

Opportunity Northeast Summer Fellow - Hillyard Youth Collaborative

Position Description

Position Overview

The Center for Community Engagement Summer Fellows spend the summer working in Northeast Spokane neighborhoods in partnership with community organizations. Fellows support one of two focus areas (food security and educational opportunities for youth), forming a cohort of 8 Fellows that will gather regularly for support and professional development opportunities provided by CCE staff. Fellows will develop an understanding of the community needs and assets of Northeast Spokane.

The position's primary function is to support youth involved in the Hillyard Youth Collaborative* during the summer months and, secondarily, to strengthen partnerships between Gonzaga University and community members and organizations.

The position will recruit and enroll youth and facilitate programming for Level Up, a two week transition program for youth entering middle school, and Summer in the Zone, a 10 week long initiative that provides multi-age programming for youth in Northeast Spokane (Summer in the Zone is part of The Zone Project, more information can be found here: <https://www.thezoneproject.org/>). The position will work closely with the Center for Community Engagement as well as key community partners including: The Zone Project, Shaw Middle School, Communities In Schools, and the Boys & Girls Club.

**Begun in 2014, the Hillyard Youth Collaborative (HYC) works to improve educational outcomes for youth at Garry and Shaw middle schools in Northeast Spokane. The Hillyard Youth Collaborative involves four long time partners: Spokane Public Schools, Gonzaga University, Communities In Schools, and the Boys & Girls Club. In the long term, this collaborative is expected to help improve on-time graduation rates for youth and increase the number of youth who enroll in post-secondary education. As a partner in the Collaborative, Gonzaga leverages students, staff, and faculty to support in- and out-of-school programs aimed at improving social and emotional well-being, attendance, behavior, and course completion (ABCs).*

Level Up is a program that was developed in 2018, as part of the Hillyard Youth Collaborative, to provide support for youth during the summer as they transition from elementary school to Garry and Shaw Middle Schools. The program provides an opportunity for youth to prepare for the transition to middle school and develop leadership and self-advocacy skills, as well as participate in summer programs and activities at the Boys & Girls Club. The program is two weeks long and is facilitated by Center for Community Engagement staff and students at the Boys & Girls Club.

Schedule and Compensation

- 10 week commitment – June 6-August 12
- Approximately 25 hours per week (exact hours TBD)
- \$14.49/hour

Responsibilities (include, but are not limited to)*

- Recruit youth and families from partnering schools
- Assist youth and families with enrollment for Level Up and Summer in the Zone
- Build relationships with youth and families prior to, during, and after Level Up (e.g. attend lunch and recess at elementary schools)
- Plan and facilitate Level Up in partnership with CCE and the Boys & Girls Club staff
- Participate in curriculum development
- Facilitate programming for Summer in the Zone
- Support coordination and transportation to and from Level Up
- Assist staff on-site at Shaw Middle School and at the Boys & Girls Club
- Attend meetings (Level Up, Summer in the Zone, etc.)
- Track attendance of youth
- Participate in regular meetings with cohort members and CCE staff
- Participate in training and professional development opportunities
- Respond and communicate questions/items of concern to staff; complete reports as needed
- Model ethical behavior, including appropriate and professional boundaries and relationships with youth, families, and staff
- Other tasks as assigned by supervisor

Qualifications*

- Be enrolled and in good standing with Gonzaga University
- Complete required paperwork as applicable (e.g. liability release, background check, health forms)
- Experience, knowledge, and skills:
 - Experience working with youth
 - Strong organizational skills, self-initiative, and ability to work independently
 - Cultural fluency, including awareness to issues of race, class, and the ethical dilemmas that may arise from the development of strong reciprocal campus and community partnerships
 - Knowledge of and ability to animate Gonzaga's mission, vision, and values
 - Understanding of and commitment to socially responsible community engagement as outlined in the Center for Community Engagement's Principles and Practices

*Due to the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, layered upon different institutional practices and expectations, the nature of these positions requires a very flexible and adaptable approach and outlook. Responsibilities will likely change day to day and there will be uncertainty. The position requires a positive outlook, creative problem-solving, and strong communication skills.