



## thePLACE

**The Place ignites the potential in youth to exit homelessness and create self-determined, fulfilled lives. Our vision is that all Colorado youth have safe housing, supportive relationships, and the opportunity for self-sufficiency and success.**

### **JOB SUMMARY**

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Under the supervision of the Outreach Program Manager, the **Youth Peer Outreach Worker** will offer peer support and information through effective communication of shared experiences to youth encountered during street outreach and in The PLACE's Drop-In Center. This person will work with youth to explore physical wellbeing, barriers, and to model and discuss health and safety. This person will greet youth out on the street and/or in the drop-in center and provide peer support toward the end of exiting homelessness. The PLACE is committed, and practices trauma informed care and we work to ensure all interventions and environments at The PLACE provide physical and emotional safety for the youth and staff, at all our locations, and in the community.

- *The person selected for this position will be 18-24 years old and will have lived experience, preferably with The PLACE.*
- Hours: Mostly Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00Pm with some variable evening and weekend hours required.
- Salary: \$17.00-\$18.50 per hour based on background and experience.

### **Job Duties**

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*The job duties of this position are performed personally, in cooperation with your supervisor, and/or in coordination with other staff. Additional work functions and duties may be assigned.*

- Engage in peer support through one-on-one meetings with youth peer support groups, activities, education, and street outreach.
- Support youth in connecting to resource opportunities in the community and accessing other community support services of their choice.
- Work collaboratively within, and outside outreach program to support youth in meeting their goals.
- Provide youth direction, and referrals, and cultivate strategic relationships that could potentially be referred to case management.
- Seek out and build trusting and healthy relationships with youth who are not yet accessing services at The PLACE.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

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- A High school diploma or equivalent **OR** one (1) year experience working with high-risk youth.
- Must be between the ages of 18-24.
- Must have lived experience.
- Experience with The PLACE is preferred.
- Peer navigator experience preferred.
- Computer proficiency including basic Microsoft Office Suite (e.g., Outlook, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint).

- Must not be listed on the Sex Offender Registry or have any child-related charges or convictions.
- Must pass pre-employment TB and Physical screening.
- Is receiving or has received services and support related to experiencing homelessness, and a mental illness diagnosis, and is willing to self-identify on this basis with peers at the Drop-In Center and in the community.

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES**

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- Good communication skills (i.e., written, verbal) in the English Language, and an ability to establish rapport with resource providers.
- Ability to walk for several hours a day in all types of weather, carrying a heavy backpack.
- Ability to actively engage youth on the streets and other places where The PLACE programs are carried out.
- Ability to articulate the unique nature of peer support within traditional service programs.
- Ability to model strengths-based interactions and treat all individuals with respect.
- Able to make sound decisions, using available information while maintaining appropriate confidentiality.
- Understanding of the provision of and commitment to trauma informed care and positive youth development.
- Able to function as a member of an interdisciplinary team and work with collaborating agencies.
- Able to manage tasks and activities in an environment that may be challenging at times.
- Demonstrated ability to keep focus on continual learning and moving towards positive stated goals.
- Must be team-oriented and able to coordinate with various departments and staff.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with a variety of volunteers, fellow workers, communities, resources, and cultures.
- Able to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends.

To apply: Please go to <https://theplacecos.org/work-at-the-place/> and complete the application.

## **PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

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- Employee frequently is required to sit. Employee is frequently required to stand; walk; use hands to handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls; reach with hands and arms; and occasionally stoop, kneel, or crouch.
- Requires the ability to use department equipment, such as telephones, personal computers, adding machines, copiers, fax machines, etc. Position requires frequent use of computer and phone.
- Able to hear well enough to communicate with employees and others.
- Able to be on feet and mobile up to 10 hours per day.
- Able to lift up to 50 lbs.

## **PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE**

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- Adhere to all Personnel Policies and Procedures for the Agency.
- Maintain professional standards of performance, demeanor, and appearance always; act as a role model both at and away from the Agency.
- Maintain a creative, team-building approach to job performance and seek to bring a constructive, problem-solving orientation to all tasks.
- Performs all tasks and responsibilities with attention to detail and in a complete and timely manner, complying with agency policies and standards and conforming to the scheduling requirements of the job and program.
- Maintain an awareness of the agency's mission and work to promote the positive individual and social change goals it embodies.
- Exercise discretion and professional judgment keeping with the responsibilities carried personally and by the agency for the care and welfare of the clients.
- Act with honesty and integrity in all aspects of Agency business.
- Actively strive to upgrade professional skills through engaging in appropriate professional training and experience.
- Actively strive to create and maintain a culturally sensitive, trauma informed, and appropriate environment through communication and interaction that demonstrates respect for diversity, while practicing trauma informed care in interactions with youth, staff, and individuals internally and externally.
- Support positive youth development and youth involvement in decision-making processes.

## **PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

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- Employee frequently is required to sit. Employee is frequently required to stand; walk; use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls; reach with hands and arms; and occasionally stoop, kneel, or crouch.
- Requires manual and finger dexterity and eye-hand coordination.
- Able to speak and write the English language in an understandable manner.
- Requires the ability to use department equipment, such as telephones, personal computers, adding machines, copiers, fax machines, etc. Position requires frequent use of computer and phone.
- Able to hear well enough to communicate with employees and others.
- Able to support youth and staff at various locations.
- Able to be on feet and mobile up to 10 hours per day.
- Able to lift up to 50 lbs.

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

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Because of The PLACE's unique function in the community working with vulnerable youth who have experienced trauma including homelessness, the young people with whom we work, at times, exhibit behavior challenging adult authority. Employees in this position may at times, be subject to work areas that could include physical conditions such as inclement weather or temperature extremes, sharps, drugs and paraphernalia, and interpersonal contact from non-employees that include sexual innuendo and raw, abusive, or threatening language. Employees in this position may be subject to long hours on their feet. And employees must be comfortable providing safer sex supplies and bleach kits to youth.

The PLACE provides personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety training to prepare and protect The PLACE employees in these uncontrolled environments. Compliance with safety protocol is required, which may include the use of PPE, involvement of law enforcement, and/or enactment of emergency protocols, detailed in The PLACE's Emergency Operations Plan.