



Wakpá Wašté Těča Okhólakičhiye

Cheyenne River Youth Project®

lakotayouth.org

Youth Programs Specialist

Position Title:	Youth Programs Specialist
Department:	Programming
Terms of Employment:	Part-time / Seasonal / Hourly / Non-benefited Full-time/Permanent/ Hourly/Benefited (Indicate Full time or Part time)
Supervisor:	Youth Programs Director or Main Youth Center Manager
Compensation:	Compensation based on experience

ABOUT CHEYENNE RIVER YOUTH PROJECT

The Cheyenne River Youth Project has been dedicated to serving the youth of our community since 1988. We are looking for passionate individuals with a variety of experiences and skill sets to join our team. Whether you come from a background in youth development, social services, agriculture, the arts, or another field entirely, what matters most is your commitment to making a difference in the lives of young people.

All candidates must be substance-use free. We are committed to investing in our staff—if you are willing to learn, we are willing to teach the skills you need to succeed.

Our Mission

The Cheyenne River Youth Project is dedicated to giving our Lakota youth and families access to the culturally relevant, enriching, and enduring opportunities we need to build stronger, healthier communities and a more vibrant future together.

Our History

The Cheyenne River Youth Project was founded in January 1988 to address the community's need for more services that support struggling children and their families. Originally housed in a defunct bar on Eagle Butte's Main Street, the organization created a safe place for children to come after school—offering activities such as arts and crafts, intramural sports and volunteer mentorship, and providing a healthy meal and snack each day. The volunteer-run youth center, known affectionately as "The Main," quickly became a vital part of the Cheyenne River community. Despite its small size and few resources for programming, the center was filled to capacity each day.

The grassroots, nonprofit youth project has come a long way since that modest beginning. In 1997, CRYP built a new youth center to support continued growth. The new Main opened its doors in May 1999, featuring a recreation room, library, family room, commercial-grade kitchen, office space, and residential quarters for long-term volunteers.

CRYP continued to expand. In 2004, with input from Cheyenne River's young people, it began work on a dedicated facility for ages 13–18. Cokata Wiconi (Center of Life) opened in 2006 and represents a tremendous achievement for CRYP, with more than 25,000 square feet of space and many exciting new opportunities. The teen center has a full-size gymnasium, computer lab, dance and art studios, library, and

Living Wólakhota, our relatives thrive.

private apartment for long-term volunteers. It is also home to the Keya (Turtle) Café and Keya Gift Shop, as well as the Family Services program, the innovative Teen Internship program, and the Waniyetu Wowapi (Winter Count) Lakota Arts Institute.

We invite you to become part of our story.

JOB SUMMARY

The Youth Programs Assistant supports youth programming at CRYP's youth centers. This position assists with planning and implementing activities, preparing meals, supervising volunteers, and engaging directly with youth participants on a daily basis.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

- Plan and implement youth programs and activities
- Engage with youth on a daily basis
- Prepare daily meals and snacks for youth center participants
- Assist with volunteer scheduling and supervision
- Network with other community organizations
- Assist with public relations for youth events
- Assist with large youth center activities such as Passion for Fashion, Christmas Toy Drive, and RedCan
- Assist with community surveys and assessments
- Other duties as assigned

SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS

- High school diploma or GED
- At least 18 years of age for Main Youth Center; at least 21 years of age for Teen Center
- Previous experience with youth preferred
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Willingness to have a changing and flexible schedule

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Strong critical thinking, verbal, written, and organizational skills
- Familiarity with computers, typing, and other basic office skills
- Able and willing to serve as a positive role model to area youth and community
- Willingness to learn and receive training, which sometimes involves travel
- Prior experience serving in a youth organization preferred
- Knowledge of and experience with American Indian communities preferred
- Have or able to obtain a South Dakota driver's license
- First Aid and Safety Training preferred, or willingness to be trained
- Must have home or mobile phone
- Must pass criminal history background check and drug test

STANDARD CRYP EXPECTATIONS

- Collaborate and build healthy working relationships with coworkers
- Participate in meetings and help organize community events such as job fairs, panels, conferences, and public events

- Demonstrate energy, commitment, and flexibility
- Interest in and appreciation of Lakota culture
- Support organizational fundraising activities
- Operate with excellence in mind and value problem-solving
- Exercise tact, diplomacy, and good humor
- Bring spark, imagination, and creativity to the work

WORKING CONDITIONS

- This is a part-time, seasonal position, approximately 15-30 hours per week
- The position is located in Eagle Butte, South Dakota
- Work may be at The Main Youth Center or Cokata Wiconi Teen Center depending on assignment
- Evening or weekend work may be required for events and programming

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Compensation based on experience.

Benefits: None due to part-time status.

THIS JOB IS

- A job for which military experienced candidates are encouraged to apply
- A good fit for applicants with gaps in their resume, or who have been out of the workforce for the past 6 months or more
- Open to applicants who do not have a college diploma

TO APPLY

Please send your resume and cover letter to julie.cryp@gmail.com

Please indicate **Youth Programs Specialist** in the subject line of the [email](#).

In your email indicate if you have an interest in working in the Teen Center (ages 13-18) or The Main Youth Center (ages 4-12)

Cheyenne River Youth Project

P.O. Box 410

702 4th Street

Eagle Butte, SD 57625

Deadline: Open Until Filled

4.2.2026