



**Case Support Specialist
Tacoma/Pierce County Office**

TEAMCHILD

TeamChild is a nationally recognized nonprofit serving vulnerable youth across Washington State. TeamChild is best known for its legal services program reaching children in crisis in King, Pierce, Spokane, and Yakima counties. Our clients are young people and many are involved in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Our legal services program is designed to keep young people out of juvenile court by reconnecting them to education, healthcare, mental health services, and housing supports. We work closely with public defenders, juvenile court staff and the community to positively impact the young person's life while helping the youth to accomplish their goals and reduce further contact with the courts. The mission of TeamChild is to uphold the rights of youth involved, or at risk of involvement, in the juvenile justice system to help them secure the education, healthcare, housing, and other support they need to achieve positive outcomes in their lives. In our work we aim to move systems away from exclusion, arrest, and incarceration towards more effective strategies that have the best chance of promoting the well-being and success of our most vulnerable children. For more information, see www.teamchild.org.

JOB OVERVIEW

TeamChild is seeking a full-time Case Support Specialist. The position is located in our Tacoma, WA office, located at 715 Tacoma Ave. South. The position is funded through June 30, 2019, and may continue depending upon additional funding and assessment of the position. The Case Support Specialist will provide services through an innovation grant through the Office of Homeless Youth, of the Washington State Department of Commerce. Under the guidance of TeamChild attorneys, the Case Support Specialist will be asked to provide social services and advocacy for youth (ages 12-18) experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

JOB DUTIES:

- Screening and intake assessment of youth's legal and social needs.
- Develop case history of youth through interviews, observation, and record review.
- Conduct housing stability assessment while in detention.
- Participate in internal staffing of youth needs and advocacy planning.
- Provide some crisis intervention, support, and referral to youth as needed.
- Assist youth and families with accessing services, including providing referrals and follow up to ensure youth is able to access services and progress toward established goals.
- Prepare and maintain accurate documentation with providers and the attorney to help support youth.

Offices in King ♦ Pierce ♦ Spokane ♦ Yakima Counties

715 Tacoma Ave. S., Tacoma, WA 98402 ♦ Phone (253) 274-9929 ♦ Fax (253) 274-1888 ♦ www.teamchild.org

- Maintain an extensive referral network of professionals in order to access services as youth's needs become known.
- Provide research for the attorney on specific topics relevant to homeless youth such as trauma informed care, statistics on homelessness, mental health issues, and diagnosis requirements.
- Work with attorneys to address legal needs of youth.
- Provide ongoing follow up and advocacy after release from detention to verify and support housing stability.
- Support advocacy in juvenile court for community-based alternatives to incarceration.
- Coordination of services for youth with other community providers and stakeholders.
- Participate in various coalitions and provider networks dedicated to ending youth homelessness.
- Foster attorney-client relationship that builds youth's decision-making and self-advocacy skill sets.
- Meet travel requirements of the position, including travel throughout Pierce County and at times statewide.

QUALIFICATIONS: We are seeking candidates who are respectful and passionate about working with people from diverse backgrounds, enjoy creative problem solving, value the creation of relationships across disciplines, have strong organizational and administrative skills, work well both independently and as a team member, and are enthusiastic about being a part of an innovative method of advocacy. Additional qualifications include:

- Graduation from a four-year college or university with major course work in law, social services, education, human services, behavioral science, or an allied field.
- Other education, lived experience, or professional experience which clearly indicates that ability to perform the essential functions of the position may substitute for the recruiting requirements and may also enhance an applicant's qualifications.
- Two years of relevant social services experience as a social worker, therapist, peer support/mentor, teacher, or counselor is preferred.
- Ability to speak or write Spanish or other language is a plus.
- Knowledge of community resources in the social services field.
- Exceptional oral and written communication skills.
- Problem-solving, communication and listening techniques.
- Familiarity with rules, regulations, procedures, and guidelines of programs that assist homeless youth.
- Experience working with young people, especially 12-18 year olds.
- Demonstrated competence in working with diverse clients and communities.
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate effectively with other advocates and social service providers.
- High level of professionalism and ethical standards.
- Must have access to a vehicle and have a valid driver's license to travel throughout the county to meet client and agency needs.
- Interest in working with an organization implementing anti-bias approaches to address institutional racism among various systems that affect youth.

All interested individuals, including people of color, women, persons with disabilities, and persons who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or intersex are particularly urged to apply.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Salary range is \$36K-55K annually, dependent on experience, and is based upon a 35 hour work week. Position comes with full benefits (including medical, dental, vision, FSA, 403b retirement, EAP, generous paid time off, and long and short term disability). Period of employment is through June 30, 2019.

TO APPLY:

Please email your resume and a concise letter of interest to Paul Alig, Managing Attorney of TeamChild's Pierce County office, at jobs@teamchild.org. In the subject line of the email, please put "Case Support Specialist – [Last Name]." No phone calls or email inquiries, please. Position open until filled.

At TeamChild we believe that racial and other social identities should be respected and affirmed. In support of this belief, we are building an equitable and inclusive organization and providing our team of staff, volunteers and Board members with the tools to address institutionalized racism and other forms of oppression. All members of our team are responsible for providing and supporting an equitable and inclusive work environment that will enrich our interactions with each other and our products and services. This responsibility provides the foundation for empowering the children and families that we serve so their needs are justly represented and their desires amply fulfilled.

TeamChild is an Equal Opportunity Employer. TeamChild is committed to promoting an environment free of barriers and discriminatory practices for its clients, Board and staff.