



Youth Corps Peer Advocate

Position Summary

Position title: Youth Corps Peer Advocate

Wage: \$20/hr.

Reports to: Youth Engagement Specialist

Program duration: October 7, 2024 – June 27, 2025 (38 weeks)

Time commitment: 5hrs/week, including meetings and independent work

Applications close: August 30, 2024 at 7pm PDT

Role Description

Oregon School-Based Health Alliance (OSBHA) is a statewide nonprofit organization serving as the collective voice to build a stable, effective, and accessible school-based health care system by developing school-based health centers (SBHCS). Our mission is to center youth through the expansion of school health services that shatter health and education disparities, honor youth identities and voices, and prioritize their wellness and joy. We envision an Oregon in which youth are able to access the comprehensive and culturally responsive healthcare services they need to be empowered, seen, and successful.

The Youth Corps enables OSBHA to continue to place youth in positions that create youth-adult partnerships that are indeed a partnership. The Youth Corps Internship Program creates a space where youth voices can be input from the beginning stages of each OSBHA project. Corps interns build professional development skills such as relationship and team-building, communication and public speaking, goal setting, event planning, and project management that allow them to complete project-related deliverables, listening sessions, and youth events.

As the Peer Advocate Intern, the purpose is for the Student Health Advocates program to be about youth, for youth, and led by fellow youth. This will be the third year with peers being the facilitators and the goal is to continue the mentorship and community building values of the Student Health Advocates. Youth learn, communicate, and feel more comfortable when the program is supported by people they can relate to.

The Student Health Advocates (SHA) are a group of 15 young people aged 14-22 from across the state of Oregon. Student Health Advocates work with OSBHA from November to June. Members promote the value of school-based health centers and school health services across Oregon by speaking publicly about the importance of health equity and access, providing youth input on how to improve youth-adult partnership projects, and participate in the planning of OSBHA events like School Health Advocacy Day and OSBHA's yearly conference.

Intern Responsibilities

Under the guidance and mentorship of the Youth Engagement Specialist, the Peer Advocate will have the support, training, and education to accomplish the following objectives:

- Build and cultivate relationships with other youth-serving programs across Oregon, and maintain and support a model for diverse representation in OSBHA's work with young people
- Provide support to the OSBHA Student Health Advocate group. Build relationships that empower youth in the program. Assist with the scheduling and planning of Student Health Advocate meetings and events
- Train the Student Health Advocates in various skill areas, such as legislative advocacy, youth health rights, marketing campaigns, and OSBHA internal organizing
- Practice mentorship to Student Health Advocates through meeting with them individually and in groups to support their development as leaders in school health initiatives and beyond
- Collaborate with OSBHA staff and other Youth Corps interns on organization projects and events throughout the internship
- Assist with marketing campaigns and social media projects
- Other learning opportunities and related duties as available

Experience, Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills

- Must be a 16-24 years-old high school or college student in Oregon
- Lived experience and/or prior experience working within LGBTQ+, BIPOC, and/or additional historically marginalized communities
- Demonstrated ability to practice cultural humility, a deep commitment to equity and social justice, and passionate about encouraging youth voices
- Comfortable working both independently and in a collaborative team environment to achieve goals
- Self-motivated, detail-oriented individuals with well-rounded written, verbal, and organizational skills
- Flexible working in a hybrid internship requiring both virtual and in-person engagements

Values

OSBHA recognizes the value of a diverse workforce and believes a diverse work environment empowers our community. We strongly encourage all qualified candidates to apply regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, family or parental status, or religious affiliation. OSBHA employees have also developed a set of team values that define how we strive to accomplish our work and interact with each other:

- **Well-being:** We support self-care and a balanced life by respecting one another's assessment of limits and boundaries and recognize that health and well-being looks different for everyone. We celebrate successes and hold space during challenges.
- **Curiosity & Innovation:** We have a willingness to question existing systems/processes/structures, push past status quo, and engage in practices that allow for creative ways forward.

- **Discomfort:** We welcome discomfort around examining our own beliefs and knowledge of oppression and white supremacy in order to allow for growth. As a team and as individuals we will explore and support each other as we work, learn, and evolve.
- **Accountability:** We accept responsibility for our actions, follow-through with commitments, ask for help or propose revised plans when needed, and act with transparency and clarity.
- **Integrity:** We are honest and authentic with self and others, true to our convictions, and our actions match our words.
- **Trust:** We commit to building a culture where we can trust in each other's abilities and intentions, and be vulnerable enough to give and receive honest feedback.
- **Collaboration:** We work together towards our individual and collective goals and support each other by offering knowledge and skills, and flexing work flows and responsibilities as feasible.

Work Environment

This is a hybrid position. There will be virtual and in-person meetings requiring attendance. In-person engagements will be scheduled in advance. A computer is required for this internship. However, if you do not have one, OSBHA will make arrangements to ensure you have the technology you need to complete your work. Accommodations can be made to support individuals with disabilities to perform the essential duties.

To Apply

If you have questions, please email the Youth Engagement Coordinator, Asia Gates (she/her) at asia@osbha.org. If you are interested in applying to Oregon School-Based Health Alliance's Youth Corps Peer Advocate intern position, please send the three attachments to asia@osbha.org by August 30, 2024 at 7pm PDT with the subject line "Peer Advocate Intern":

- Resume
- Answer the following set of questions in a document
 - Which intern position are you applying for, Public Policy Organizer or Legislative Advocate or Peer Advocate? If you are interested in multiple positions, please include which ones you would like to be considered for.
 - What health issue are you most passionate about, and how does it intersect with social justice?
 - How do you approach building relationships with marginalized people and communities of diverse backgrounds and identities?
 - Give me an example of a situation where you had to take into account the sensitivities of different parties.
 - We are currently work in a mostly virtual environment with the occasional in-person engagement. What is your experience and comfort level working remotely when

engaging community partners and colleagues, facilitating meetings, giving presentations and/or trainings, or just building connections and rapport?

- In what type of work environment do you flourish?
- How will you prioritize this internship with everything else you have going in life?
- A list of three references (people who can speak who know you well enough to discuss your experience, habits, skills and character and are not related to you, i.e. teachers, mentors, coworkers, supervisors, volunteer coordinators, etc.) with their name, title, contact info (email or phone) and your relation to them.