FOR YOUTH INITIATIVE
Internal/External Job Posting

POSITION TITLE: Studio Project Coordinator
DETAILS: Part time, contract position ending June 30, 2020
REPORTS TO: Senior Manager, Youth Programs
SALARY/HOURLY: 14 hours/week at $15/hour

Organization Description
For Youth Initiative (FYI) is a non-profit organization that has served, inspired and advocated for thousands of teens and young adults in York South-Weston since 1995. We provide year-around services and programs to local youth to meet their needs and empower them to reach their full potential. Every young person’s journey is unique and their needs are too.

Our case management model supports young people regardless of where they come from and helps them get to where they want to be. Our programs and services are designed to support youth to graduate high school, enroll in postsecondary education, gain employment and prepare for adulthood.

Program Summary:
The Studio Project at FYI will use a peer-based approach to promote mental health, sexual health, and safer drug use among racialized youth (14-23) in the Keelesdale-Eglinton West neighbourhood and surrounding NIA’s by animating an unused recording studio. The after school/evening program will offer peer-led recording studio time and hip hop/beat-making to encourage participants’ creative self-expression, increase self-esteem, reduce vulnerability and create community. Three local youth will be hired to run the studio, do outreach and will also serve as peer support workers. They will be trained on topics such as sexual health, consent and sexual negotiation, safer drug use, psychological first aid, local resources and referrals, accompaniment and how to engage in conversations around risky behaviours. The Studio Project will also be used to engage participants in health promotion activities that they may not normally access and to connect them to appropriate drop-in health services: sexual health clinics, harm reduction programs, and free counselling. Interactive health promotion workshops will be co-facilitated by staff from Unison Health and Community Services and will bridge the gaps in existing school-based sexual health and substance use education by using a popular education approach that is honest, open and non-judgmental. A popular educational approach that recognizes participants as experts of their lived experiences, is key to providing relevant and flexible health promotion that addresses their issues and works with them youth where they are at. Finally the program will help build the capacity of frontline staff at FYI to support youth around sexual health, consent and sexual negotiation, safer drug use and mental health by providing them with training co-facilitated by Peer Workers and local health professionals.
Main Tasks & Responsibilities:

Project Coordination
- Ensures all project deliverables are met and documents them appropriately
- Takes the lead on Studio Project outreach
- Takes the lead on FYI staff training (with support)
- Keeps track of participant attendance and enters this information into data management tool
- Organizes monthly health promotion events for participants in collaboration with other Studio Project staff, FYI staff/management, and Unison staff as appropriate
- Manages studio and staff scheduling in conversation with other Studio Project staff and FYI staff/management
- Supports other Studio Project staff
- Ensures that studio days run smoothly
- Facilitates Studio Project participant evaluation processes and enters this information into data management tool
- Supports the writing of the final report to project funder
- Other coordination duties, as required

Peer Support (Training will be provided)
- Provides confidential, non-judgemental, and supportive listening to participants
- Provides warm referrals to youth-friendly mental health services, sexual health services, and harm reduction services
- Provides accompaniment to participants who will be accessing the above services and need additional support
- Promotes safer sex practices, safer drug use practices, and a good understanding of consent
- Provides psychological first aid where appropriate

Required Education:
No formal education is required. However, it is recommended.

Skills and Experience:
- Familiarity with issues facing youth in the York-South Weston area
- Familiarity with the communities of youth who access FYI
- Experience in a community-based recording studio setting
- Ability to maintain a high level of professionalism and maintain appropriate boundaries
- Ability to be non-judgemental and empathetic to peers
- Good time management skills and great communication skills
- Able to work independently and as part of a team
- Conflict resolution skills
- Able to ask for help when needed in a timely manner
Working Conditions:
- Works Monday to Wednesday and Friday from 2:30 - 6 PM with some requirements to work extended hours as needed
- Works from FYI, 1652 Keele Street, and may be required to work from other locations based on funder or program changing requirements

Please submit résumé and cover letter to benedicto@foryouth.ca by 5 PM on July 31, 2019.