



Youth Specialist **Anne Arundel County, Maryland**

Position Open with Accessible Resources for Independence, Inc. (ARI)
Deadline to apply October 5, 2018 – 5pm

Accessible Resources for Independence, Inc. (ARI), a Center for Independent Living, is a nonprofit organization created by and for people with disabilities. We are a resource and advocacy center that promotes independent living and equal access for people with all types of disabilities. ARI assists residents of Howard and Anne Arundel Counties to use community services and resources that will enhance their independence.

ARI's core services are peer counseling, individual and systems advocacy, transition, information and referral and independent living skills training. Our mission is to maximize the independence of people with disabilities so they enjoy self-directed, productive lives.

Purpose of the Position: The purpose of this position is to empower young adults with disabilities for a successful transition to adulthood through classroom activities and one-on-one skill-building. Functions of the position are in direct delegation of the Director of Transition Programs.

Essential Functions and Responsibilities:

- Assist youth with disabilities in reaching and maintaining their highest level of independence through individualized skills training.
- Travel throughout the upstate to teach empowerment, self-advocacy, and disability pride to youth in individual and group settings.
- Mentor youth and provide opportunities for growth and leadership.
- Provide information and support to assist clients in achieving stated goals and/or refer the client to appropriate resources.
- Establish and maintain relationships with community partners.
- Work with individuals to develop Independent Living Plans.
- Maintain all required documentation.
- Report on successes, progress toward grant goals, and program activities.
- Assist with developing engaging, age appropriate curriculum for students to prepare them for transition into adulthood.
- Deliver education and awareness within our communities through public speaking engagements regarding disability rights and etiquette.
- Participate actively in Systems Advocacy.
- Keep current on issues and laws affecting people with disabilities.
- Carry out additional assignments as delegated by supervisors in a timely manner.

Supervisory Responsibilities: None

Knowledge and Skills:

- Computer literacy
- Professional Social Skills
- Disability Rights knowledge
- Knowledge of Community Resources

Requirements: Bachelor's degree in social work, human services, sociology, or other related field. Knowledge and experience with the Independent Living Philosophy a plus. Must have access to transportation and have the ability

to travel. Background check required. Candidates must have 4 years of work experiences with a minimum of 2 years in disability field. Solid computer and writing skills are necessary. Personal motivation and maturity a must. ARI is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, age, disability, religion, or national origin. Individuals with disabilities are **strongly** encouraged to apply.

Position details: Up to 20 hours per week with possibility for more hours as program grows. Work hours are primarily on evenings and weekends. Salary depends on experience. Great benefits. Flexible and progressive work environment.

Send resume and cover letter to: kihrke@arinow.org