Missionary Position: Social Worker

Field: Zambia | Site: Various Sites

Position Title: Social Worker | Minimum Commitment Length (1-3 years): 2 years

Brief Job Description:
As a social worker with Kids Alive Zambia, you will serve the children in our care and their communities by facilitating support for who are affected by issues such as poverty, abuse, illness, neglect, and more. Together with your Zambian coworkers, you will be responsible for providing in-take assessments for cases, gathering necessary information relevant to each case, creating intervention plans, and coordinating with other agencies and individuals to implement said plan.

For example, you may work as part of a team focusing on family reintegration cases; you will be responsible for assessing eligibility of families for the reintegration process and/or finding eligible family members, preparing the family and the child with proper caretaking and lifestyle skills, pioneering the reintegration process for each family case, and monitoring the family to care for its ongoing needs. Or you may work as part of a team focusing on supporting the families of children studying at Kids Alive schools or care centers.

You will take every opportunity to empower and equip your Zambian coworkers by passing on social work principles, practices and processes in ways that allow them to adapt and apply these tools in culturally appropriate ways. With others on the Kids Alive Zambia team, you will work to provide a safe environment in which the children can learn and grow toward wholeness.

Key Responsibilities:

- Develop and/or refine processes of the intervention program to guide social work related aspects of Kids Alive Zambia ministry. This includes:
  - Develop and/or improve current tools for family reintegration, and ensure adequate documentation of the reintegration process
  - Regularly evaluate the effectiveness of intervention programs
  - Develop and refine information gathering and record-keeping systems.
- Identify and assess the children’s and families’ needs, situations, support network, strengths, and goals
- Advocate for and assist families in finding extra support services as needed
- Evaluate, recommend, prepare, and empower children, caregivers, staff families, and communities for children’s needs, difficult situations, and transitions in the lives of children in the program. This includes:
  - Work humbly with Zambian coworkers to empower them to lead initiatives with their own cultural knowledge and experience, while supporting with your own knowledge and expertise
  - Educate caregivers and community members, empowering them to broaden and improve their caretaking skills
  - Conduct research on psychological and emotional well-being of children and prepare training modules for staff, following adult/community learning principles
- Network with valuable organizational partners that will be helpful to Kids Alive Zambia
- Safeguard the vulnerable children of Kids Alive Zambia from potential or perceived safety risk, either by other individuals or dangerous situations.
- Champion and uphold the Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy as instituted by Kids Alive International
Perform other related tasks as assigned by the supervisor or Country Director
Assist with other Kids Alive Zambia teams in their projects during their respective “crunch times”

Minimum Education and Experience:
• Bachelor’s degree in social work or a closely related subject, with relevant experiential hours
• A valid social worker license preferred
• One year of clinical experience in a social work field, more experience preferred

Key Qualifications Needed:
• Thorough knowledge of best practices in social work
• Excellent communication skills with individuals of all ages, many different cultures, and various socioeconomic/cultural backgrounds
• Integration of social work with Christian faith walk
• An empathetic and inviting presence
• Reliability and trustworthiness
• Enthusiastic, encouraging, and hopeful presence

All Kids Alive missionaries must demonstrate the following skills and characteristics:
In faith life:
• Agree with our statement of faith
• Have a living and growing relationship with Jesus Christ
• Demonstrate spiritual and emotional maturity, with a well-formed sense of identity in Jesus Christ
• Be active participants in a Christ-professing church/community of faith
• Have experience using their spiritual gifts and skills to serve their local church/community of faith

In personal and social life:
• Have the willingness and humility to learn a new language, culture, and way of life
• Demonstrate social maturity and the ability to form and grow relationships
• Demonstrate the ability to resolve conflict in a Biblical manner, with grace and patience
• Patiently adapt to continuously changing situations and people
• Demonstrate a humble willingness to work under local leadership in the country of ministry
• Manage sensitive situations with discretion and respect

In professional life:
• Demonstrate excellent written and verbal communication skills
• Demonstrate successful employment or entrepreneurship experience
• Demonstrate excellent team/group work experience
• Demonstrate ability to motivate self and work independently within established guidelines
• Demonstrate ability to organize complex information and changing situations
• Be at least 18 years of age, have college or skilled trade program experience; degrees preferred

To apply, please prepare a resume and cover letter, and apply at: www.kidsalive.org/zambiamsyapp. For questions, please write to Bill.Dean@kidsalive.org.