Open Position Posting
NY Project Hope: Westchester Crisis Counseling - CRISIS COUNSELOR – PART-TIME, LIMITED DURATION THROUGH JUNE 15, 2021 (Bi-lingual candidates preferred)

About WLS
The Westchester Library System (WLS) is a state-chartered, cooperative library system serving all 38 Westchester member public libraries and the county’s citizens. The mission of the Westchester Library System is to ensure that all residents have seamless access to excellent library service regardless of their location.

About NY Project Hope: Westchester Crisis Counseling:

NY Project Hope: Westchester Crisis Counseling is a project of the Westchester Library System. It is funded by FEMA through the NYS Office of Mental Health. The program will:

1. Develop and deliver educational materials and forums that help individuals and communities to learn about and discuss the impact of the pandemic on individual and community health and wellbeing.
2. Provide supportive counseling to assist community members in reviewing and assessing their current needs during the pandemic and identifying potential coping strategies, resources, and services.

Summary of Crisis Counselor Duties

Several part-time Crisis Counselors are sought to assist individuals and communities to understand their situations and reactions relative to the pandemic with the goal of helping to manage stress, strengthen resilience, and access needed support.

Under the direction of the Team Leader, Crisis Counselors work with community service agencies, including public libraries and community organizations to deliver programming, counsel individuals on available resources, and offer individual crisis counseling. Training on available resources, services, and counseling will be provided.

Community outreach and counseling will be done largely through video conferencing and telephone; in-person outreach and counseling will be done as feasible during the pandemic. Administrative work will be done remotely.
Crisis Counselor activities include:

- Work with individuals, families, and groups to provide emotional support, individual and group crisis counseling, public education, and referrals when needed.
- Represent the program in the community; networks with other agencies and partners.
- Provide presentations to community groups on disaster reactions, coping skills, stress management, and the crisis counseling program.
- Track activity through defined program systems.

Position Requirements

- Bilingual candidates preferred.
- Experience working with community organizations, providing individual and/or group guidance and programming.
- A willingness to provide counseling services in a caring manner consistent with the FEMA Crisis Counseling Program and WLS Outreach practices and policies.
- Familiarity with video conferencing applications is essential; tools include Zoom, Google Meet, Facetime, Skype, etc.
- Strong interpersonal and written communication skills.
- Demonstrated proficiency and capabilities with personal computers, standard business software, and the Web.

Compensation

$25/hour for a maximum of 17 hours/week through June 15, 2021.

To Apply:

Interested candidates should send a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to lsmith@wlsmail.org with the position title (Crisis Counselor) included in the subject line of the email.

Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled. Please, no phone calls.

The Westchester Library System is located at 570 Taxter Road – Suite 400, Elmsford, NY 10523. For information about WLS, see http://www.westchesterlibraries.org.

The Westchester Library System is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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