

Opportunity Youth Landscape Study Internship, Fall 2021
CHILDREN AT RISK -Texas

CHILDREN AT RISK is currently seeking candidates to fill a Fall 2021 internship position to conduct a **landscape study of Opportunity Youth in Harris County** for the **Center to End the Trafficking and Exploitation of Children (CETEC)**. This landscape study will be a key resource to help service providers better coordinate with each other to serve the Opportunity Youth population in Harris County, as well as documentation to advocate for legislation and services to fill gaps in current service provision.

Responsibilities: The successful candidate will draw on open-source resources and a series of interviews with practitioners and service providers to conduct a landscape study / resource mapping of services available to Opportunity Youth in Harris County. Opportunity Youth are youth/young adults ages 16-24 who are neither in education, nor training, nor employment. This population includes expecting and new parents, those aging out of the foster care system, those with past involvement in the criminal justice system, dropouts from high school/college/vocational programs, among others.

The final product of the study will be a 15-20 page report on findings, delineating what types of services are available for what types of Opportunity Youth, from which organizations/agencies, and where and when these services are available. The research questions to be addressed include:

- What are the most important needs of Opportunity Youth?
- What services are available? When and where are they available, and what are the eligibility requirements?
- Which services have been the most / least popular or successful?
- Who are the key stakeholders? (government agencies, non-governmental organizations, partnerships/coalitions, churches, community leaders, etc.)
- What are the remaining gaps in services?
- What are the major trends in Opportunity Youth Service provision?

Preferred qualifications:

- Current undergraduate, masters student, or PhD student in Texas
- Strong research and writing skills
- Ability to synthesize and effectively communicate complex information
- Strong time organization and coordination skills
- Attention to detail
- Strong work ethic and ability to work both individually and in a team-oriented environment
- Comfort in Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, and Powerpoint
- Intellectual curiosity, openness to a range of perspectives, and appreciation for the complex realities faced by children and youth

Status:

This is a part-time, temporary position, 10-20 hours per week. This can be a remote internship – candidates may be located anywhere in Texas. If a candidate is comfortable and able, they are welcome to work in the Houston or Dallas office on days staff will be in attendance.

The position will be adapted to the selected candidate's interests, self-identified strengths and availability. Although this internship is **unpaid**, benefits include a fun and engaging atmosphere, recognition for tangible products that will benefit the organization beyond the fall, and the opportunity to have an impact on Texas children.

Application Instructions: Our positions are competitive and fill quickly. Interested candidates should submit a resume, a brief letter of interest, and a writing sample to Jarret Guajardo at jguajardo@childrenatrisk.org. The application deadline is August 23rd, 2021. Please include the words "Fall Internship" in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

About Children at Risk: Founded in 1989, CHILDREN AT RISK is an active research and advocacy group dedicated to improving the quality of life of children through research, public policy analysis, community education, and collaboration. Our focus is on the whole child with significant work in ending child trafficking, strengthening public education, and increasing access to and use of federally funded meal programs. We are the leading source of accurate information on children's issues and an advocate and catalyst for systemic change concerning the needs of all children. See our website for recent announcements and studies: www.childrenatrisk.org

CHILDREN AT RISK is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, veteran status, religion, ancestry, color, race, ethnicity or creed. We strongly seek candidates that believe in our mission and represent the diverse community and children that we serve.

CHILDREN AT RISK receives a high volume of resumes and reviews every candidate closely. As such, candidates will only be contacted if they are selected for an interview.