



Position Available at Disability Voices United

Title: Project Coordinator of Empowerment Programs

Reports to: The Co-Directors of Empowerment Programs

Job type: Part-time/20 hours per week. Specific hours TBD. Some evenings and weekends will be required.

Location: Remote, California residents only. Travel in California will be required.

Rate of pay: DOE. Between \$19.23 and \$24.03 per hour. Plus, vacation time.

Deadline to apply: Open until filled.

WHO WE ARE: Directed exclusively by individuals with disabilities and family members, Disability Voices United is a statewide California disability rights organization that advocates for choice, control and self-determination, meaningful outcomes that matter to us, and systems that are equitable and accountable to us. We have a small and dedicated paid staff and a very active volunteer board of directors.

SUMMARY: Disability Voices United, a California disability advocacy organization, is seeking individuals with a passion for disability rights and diversity to join its small staff. This position will support the coordination of DVU's new projects: the Self-Advocates Speakers Bureau and the Beyond Britney: Public Awareness Campaign to Promote Supported Decision-Making and Reform Conservatorship. The Project Coordinator of Empowerment Programs is expected to have experience with developing and leading programs and trainings in the disability community targeted toward self-advocates and families in California. Highly preferred that a candidate is a person with a disability.

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION: The Project Coordinator of Empowerment Programs will work closely with the Co-Directors of Empowerment Programs to develop the following new projects for Disability Voices United, in addition to other responsibilities laid out below:

Leading with Lived Experience: Self-Advocates Train-the-Trainer Project (funded by Ability Central) This project will develop leaders among self-advocates with communication disabilities to become trainers of professionals about communication access issues. This training, which will include up to 50 people with communication disabilities, will provide the tools needed to use their lived experiences to advocate for access to communication in various settings, such as health care and education. The project will consist of three online training sessions, that will center self-advocates as future instructors. The curriculum will be developed and trainings themselves conducted by people with communication disabilities, with support from DVU staff. DVU will work collaboratively with other trusted disability advocacy organizations in order to create this

training and recruit the network of self-advocates who will attend these sessions. The projects will also create a Self-Advocates Speakers Bureau with the names, bios, and contact information on the self-advocates who have successfully completed the train-the-trainer program, maintaining relationships with these newly-minted trainers and provide support as they begin providing these presentations at conferences, seminars, and to the media about communication access.

The #BeyondBritney: Public Awareness Campaign to Promote Supported Decision-Making and Reform Conservatorship (funded by the WITH Foundation) This project capitalizes on the current national attention on conservatorship in order to put supported decision-making into common use in California. The project's goals are to reduce the number of conservatorships, make it easier to exit them, and increase use of supported decision-making for people with I/DD. The project targets people with disabilities, families, and professionals such as educators, health care professionals, and regional center staff. The project centers self-advocates as the faces and voices of supported decision-making and conservatorship reform. At three trainings, the project will develop a speaker's corps of self-advocates to tell their own stories about SDM, advocate for conservatorship reform, and lead an education program for professionals in healthcare, education, and government agencies. Using the successful intersectional coalition of state and national disability, aging, civil rights, and legal organizations that advocated for recognition of SDM and other alternatives to conservatorship in California, the project will implement a public awareness campaign.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

Programmatic:

- Support project design and implement the projects listed above
- Assist in recruiting self-advocate participants in the projects, with particular emphasis on people of color and people with communication disabilities. Work with staff in promoting applications for the trainings. Collect and evaluate applications and assist in making selections of trainees
- Assist with regularly trainees communication
- Assist with the design of the training curriculum and presentations under the direction of the Co-Directors
- Plan all aspects of the logistics of the trainings, both online and in-person, with the assistance of other DVU staff, including technology platforms, locations, food/drink, materials, transportation, access needs (for disability and language), and other needs.
- Assist in conducting train-the-trainer sessions for the projects listed above
- Assist in developing content for Self-Advocates Speakers Bureau website
- Assist in recruiting and selecting self-advocates to be part of the Speakers Bureau
- Assist Co-Directors in planning monthly Communication Access Connect meetings
- Other responsibilities as assigned

Administrative:

- Work with the Outreach and Training Assistant on implementation of projects
- Track hours for reporting to funding agencies, if needed
- Attend weekly staff meetings, and board meetings (if requested)
- Other responsibilities as assigned

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Excellent communicator, facilitator, and writer
- Highly organized with experience in planning trainings
- At least four years of professional experience in the disability community
- Familiarity working with populations of diverse races and ethnicities, abilities, languages, and methods of communication

HIGHLY PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- AA or Bachelor's degree in a related field from an accredited college or university
- At least six years of professional experience in the disability community
- Knowledge of other resources throughout California available to individuals with disabilities, including regional centers, special education, and IHSS
- Contacts with other disability organizations and/or within disability communities
- Contacts with multi-ethnic organizations and/or within multi-ethnic communities
- Life experience as a person with a disability OR direct experience as a family member of a person with a disability
- Experience working with persons with disabilities
- Experience working with persons from diverse and underserved communities
- Familiarity with the ethos of cultural humility

TO APPLY: Send resume and cover letter to monica@dvunited.org

Disability Voices United is an equal opportunity employer. We hire without regard to race, color, disability, national origin, religion, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, medical condition, marital status, or any other protected characteristic.