



**New Life Centers
IYC Juvenile Justice Mentor**

New Life Centers (NLC) provides intensive, community-based mentoring programs for youth ages 12+ in the Little Village, Humboldt Park and Brighton Park communities of Chicago. The target demographics of programs: gang-affiliated youth on probation, and at-risk youth referred through local schools and community agencies. Serving these two populations allows NLC to holistically engage both violence prevention and intervention in response to identified community needs. We seek to reduce youth contact with the justice system, promote safety, and empower young people to become community-builders and peace-makers. Our holistic program model enables us to fulfill our mission: to provide mentoring and advocacy to guide youth toward a new life and a new direction.

Position Summary:

This project is a collaborative of community youth programs and the Illinois Youth Centers (St. Charles, Chicago and Warrenville). Partners are located in the neighborhoods with the highest rates of violence, and are committed to hyper-local programming, restorative justice practices, trauma-informed approaches, and principles of nonviolence. The Juvenile Justice Mentor reports to the Project Coordinator and partners with IYC staff in the reentry process, connecting youth with resources in their community. The Juvenile Justice Mentor will partner with IYC Youth and Family Advocate (YFA) staff, parents, youth and community partners to help youth achieve their goals. The mentor is responsible for youth one-on-one and group mentoring and advocacy, as well as high-quality program facilitation. The Juvenile Justice Mentor will work Full-Time 40 hours per week, non-exempt. This project will begin immediately. This position requires travel to and from St. Charles, Warrenville and Chicago facilities and intentional time on site in-facility encouraging a culture of restorative justice. Transportation to and from facilities is reimbursed. Per Diem included. Benefits available, please ask.

Skills & Responsibilities

- Serves as the primary point of contact for reentry partnerships with IYC staff.
- Will be on-site in-facility regularly to build relationships with young people prior to reentry into the community.
- Assists young people in identifying their reentry needs.
- Works closely and collaborates with the Project Coordinator, IYC YFA staff and community resources to prepare re-entry plans and other initiatives to positively enhance a youth's re-entry experience.
- Intentionally focuses on a caseload of youth in a one-on-one mentoring capacity. Meets weekly/biweekly with youth, both in facility and those who have reentered society, to include meetings, meals, activities, transporting, etc.
- Serves as a liaison and youth advocate with families, school administrators, social and youth service agencies and the juvenile justice system
- Performs referrals and introductions with partner agencies as well as follow-up to referrals to assure youth needs are being met.
- Implements and monitors progress of youth case plans, goals and objectives.
- Coordinates referrals to community-based organizations that will provide the needed services for youth transitioning into the community.
- Identifying and contacting potential community resources and programs to help develop and implement strategies to achieve re-entry goals. Ensures strong alliances in the community with agencies and organizations.
- Meets regularly with the Juvenile Justice and IYC Project team to discuss progress, challenges, training needs, changes, logistics, etc.
- Assists Project Coordinator with other duties and responsibilities as needed, including onsite IYC facility visits. May help with and assist with youth programming and events in facility.
- Manages the collection/communication/submission of data related items with partner agencies to NLC Program Coordinator as requested.
- Will communicate with Data Manager on all data needs, reports, submissions, etc. as necessary.
- Attends all NLC mandatory meetings and any meetings relevant to the successful implementation and supervision of the program as determined (may include RJ Hubs, IYC staff, citywide tables, etc.).

Required Qualifications:

- Must pass a background check. No pending criminal cases or prior convictions for sexual assault, child abuse, or domestic violence.
- High School Diploma/GED required. Bachelor's degree preferred or significant experience working with high-risk, system-involved individuals.
- Must become a Mandated Reporter.
- Knowledge of the challenges at-risk youth face and experience navigating those challenges.
- Cross-cultural competency
- Ability to develop and maintain a strong relationship with other community organizations
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. Good listening and communication skills
- Ability to work one-on-one and in groups with high-risk individuals to resolve conflicts and promote prosocial behaviors
- Must keep confidentiality of records and participant information
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with others
- Desire and ability to establish and maintain long-term relationships with youth
- Familiarity with computers such that employee is able to complete required data entry tasks, communicate via email and complete basic work processing tasks as needed.
- Emotional maturity; good judgment; integrity; tolerance of differing points of view and beliefs; commitment to nonviolence.
- Valid Illinois Driver's License, valid insurance, and good driving record
- Requires travel

How to Apply:

Please submit the following materials to careers@newlifecenters.org:

- Cover letter indicating your experience and interest in the position
- Resume
- List of three references with contact information (2 Professional and 1 Personal, Email and Phone number included)

Please submit your application materials as MS Word or PDF attachments. Include all attachments in a single email. Please include, "Juvenile Justice Mentor position" in the subject line of your email.

New Life Centers provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetics. New Life Centers complies with applicable federal, state and local laws governing nondiscrimination in employment in every location in which the company has facilities.