



AmeriCorps Mentor Position Description

Part-time Position Description Summary

Are you preparing for a career in social work? Are you ready to prepare yourself for a career where you find your work to be meaningful? Are you looking to get involved in community change? As a *Friends of the Children-Boston* Positive Peer AmeriCorps Mentor you will spend 2 days each week mentoring elementary or middle school-aged students (Achievers). You will spend your time as a mentor in a Boston Public School and will spend after school time implementing community service projects, participating in physical fitness activities, and visiting libraries and museums with Achievers. You will ensure their physical and emotional well-being while teaching them life and academic skills through enrichment activities. After this experience you will be prepared to take your career working with youth and in the community to the next level. You will be on the front lines of creating community change and supporting Boston's youth for success! All schools, office space, and activities are MBTA accessible. Public transportation is required.

Position Responsibilities

- Develop and sustain a protective and caring relationship with each Achiever
- Spend time with Achievers, in groups, within organizational guidelines
- Set realistic expectations and goals based on each Achiever's strengths, talents, abilities and needs
- Teach life skills and help each Achiever develop a talent/skill/area of interest
- Provide enrichment resources and activities that include opportunities for cultural awareness
- Develop positive relationships with families, teachers and others involved in each Achiever's life
- Reinforce basic academic skills
- Complete time summaries, daily activity journals, short-term plans, expense reports and evaluation materials accurately and on time

Essential Skills and Attributes

- Ability to relate to and care for children in varied capacities and settings
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Ability to develop trusting relationships
- Ability to work independently in diverse environments with limited supervision
- Ability to manage several concurrent issues and solve problems effectively
- Ability to complete paperwork and meet deadlines
- Strong written and verbal communication skills; organizational and time management skills

Education and experience requirements

To be placed as a Mentor, candidates must be enrolled in a social work program pursuing either a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) or Master of Social Work (MSW). Qualified candidates will have at least one year experience working/volunteering with children. Mentoring experience with children considered statically at-risk a plus. Spanish and Creole language skills considered a plus.

Hours and Compensation

Being a Mentor requires a commitment of at least 450 hours of service, at least 16 hours a week throughout the school year (August/September 2010 – May 2011). Individuals may be eligible for a living allowance/stipend if not receiving academic credit for being a Mentor. Upon completion of 450 hours, all Mentors are eligible to receive an AmeriCorps Education Award. The education award amount is decided by the Corporation for National and Community Service. In the 2009-2010 program year, this amount was \$1,180 for 450 hour members.

Start Date: August/September 2010

Training: Must be able to attend our 4 day training sessions

- Day 1 training days: August 16th, September 13th, September 16th, September 20th
- Day 2 training days: August 17th, September 15th, September 17th, September 21st
- Day 3 training days: August 18th, September 20th, September 23rd
- Day 4 training days: August 19th, September 22nd, September 24th, September 27th

To **apply** please submit a résumé, cover letter, and letter of reference/recommendation to opportunities@friendsboston.org

Friends of the Children-Boston does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ability, sex, secular preference, sexual orientation, marital status, age, political affiliation or religion, in accordance with the non-discrimination requirements of applicable statutes. *Friends-Boston* is committed to seeking individuals with disabilities to serve as AmeriCorps members. Upon request, *Friends-Boston* can provide reasonable accommodations for interviews and service for individuals with disabilities.