



Instructor - Full-Time/Part-Time

Description

Are you looking to make a difference in the lives of underserved kids in New York City?

Are you passionate about the power of animal-human interaction?

If so, this position may be a good fit for you.

Modeled after successful prison dog programs, A Fair Shake for Youth offers a hands-on therapy dog program that helps underserved NYC middle school youth build greater empathy and self-esteem. The dogs -- honest, non-judgmental, and loving, make it safe for the kids to let their guard down and learn about themselves and each other in ways that are not possible in a traditional classroom.

A Fair Shake for Youth has served over 3100 youth in partnership with over 60 schools and community organizations from the South Bronx to East Harlem and Bushwick. A Fair Shake for Youth is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization and was founded in 2010.

Each week an instructor and three therapy dog teams work with middle school students using a structured curriculum. The students learn to give commands and teach tricks, play games and encourage the dogs through a tunnel or over a jump. The kids use positive reinforcement and see the impact of verbal and non-verbal communication. In addition, students discuss dog-related topics that often resonate with their own life experience -- animal shelters and rescue, breed discrimination and resilience.

Job Description

- Teach Fair Shake programs in middle schools and non-profit organizations in Manhattan, Bronx, and Brooklyn.
- Build relationships and support volunteer therapy dog teams
- Serve as liaison with partner schools to manage day-to-day issues
- Handle administrative functions related to assigned schools
- Maintain ongoing communication with Executive Director regarding program success, challenges, and needs for support
- Train with an established Fair Shake instructor in a 10-week program cycle and attend supplemental training as needed
- Be available for phone calls and periodic group meetings and calls

Candidate Requirements

Positions are available as part-time or full-time:

- Part-time: commitment of 10 hours per week during the regular school day
- Full-time: commitment of 25-30 hours per week during the regular school day

Time commitment includes travel and prep time. Most programs take place between 10 AM and 3 PM. AFSY will match instructors to schools making every effort to accommodate instructor's other work commitments and geographic considerations.

Requirements:

- Background or experience in social work, education, or youth development preferred
- Hands-on experience with dogs, as a trainer, therapy dog handler, shelter or rescue organization volunteer, or other comparable experience
- Sensitivity to the issues and challenges of underserved youth
- Able to work independently, be flexible, and problem solve
- Minimum 8-10 years of total work experience
- Computer proficiency

References required.

Salary

PT: \$100/session training; \$150/session as instructor

FT: Per session or salary compensation

Contact

Please send cover letter and resume to Audrey@afairshakeforyouth.org