

# Teen Link Youth Volunteer Opportunities

## 1. Youth Advocate/Outreach Worker (age 13-20):

Youth Advocates/Outreach Workers are the face of Teen Link. They are out in the community, talking about real issues that impact young people's lives, and learning how they can create change. They make sure people know who we are and what we do by: attending events in the community, such as concerts, fairs and festivals; visiting other agencies that serve youth; making and putting up posters and distributing Teen Link materials; recruiting other volunteers; attending monthly community outreach meetings. Youth Advocates/Outreach Workers also work independently on projects they develop together. These projects are geared toward raising awareness to important issues that impact youth and identifying ways to create change. **(Requires a six month commitment, 5+ hours per month)**

## 2. Phone Worker & Chat Specialists (age 15-20):

Phone Workers & Chat Specialists are the voice of Teen Link. They are on the Teen Link line offering support to other young people who call or chat in. Volunteers must complete 15 hours of Advocacy/Outreach Work to qualify for the Phone Worker Training. Phone Worker training covers crisis intervention and active listening skills to prepare volunteers to talk to callers about issues such as relationships, mental health, dating violence, youth homelessness and suicide. The goal of the training is to help Phone Workers & Chat Specialists incorporate the skills into their own style of communication so they sound natural and can be themselves. Phone Workers & Chat Specialists provide emotional support, guidance, and referrals to other community agencies that serve youth for additional assistance if needed. Phone Workers/Chat Specialists must also complete 2 (4 hour) phone shifts and 2 hours of outreach/advocacy work per month. **(Requires a six month commitment)**

## 2. Teen Link Outreach & Education Intern (age 15-20):

O & E Interns are involved in many different parts of the Teen Link Program. They help with Youth Suicide Prevention Presentations in schools, plan and facilitate small group discussions and monthly meetings with volunteers, attend community events and fairs, meet weekly with Teen Link staff to delegate projects, attend Peer Advisory Board meetings, and learn how non-profits work. Interns must have access to reliable transportation, be outgoing, and work well independently and as a team. **(Requires a commitment of six months, 5-10+hours per week)**

## 3. Peer Advisory Board Member (age 15-20):

Peer Advisory Board members are the leaders of Teen Link. They are responsible for ensuring that the Teen Link program remains youth-driven and attentive to styles, tastes and issues facing youth. Volunteers are required to attend monthly meetings, an annual planning retreat, and special events. They also help to facilitate volunteer orientations and help Teen Link staff make decisions about our programs and marketing. All potential members must complete six months of involvement at Teen Link to be eligible. **(Requires a commitment of one year)**