Position Summary

The UConn Homelessness Project assists the homeless community of Northeast Connecticut. The project is composed of three sites: the No Freeze Hospitality Center in Willimantic, the Cornerstone Lodge Homeless Shelter in Rockville and the Holy Family Shelter in Willimantic. The UConn Homelessness Project also works to educate students about the causes of homelessness and the plight of homeless individuals in America. No Freeze is a drop in shelter for homeless men and women. This is a “wet shelter” and allows all individuals access to a bed regardless of external factors (i.e. drug and or alcohol use, addictions or past incarcerations). Program directors are responsible for aiding in the management and coordination of a designated Community Outreach (CO) program or project. Specific tasks and obligations for each program vary depending on the program; however, the following responsibilities are required of all program directors.

Major Duties and Responsibilities

A. Program Management and Development
   - Develop a mission statement and appropriate goals
   - Contact and meet accordingly with site supervisor
   - Serve as a liaison between participants and site supervisor
   - Implement service activities that meet the self-identified needs of clients; create appropriate materials, engage participants in service delivery, and access external resources as needed
   - Communicate and meet regularly with designated CO staff member and site supervisor

B. Volunteer Management
   - Recruit, screen, train and support volunteer and work study participants
   - Prepare participants through orientation and training workshops to achieve program’s objectives; organize meetings, develop training materials, and facilitate activities
   - Provide ongoing monitoring and supervision of participants
   - Communicate regularly with participants regarding scheduling, transportation, activity planning, payroll, and other related program functions
   - Recognize participants for their contributions
   - Organize opportunities for participants to reflect on their experiences

C. Administration Tasks
   - Attend all related CO meetings, trainings, seminars, and workshops
   - Manage any financial or other resources including budgeting, purchasing, and tracking
   - Collect and update data related to programs, membership, and service hours
   - Schedule and monitor transportation
   - Represent CO at University classes, meetings, or events
   - Perform other related duties and activities to support the program and the Office of Community Outreach, as needed

D. Project Teams
• Participate in a CO project team including: program management, professional development, or community building

E. Program Participation
• Program directors are expected to participate in their program on a regular basis

Qualifications

A. Minimum Qualifications:
• At least one year related experience working or volunteering with homeless population
• One semester or more of related experience in a leadership and/or supervisory position
• Capacity to facilitate individual and group supervisory meetings including conflict resolution / problem solving
• Capability to positively represent CO to the University and external community
• Proficient interpersonal, relationship, and partnership building skills
• Ability to effectively convey oral and written communication
• Demonstrated program development and organizational skills including ability to manage multiple tasks/projects and planning special events
• Ability to work independently, assess programmatic needs, and develop creative solutions
• A strong appreciation for, as well as a willingness to work with and support, demographically diverse and traditionally underrepresented and oppressed groups (e.g. race, cultural, gender, ability, and sexual orientation)
• Demonstrated basic knowledge and skill in the use of personal computers and basic software programs such as Microsoft Office Word and Excel
• Willingness to work irregular and flexible hours including evenings and weekends
• Student must not be on academic probation in accordance with the Department of Student Activities Student Leader Eligibility Policy (less than a 1.8 semester GPA for 1-23 credits, or less than a 2.0 semester GPA for 24+ credits)

B. Preferred Qualifications:
• At least one year experience with UConn Homelessness Project
• One year related experience in a leadership and/or supervisory position
• Excellent computer skills with an emphasis on Microsoft Office Word, Publisher, and Excel

Commitment

• Full academic year commitment is required
• Participation in CO training in August the week before Fall Semester begins
• 10-12 hours per week; exact hours and schedule will fluctuate and are flexible to student’s academic schedule
  Ability to maintain academic standing in accordance with the Department of Student Activities Student Leader Eligibility Policy (1.8 semester GPA or higher for 1-23 credits, or 2.0 semester GPA or higher for 24+ credits)

The University of Connecticut is an Equal Opportunity Employer and supports all state and federal laws that promote equal opportunity and prohibit discrimination. In keeping with our commitment to build a culturally
diverse community, the University of Connecticut encourages applications from women, veterans, people with disabilities and members of traditionally underrepresented populations.