

Arbor House Caregiver (PRN)

SUMMARY OF POSITION

This position is responsible for up to two foster children's day-to-day care. Interaction between caregivers and children requires respectful, collaborative, strength-based interventions responsible for maintaining youth safety through continuous supervision. In supporting and promoting these relationships, each caregiver will demonstrate a high standard of professional and ethical behavior that coincides with the philosophy, mission, and values of the agency. The caregiver will be expected to have previous experience working with child development needs, be able to maintain good judgment with minimal supervision, and provide creative and engaging activities for children.

Primary Objectives

As a caregiver, you must contribute positively to the therapeutic culture of the program by:

- Ensuring that the home promotes mutual respect, trust, personal safety and security
- Maximizing relationship building, teachable moments, and strength-based interactions
- Promoting positive change, growth, and development
- Modeling appropriate values and behaviors
- Supporting each child's unique case plan
- Providing appropriate structure and supervision at all times

QUALIFICATIONS

1. *Support the foster children placed in Arbor House by*
 - Identifying and building on a child's strengths and addressing behavioral challenges
 - Using active listening, positive regard, and trust to provide safe and nurturing environment
 - Promoting positive interactions with children
 - Developing, maintaining, and continually striving to enhance working relationships with Good Shepherd colleagues and PARTNERS staff
2. *Ensure Structure and Consistency: to provide safety and security to all foster children*
 - Read all emails and communication logs to keep abreast of what's going on with each child placed in the home
 - Participate in debriefing activities before and after each shift
 - Remain active and engaged in supervision at all time
 - Encourage children to participate in activities in an effort to decrease screen time
 - Be consistent with praise, expectations, and consequences.
 - Orient newly placed kids to Arbor House by reviewing the rules, structure, and expectation
 - Encourage an open-door policy for communication between foster children and caregivers

- Complete all necessary paperwork as it pertains to the shift (ie- communication log, medication log, incident reports if applicable, etc.)
 - Report any concerns regarding health, safety, or well-being of a child to the appropriate authority
 - Conduct security and safety checks in search of contraband
 - Utilize training and professional judgment and follow chain of command when needed
3. *Program Activities: Follow program expectations to ensure positive outcomes and proper documentation*
- Be active in educational plans by assisting children with homework or online schooling, if applicable
 - Assist in the preparation of meals and snacks
 - Transport residents to approved outings if applicable
 - Ensure children assist with household chores to keep the home clean
4. *Expectations: Effective caregivers will exhibit and adhere to the following*
- Use appropriate and positive language and strength-based interactions
 - Be able to make sound judgments/decisions in crisis situations and under pressure
 - Provide positive praise and positive reinforcement
 - Interact with staff and the child's case management team in a respectful and professional manner
 - Be flexible in terms of scheduling to meet the needs of the children who are in need of emergency care
 - Attend all training courses as required by agency policy, licensing regulations and COA standards
 - Be on time for all shifts and maintain a good attendance record
 - Be prepared to report to work in cases of inclement weather conditions
 - Report problems, concerns, and vital information to the management team
 - Treat children fairly in a non-discriminating fashion and respect the views of others
 - Maintain appropriate boundaries with children

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Must be at least 21 years of age
- Bachelor's Degree preferred. High School Diploma is acceptable with at least 5 years of relevant experience with youth
- Support the teachings of the Catholic Church and actively work with colleagues from partner agencies (Lutheran Family & Children's Services and Bringing Families Together)
- Reliable transportation and working cell phone
- Obtain MCCA medication administration certification within 60 days of employment
- Obtain Safe Crisis Management training within 60 days of employment
- Attend Protecting God's Children within 60 days of employment
- Obtain First Aid and CPR certification within 90 days of employment

TO APPLY

To apply, submit a resume and cover letter to Abbey Ross at aross@gstl.org.