



ALEXANDER YOUTH NETWORK

VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Lunch or Dinner Buddy

DESCRIPTION: An individual who is matched with a child and makes regular visits to the child on campus. The lunch or dinner buddy sets aside an hour for lunch or dinner once per week and comes to campus to eat with the child, either in the dining room or outdoors. The buddy provides friendship, a positive example, a listening ear, and trusted companionship for the child. Male buddies will work individually with male children only.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Minimum age requirement is twenty-one.
2. Must be Charlotte area resident for at least six months before volunteering.
3. Complete an application with references, background checks, and interviews with staff members at Alexander Youth Network.
4. Complete orientation with staff to better understand the special needs of the children, and the organization's mission and expectations.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Plan and provide activities that are appropriate for the individual child.
2. Consistently strive to balance personal needs, agency needs, and child's needs.
3. Begin a relationship with a child with on-campus visits.
4. Work closely with direct care staff and Volunteer Engagement Officer to ensure a successful experience for all involved.
5. Participate in volunteer evaluation process and provide regular feedback to staff.
6. Commit to working as a member of the team and make all decisions in the best interest of the agency and the children.

TIME COMMITMENT REQUIRED:

1. Minimum of six months duration.
2. Weekly visits to the child.

Contact the Volunteer Engagement Officer at 704-227-9115 or anieves@aynkids.org for more information.