



424 Jefferson Street  
Oakland, CA 94607  
www.missey.org

## YOUTH ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST JOB DESCRIPTION

*\* 1 Full Time and 1 Full Time Temporary Position Available*

**MISSEY, Inc. (Motivating, Inspiring, Serving and Supporting Exploited Youth)** is a community-based organization in Oakland, CA, founded in 2007 to respond to the epidemic of sexual exploitation. We offer holistic services in a safe environment to support and serve sexually exploited youth. MISSEY envisions a world without commercial sexual exploitation. Our mission is to provide services to commercially sexually exploited youth and to work for systemic change with the youth we serve. MISSEY utilizes a comprehensive service model that centers youth, facilitates safe and healing spaces, fosters healthy and loving relationships, and manifests hope and healing with survivors.

### **Youth Engagement Specialist Position Summary**

MISSEY believes that with the right opportunities and support, domestically trafficked girls can overcome the circumstances of their exploitation and thrive. Under the supervision of the MISSEY Director of Programs, the Youth Engagement Specialist works in collaboration with Alameda County Social Services Agency's Children and Family Services (SSA/CFS) to provide direct services and supports to commercially sexually exploited children and those at-risk entering or are already a part of the foster care system. This position represents the interests of youth at team decision meetings and provides technical assistance to providers within the child welfare system. The Youth Engagement Specialist works primarily with youth who enter into the assessment/receiving center and conducts fieldwork including visitation to young people who have been placed in foster homes, group homes, and other approved placements.

The Youth Engagement Specialist works in alignment with MISSEY's mission, resources, and in compliance with grants, contracts, agency policies and procedures, and legal requirements.

### **PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Direct Services**

As part of a team on-site at Alameda County Children and Family Services:

1. Assess clients' basic needs for shelter, food and clothing; functional status; physical and mental health; and risk factors.
2. Facilitate one-on-one prevention sessions with youth identified by Assessment Center staff.
3. Provide support and service linkages to identified survivors and those at high risk.
4. Provide follow-up sessions for identified youth who are placed in foster care and group homes.
5. Provide placement stabilization services to youth who have been placed.
6. Attend Team Decision Making meetings to advocate for youth.

#### **Trainings**

1. Coordinate and schedule initial meetings, staff trainings and youth workshops with various group homes.
2. Provide case consultation to child welfare workers.
3. Facilitate trainings to child welfare workers, group home staff and management.

#### **Indirect Services**

1. Represent MISSEY to Alameda Social Services as needed.
2. On a quarterly basis develop MISSEY content for Social Services newsletter.
3. Keep up to date records of contacts and activities in compliance with contracts, grants and agency



424 Jefferson Street  
Oakland, CA 94607  
www.missey.org

policies and procedures.

### **Other**

4. Annually, as part of supervision, develop a professional development plan identifying personal goals, objectives and activities.
5. Actively participate in supervision, case conferences and staff trainings.
6. Contribute as a team member and thought partner consistently open to learning together and aiming higher.
7. Maintain confidentiality at all times.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

### **Education**

- High School Diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) required.
- College degree and/or applicable lived experience preferred.

### **Experience**

- Experience providing support to highly vulnerable youth is required.
- Experience with participant documentation and data entry is required.
- Experience working with youth in the foster care system is preferred.
- Experience working with survivors of commercial sexual exploitation is preferred.
- Experience working in gender specific services is preferred.
- Knowledge and experience accessing relevant government and community resources in Alameda County is preferred.
- Experience providing workshops and presentations to youth is preferred.

### **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

- Excellent speaking and writing skills. Bi-lingual Spanish speakers are encouraged to apply.
- Knowledge of commercial sexual exploitation.
- Ability to develop positive relationships with youth and co-workers.
- Ability to take initiative, be dependable, flexible and resourceful, and to follow directions when needed.
- Ability to function independently and as part of a team.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suites, Google Docs/ Calendar and Internet usage.

### **Additional Requirements**

- Current drivers license, clean driving record along with cleared background check.

## **SALARY AND BENEFITS**

This is a full time (40 hours a week), non-exempt position with benefits.

- Annual salary is \$42,000.
- Medical, paid time off and other benefits available to both part-time and full-time staff.

*MISSEY is an equal opportunity employer. The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed. They are not intended to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required of personnel so classified.*