

Post date: 3/1/17

Open until filled. Priority will be given to applicants that apply by 3/15/17.



## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

- Position:** Community Health Worker  
McLoughlin Education Outreach
- Supervisor:** Healthy Living Collaborative Community Health Worker Coordinator
- Coordinates with:** Family-Community Resource Coordinator, McLoughlin Middle School  
and Education Program Coordinator, Vancouver Housing Authority
- Job Classification:** Regular Employee; Non-Exempt
- Hours of Work:** Flexible, some evenings and weekends, up to 40 hours per week

### **Position Summary:**

Position summary: The Community Health Worker (CHW) is a trusted community member who will lead efforts to improve educational engagement for low-income youth at McLoughlin Middle School by working directly with low-income students and families to:

- Identify systemic barriers to school attendance.
- Facilitate connections to resources that mitigate barriers.
- Inform, through authentic community voices, systems partners like Vancouver Housing Authority and Vancouver Public Schools regarding policy or systems changes that will encourage long term, sustained school engagement for low-income youth.

### **Duties & Responsibilities:**

1. Connects with individual low income families at McLoughlin Middle School to learn about barriers and opportunities to attendance.
2. Develops opportunities (events, meetings, visits) to meet directly with families to learn about barriers and opportunities to attendance at McLoughlin Middle School.
3. Works with staff at Vancouver Public Schools (VPS), Vancouver Housing Authority (VHA), Healthy Living Collaborative (HLC) and other identified partners to learn about existing attendance improvement efforts and, as appropriate, to understand infrastructure and regulations that may affect school engagement.

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4. Develops and maintains in depth knowledge regarding the impact of absenteeism on school success and of efforts within and outside our community to address chronic absenteeism.
5. Connects with area partners including peer organizations, healthcare, culturally-specific groups, employment support organizations and others to identify and facilitate connections to resources that address barriers to school engagement.
6. Attends VPS, VHA, HLC and other partner or team meetings as assigned.
7. Ensures that the low-income community has an authentic platform to contribute to the conversation about how to more effectively engage their children in education and promote on time high school graduation.
8. By the third year of this initiative, in conjunction with VHA, VPS, and HLC, presents community-informed recommendations about systems changes that would help students who are chronically absent improve attendance.
9. Other duties as assigned.

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**Qualifications:**

**Required Skills, Experience & Knowledge:**

1. Deep understanding of and trusted member of, or have the capacity to become a trusted member of, the low income community at McLoughlin Middle School.
2. Ability to work as a member of a team to influence and effect positive community change.
3. Ability to work evening and weekend hours as required.
4. Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with diverse families about sensitive topics, particularly who are families of students of color, students who qualify for free or reduced meals, and students who are English Language Learners (ELL).
5. Enthusiastic desire to learn about the social conditions (i.e. housing, safety, etc.) that may negatively affect educational achievement and to recommend balanced, sustainable solutions to these challenges.
6. Understand and fully support the notion that people in marginalized communities are the experts about their own lives and have the best solutions to their own problems.
7. Have the ability to communicate one-on-one and in groups and be proficient in using diverse means of communication (text, email, phone calls).
8. At least 18 years old; eligible to work in the United States; able to pass fingerprint and background check.

**Preferred Skills, Experience & Knowledge:**

1. Experience working in community organizing, advocacy, or community health work.
2. Group facilitation experience.
3. Experience working with race, equity, and social justice issues.
4. Experience working in the school system, specifically in education achievement or attendance.
5. Knowledge of resources available for families in Vancouver.

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6. Persistent, creative, resourceful, empathetic, caring, compassionate, honest, respectful, engaging, reliable and responsible.
7. Fluent in English and able to communicate with families in Spanish or Chuukese