UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON GRADUATE COLLEGE of SOCIAL WORK

Date Posted: 11/06/14

Job Title	Social Worker, Harlingen Texas Office
Employer/ Agency	The Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights
Job Description	The Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights invites applications for the position of Harlingen Social Worker to be based in Harlingen, Texas. The Young Center is dedicated to promoting the best interests—safety and well-being—of unaccompanied and separated immigrant children in the United States. The immediate focus of the Young Center's work is to serve as Child Advocate (guardian <i>ad litem</i> for children in immigration proceedings) for unaccompanied and separated children pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) and the 2013 Violence Against Women Act. The Young Center is at the forefront of best interests advocacy for unaccompanied immigrant children and is the only organization in the country overseeing the work of Child Advocates pursuant to the 2008 TVPRA. The Young Center is a project of the Tides Center.
Qualifications	 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES – The Social Worker's primary responsibilities will be: Oversee the "post-release" work of Child Advocates serving unaccompanied children released from federal custody. This may include regular contact with volunteer Child Advocates, direct contact with children and family members, meetings with post-release service providers, and/or research into and communication with community-based social services organizations. Serve as Child Advocate for unaccompanied children in Harlingen, Brownsville, Los Fresnos and other locations in South Texas. Supervise volunteers appointed to serve as Child Advocate for unaccompanied immigrant children in federal custody in Harlingen, Brownsville, Los Fresnos and other locations in South Texas. Draft case summaries and participate in drafting of best interests briefs; help organize and participate in Best Interests Determination (BID) panels. Volunteer Recruitment and Training: Collaborate with attorneys to recruit new Child Advocates and to provide semi-annual Child Advocate trainings. Participate in community outreach. Speak with community groups and attend meetings of stakeholders involved in the care and custody of unaccompanied children. Other duties as assigned. Minimum Requirements: Master's degree in social work; Texas licensure or the ability to become licensed strongly encouraged. Minimum of two years post-graduate experience, preferably working with immigrant and refugee children and/or families. Bilingual in Spanish/English required. Strong writing and communication skills; excellent organizational and

	planning skills.
	 Experience with basic Microsoft programs (Word, Excel, Power Point, etc.).
	 Ability to take initiative and work independently, and also to work collaboratively.
	 Enthusiasm for working with volunteers.
	 Passion, tenacity and optimism for the issues affecting immigrant children and their families, as well as experience in self-care strategies.
	• A driver's license and car are necessary for traveling to and from shelter facilities in the South Texas area.
Salary/Hours	Salary is commensurate with experience.
Employer/Agency	The Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights
Address	402 S. F Street, Suite 2B
City, State, Zip	Harlingen, Texas 78550
Contact Person	Jairo Villalobos
Contact Title	Operations and Legal Case Support
Telephone Number	773-702-9560
Fax Number	N/A
Email Address	jvillalobos@law.uchicago.edu
Application Method	The application method should read as follows: "Reviews of candidates will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Please email a cover letter, resume and three references to jobs@theyoungcenter.org and include the title "Harlingen Social Worker" in the subject line. To learn more about the Young Center's work, please visit www. TheYoungCenter.org
Opening Date	11/04/14

To post a job opportunity or if your response to this job posting results in successful employment, please email the GCSW Office of Alumni and Career Services at mswjobs@central.uh.edu with the hiring details of your new job opportunity. Thank you.

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