Linn County Juvenile Department  
Community Programs Unit  
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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Community Programs Unit incorporates programs that are preventative as well as diversionary for youthful offenders.

- Intake Unit – These Probation Officers work with youth 12 – 18 years of age, who have been referred by law enforcement for a violation or a crime. Probation Officers within this unit work with youth on an informal diversionary level, typically utilizing the Formal Accountability Agreement (FAA). This is the earliest level of formalized contact with our department. Youth and parents meet with a Probation Officer and specific conditions are determined in order for the youth’s case to be handled at this diversionary level. If a youth’s case is deemed inappropriate for this level of intervention or the youth does not follow through with the agreed upon conditions, the youth’s case proceeds through the formal Court process.

- Intervention Specialist – This Probation Officer works with youth who are referred by law enforcement and referred by school personnel. This position carries a caseload of youth between 12 – 14 years of age, who are on an FAA, and have been referred by law enforcement. Additionally, this position works in the Albany area middle schools working with youth whose teachers, counselors, and/or school administrators have identified as a youth who would benefit from additional social skill development.

- Work Crew Program – Here youth participate in community service/work crew projects, which aid senior citizens, the handicapped, low-income, nonprofit organizations, local municipalities, Linn County, the State of Oregon, and several federal agencies.

ROLE OF THE PRACTICUM STUDENT

- To assist staff in developing appropriate services for youth.
- To assist staff in planning and preparing materials for groups or recreational activities.
- To assist staff in working with youth in cognitive skill development groups and recreational activities.
- To assist staff in contacting youth regarding compliance in meeting the conditions of their FAA.
- To assist staff in supervising and working with youth assigned to specific community service/work crew projects (5-7 youth).
- To assist staff in maintaining files and writing behavioral evaluations.
- To present as a positive and appropriate role model.

NEW 4/4/2013
• To be available as agreed upon, which may include evenings and weekends.
• Special project work may be available depending on skill level and initiative.
• To work outdoors in summer heat and winter cold, while providing supervision, instruction, and performing physical labor.

QUALIFICATIONS

• Submit and pass a Criminal History Check
• Demonstrate personal initiative and willingness to learn
• Ability to work independently and as part of a team
• Consistent ability to exercise good public relations skills
• Commitment to work a full term
• 21 years of age or older

APPLICATION

Students desiring a practicum position with the Linn County Juvenile Department must first fill out a Linn County Application available on the internet (see link below). The process of conducting interviews and the criminal history check takes approximately two – three weeks. Students desiring to participate in a practicum with the Linn County Juvenile Department should submit an application three weeks prior to a referral being submitted by their advisor or the referral coordinator.

The Linn County Application Form can be found at:
http://www.co.linn.or.us/Jobs/onlinejobapp.pdf

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

The employment outlook is dependent on the quality of work and development shown over the course of the practicum experience.

CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK REQUIRED

As of April 15, 2011, practicum sites that use the Department of Human Services Background Check Unit will now conduct a weighing test and fitness determination when an individual has been identified as a perpetrator of abuse in certain cases of sexual abuse, physical abuse or financial exploitation. The Background Check Unit will specifically consider the most serious cases of abuse reported and substantiated from January 1, 2010, forward.