**Employment Opportunity**

**A WAY HOME OTTAWA** - **Youth Liaisons**

**Salary Range**: $15.00/hour

**Reports to**: Project Coordinator for A Way Home Ottawa (AWHO)

**Hours of Work**: Between 2-3 hours / week or 8-10 hours/month

**Classification**:  Youth Facilitator

**Work Schedule**: Flexible, may include evenings and weekends

**Length of Contract:** 3 months, with possibility of renewal

**Application Deadline:** Friday, January 15th

**Contact:** Kaite Harris, Project Coordinator, A Way Home Ottawa

* + [kaite@endhomelessnessottawa.ca](mailto:kaite@endhomelessnessottawa.ca)
  + 613-241-1573 ext. 210

**Job Summary:**

AWHO needs a team of youth liaisons to join our leadership team to support the creation of a plan to prevent and end youth homelessness in Ottawa.  Your main role will be to consult with other youth who have been or are currently homeless, along with the Project Coordinator, to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of our current homelessness system for youth. This information will be used to create a strategy to prevent and end youth homelessness.  The position will require a positive approach in working with a wide variety of people, with a focus on finding solutions.

**Duties Include:**

* Attend working group, Steering Committee and Youth Engagement meetings as needed
* Outreach with Project Coordinator to various drop-ins and youth homelessness services for feedback on youth engagement practices
* Facilitating discussions with peers about the homelessness system in Ottawa
* Advising Project Coordinator and Steering Committee about peer perspective
* Supporting the planning and coordination of larger events
* Completing in-person interviews with peers or focus groups (as part of the research process)
* Presenting (with peer or Project Coordinator) about the development of the plan
* Meeting with other community members to explain AWHO

**Job Qualifications:**

* Between the ages of 16-25 (preferred, but not a requirement)
* Have an understanding of youth homelessness in Ottawa
* Ability to engage effectively with peers and gather their feedback
* Ability to work well with a team
* Good communication skills
* Leadership skills
* Bilingualism is an asset
* Ability to facilitate large and small group discussions preferred
* Comfortable working with both adults and youth
* Knowledge and understanding of the child welfare system, sex work, substance use, youth shelter system, young offender system, understanding of homelessness as experienced by LGBTQ youth as well as Aboriginal youth, and/or the youth mental health system an asset

**Other Information:**

WHAT IS A WAY HOME OTTAWA (AWHO)?

* A community coalition that is working to create a plan to prevent and end youth homelessness in Ottawa
* This coalition includes agencies that work with youth dealing with homelessness, as well as hospitals, Ottawa Police Service, and several school boards

WHY DO WE NEED YOUTH LIAISONS?

* A plan for youth needs to be lead by and informed by youth
* To help us hear from other youth with experience of homelessness about the challenges of the system, as well as what works and what doesn’t

IF YOU’RE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THIS POSITION:

* Contact Kaite Harris with an expression of interest by **Friday, January 15th, 2015**
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* 613-241-1573 ext. 210