHI's adolescent programs. This person is also responsible for planning and executing learning excursions for school-aged participants (Middle school & High school). The Youth Worker is passionate about engaging youth and continuing to learn about youth development.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead the middle school HW hour
- Lead youth groups, including teambuilding and structured activities.
- Co-create curriculum for school aged youth program and activities with support from program directors
- Lead at least two youth programs per cycle in support of reaching DYCD requirements. Examples include academic and sel programming, STEM, Peer Counseling, and Media Specialist programming.



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- Supervise & manage in person & virtual youth groups and actively engage youth during activities, staying aware of where youth are at all times.
- Assist in developing recruitment strategies to engage young people from Red Hook in the programs and services offered by RHI.
- Maintain accurate records including weekly logs, database entries, and sign-in sheets for participation.
- Research field trips that have an educational, recreational, community service, or creative purpose, including soliciting ideas from middle school participants, parents, and staff.
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Program Manager/Director of School Age Programs.
- Attend lectures and training sessions that will build on the knowledge and skills needed for this position.
- Meet with the Adolescent Program Manager for supervision as necessary.
- Attend all staff meetings.

CANDIDATE PROFILE

The Program Youth Worker should possess the following skills, knowledge and abilities:

- Experience working with and relating to young people ages 10 to 18.
- Ability to design and facilitate engaging activities.
- Experience with Zoom, Google Hangouts, or other virtual platforms.
- Willingness to collaborate on projects and work with a team.
- Must be enthusiastic about continuous training in youth development, facilitation, behavior management, etc.
- Must be enthusiastic about community-based work.
- Willing to commit to at least one full academic year.

Experience + Education

- Social emotional learning experience
- High school graduate, college student (or graduate) preferred.
- Red Hook resident or former resident preferred.
- Bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred.

COMMITMENT TO DEI + EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

RHI actively engages individuals from all backgrounds and is committed to embracing diversity across all areas and aspects of the organization. We firmly believe that an atmosphere of civility and mutual respect towards individual differences and embracing an inclusive and equitable environment is indispensable to building a successful organization, contributing to a positive and meaningful employment experience for staff, and advancing the best possible outcomes for the clients served by RHI's programs. We are also committed to community hiring and supporting the job prospects of Red Hook residents.

As an equal opportunity employer, RHI is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified individuals and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and expression, disability, age, marital status, military status, veteran status, pregnancy, parental status, genetic information, or any other characteristic or basis prohibited by applicable law.

COMPENSATION + BENEFITS

Position: RHI Program Youth Worker



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Reports to: Program Manager

Status: Non-exempt, part-time (at least 3 hours a day, 5 days per week), weekday afternoons, March 2022 through June 2022. 15-20 hours per week.

Hourly Rate: \$18/hour

TO APPLY

Please email a cover letter, resume and salary requirements to: apply@rhicenter.org with 'Program Youth Worker' in the subject line.