

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION



VOLUNTEER TITLE: Youth Frontiers Mentor

REPORTING TO: Regional Youth Frontiers Coordinator

EXPECTED COMMITMENT: 15-35 hrs of weekly sessions (approx. 2hrs per week) over 6 months

LOCATION: Northern Rivers NSW

New England NSW

Central Coast NSW

Hunter NSW

Illawarra NSW

Far South Coast NSW

REMUNERATION: This is a volunteer position. Volunteers will not be left out of pocket for any Program expenses incurred. Expense reimbursement policy applies where appropriate.

OTHER: This position requires the volunteer to comply at all times with the organisation's Child Protection Policy. The volunteer must satisfactorily complete a Working With Children and a National Criminal History Record Check prior to commencing this role.

YWCA VISION: all women, young women and girls are safe and respected, with equal access to power, opportunity and resources.

YWCA PURPOSE: to be a strong, unified, national feminist organisation for women, young women and girls, working to achieve gender equality.

It is a requirement that the job holder fully complies with, promotes and lives

YWCA's Core Values:

FEMINISM INCLUSION EXCELLENCE INNOVATION INTEGRITY

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Youth Frontiers is a youth mentoring program promoting leadership & community engagement, using both group and one-on-one mentoring. The program focuses

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on developing a positive mentoring relationship whilst completing a community engagement activity.

- Involves a minimum of 15-35 hrs of weekly sessions (approx. 2hrs per week) over 6 months – Term 3 wrapping up in Term 4.
- Working with young people aged 12-17 years.
- Students are matched with an adult mentor with similar interest or background experience.
- Mentors work with students to develop a community engagement activity over the course of the program.
- Culminates in a showcase where students present their activity with key stakeholders, community members, family and friends in attendance.
- Includes structured sessions, with a workbook to guide you.
- Involves delivery of one-on-one sessions on school / organisation grounds, supervised at all times. Group sessions may occur at other locations and will be facilitated by the local Youth Frontiers Coordinator.

Community engagement activities are built upon the young person's idea of community and their place within it. They are based upon the principles of leadership attributes and skills, identifying and responding to problems, goal setting and research and presentation skills.

Community activities may focus on the arts, environmental issues, mental health and wellbeing, social inclusion and more.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- To develop a mutually co-operative, supportive and fun friendship.
- To act as a positive role model and encourage new learnings and skills.
- To encourage a young person to reach their potential and support the development of a community engagement activity.
- A commitment to see the whole process through regardless of difficulties that may arise.
- To respect a young person's dignity and right to privacy.
- To consider the safety of the young person and establish appropriate boundaries/limits for behaviour.
- To attend induction and mentoring training as required

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- To maintain regular contact with the nominated Coordinator regarding the progress of the friendship and any issues preventing fulfillment of the role.
- To adhere to agreed Code of Conduct and other relevant YWCA policies.

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND ATTITUDE

- No formal qualifications are necessary.

Volunteers are required to have;

1. An interest and ability to relate to a young person.
2. The ability to act as a positive role model.
3. A genuine interest in the well-being of young people.
4. Good communication and listening skills.
5. Regular commitment of contact over 6 months, as required by the program structure.
6. Willingness and ability to accept guidance from Program staff.
7. The ability to work alongside a young person independently on a community engagement activity.
8. The ability to accept others with different values.
9. The ability and desire to work within a group mentoring team facilitated by a Youth Frontiers program representative.

Volunteers must be willing to complete a Working With Children Check and National Criminal Check (free).

Potential volunteers will meet with a Youth Frontiers coordinator and be asked to complete relevant recruitment paperwork.

This position requires the volunteer to comply at all times with the organisation's Child Protection Policy. The volunteer must hold a valid state-based working with children or working with vulnerable people check and satisfactorily complete a National Criminal History Check prior to commencing in this role.

PROGRAM PURPOSE

The purpose of the role of Youth Frontiers Mentor is to increase the confidence and self-esteem of young people, encourage their connectedness to their community and foster their leadership skills. We believe that it can be truly empowering for young people to have someone neutral to talk with and provide new perspectives.

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Mentoring has been proven to increase student likelihood of continuing to higher education, and improve their relationships satisfaction with friends, partners and family. In addition, it leads to increased community engagement through volunteering or leadership roles.

Mentors also obtain an improved sense of connection to local community and satisfaction from making a positive difference in a young person's life. The program allows mentors to impart their life experience and skills to the leaders of tomorrow, whilst also obtaining a new experience in mentoring and working with young people in a school or community environment.

ABOUT YWCA AUSTRALIA

YWCA Australia is a feminist not-for-profit organisation focused on improving gender equality for women, young women and girls. Together we challenge the systems, structures and policies that act as barriers to women, especially young women, achieving their full potential.

Our evidence-based programs and services aim to be inclusive of all women and offer support with housing, homelessness, safety and wellbeing. We aim to positively impact the lives of more than two million women, young women and girls by the end of 2023.

EMPLOYEE AGREEMENT

Name

Date

Signature