



Cheyenne River Youth Project®
Over 25 Years of Service to Youth on Cheyenne River

www.lakotayouth.org

Volunteer Application

(Revised 2.23.2018)

Application Process

1. A complete volunteer application consists of the following:
 - a. Application
 - b. Three letters of recommendation
 - c. Criminal History Background Check
To be accepted as a volunteer with our project, you will be required to have a criminal history background check submitted to our agency. Please contact your local law enforcement agency to find out the procedure for your state. The background check must be sent directly from their agency to the Cheyenne River Youth Project, PO Box 410, 702 4th Street, Eagle Butte SD 57625
 - d. Proof of health insurance
 - e. A \$450 application fee is required for domestic applicants and \$500 for applicants from abroad. This fee should be mailed with your application or you can pay the fee online by visiting our website: www.lakotayouth.org. If, this is not possible, please call the Youth Programs Director at 605-964-8200 to make other arrangements. The application fee will help CRYP with your transportation costs from the airport to our campus in Eagle Butte; the t-shirt, facilities costs and staff time while you are with us. There will be a \$50 cancellation fee if you cancel your application less than 60 days prior to your arrival.
 - f. A \$100 damage deposit is required which will be refunded upon completion of your placement provided that there are no damages to CRYP facilities.
 - g. A telephone interview will be arranged once the security deposit and application have been received.

The application process can be quite lengthy but there are ways to expedite the process via e-mail or fax. Please e-mail the Youth Programs Director, Jerica Widow, youthpd.ryp@gmail.com if you have questions.

Transportation

1. Transportation to the Cheyenne River Youth Project must be coordinated with the Youth Programs Director. Prior to purchasing your tickets please check with CRYP Staff. Once you are accepted please keep the following in mind:
 - a. Transportation from the Airport or Bus Terminal to Eagle Butte is provided by CRYP.

**The Main Youth Center · Cokata Wicōni Teen Center · Winyan Toka Win Garden · Family Services
Waniyetu Wowapi Lakota Youth Arts & Culture Institute · Keya Cafe & Coffee Shop · Keya Gift Shop**

- b. Volunteers are requested to arrive in Pierre, South Dakota by airplane or bus on the first or third Monday of the month between the hours of 12-6pm.
2. All volunteers must speak with the Youth Programs Director **BEFORE** they schedule their flights to confirm that the dates and times will work for CRYP. Volunteers who arrive after 6pm will be asked to spend the night in Pierre at their own expense
3. If you choose to drive in you will be able to park your vehicle on the CRYP Campus but please keep in mind that we are not responsible for any damages to your vehicle. It is a good idea to drive so you will have access to a vehicle and can take trips to see the surrounding areas on your days off. Please make sure your vehicle is reliable because Eagle Butte is very rural.

Housing

1. Housing is provided by CRYP but it is unlikely you will be able to have a single room due to limited housing options but there may be occasions when you will be able to have your own room as other volunteers and guests transition in and out. Do not expect to have single living quarters.
2. Unfortunately, we are unable to house your pets.
3. A full-service kitchen is available to our volunteers to prepare your own meals.
4. Volunteers are responsible for maintaining their own living quarters which means keeping the living quarters clean including the bathrooms and bedrooms.

General Statement of Duties

Responsible for the implementation of planned activities, development of recreational activities, arts & crafts, sports activities, and meal/snack preparation. Volunteers assist with project fundraising, mentoring of youth participants, gardening, community activities, and building maintenance.

Supervision Received

Volunteers work under the general supervision of the Youth Programs Director

Example of Duties:

Duties may include but are not limited to the following:

- Development and supervision of recreational activities.
- Plan and prepare daily meals and snacks.
- Supervise daily youth/teen center operations.
- Interior/Exterior maintenance of building, including janitorial duties.
- Assist with the planning and supervision of field trips and other special projects.
- Write articles for the newsletter and local newspaper.
- Informal youth counseling.
- First Aid when trained.
- Work where assigned in community.
- Assist in developing and implementing fundraising activities.

Minimum Qualifications

The Cheyenne River Youth Project is seeking individuals who have experience in working with children, ages 4-18. Although not required, any experience in working with Native Communities would enhance your application. Our youth are in need of volunteers who are patient, creative, compassionate, energetic and have a deep desire to serve, specifically the people of the Cheyenne River Lakota Nation. Candidates who are adaptive and able to work long hours in adverse conditions are needed. CRYP is looking for volunteers who are dedicated, motivated and committed to the mission of the Cheyenne River Youth Project.

Please explain any past experience working with children:

Please briefly describe your expectations of life on the Reservation:

Please describe your knowledge of Native American Culture and History but it is absolutely okay if you have limited knowledge.

The Cheyenne River Youth Project expects our volunteers to serve as role models for the youth as well as the community and therefore maintains a no tolerance policy for the use of illegal drugs or illegal activity while in service to our community. The use of alcohol while in service and within the reservation boundaries is unacceptable. We fully expect all our volunteers to maintain the highest standards of performance while on and off duty. Are you able to comply with our policy? Yes _____ NO _____ Please feel free to add any thoughts you may have about this policy and your ability to comply.

Have you used illegal drugs in the past six months? If yes, please explain.

Do you drink alcohol? _____ If yes, how often? _____

Why do you feel that you would be a good role model to the youth of our community?

Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain:

Do you have any illnesses, allergies, or disabilities of which we need to be aware? If yes, please explain. (Note: The Cheyenne River Youth Project does not discriminate based on race, background, creed, disability or sexual orientation)

The Cheyenne River Youth Project is a smoke free zone and tribal Government has declared all tribal properties as smoke free zones as well. Please remember that because our volunteers serve as role-models to the children and to the community, volunteers will not be allowed to smoke in or on any of the Project's property and will be required to be discreet in their usage in other circumstances.

Do you smoke? YES _____ NO _____

If yes, will you be able to comply with our policy? YES _____ NO _____

In general, CRYP volunteers work 8 hours per day and 5 days per week but there will be occasional circumstances when days will be longer and more days are worked per week. CRYP will work very hard to work with you on your schedule so you have time for rest.

Are you able to work long hours? YES _____ NO _____ If no, what prevents you doing so?

Are you able to adjust to a regularly changing environment? YES _____ NO _____

Please add any thoughts on this topic that might enhance your application.

Are you able to work independently? YES _____ NO _____

Please add any thoughts on this topic that might enhance your application.

It is unlikely you will be able to have a single room due to limited housing options but there may occasions when you will be able to have your own room as other volunteers and guests transition in and out. However, in general do not expect to have single living quarters. Unfortunately, we are unable to house your pets.

Are you able to live with others in a communal setting? YES _____ NO _____

Please explain any past experience living with others in a communal setting and describe a successful communal living situation in your opinion.

Do you have any limitations that would prevent you from performing physical work (such as actively engaging the youth, cutting lawns, heavy lifting, cleaning, gardening, shovelling snow, etc.)?

Please describe any special talents or skills you possess, i.e. carpentry, office management, fundraising, youth development, art, computers, etc.

Do you have any hobbies or interests?

Please describe your strengths and please feel free to sing your praises!

Please describe your weaknesses and challenges.

Health Agreement:

To my knowledge, I do not have health problems or conditions which would fully prevent me from participating in volunteer service for the Cheyenne River Youth Project. I understand that I may be expected to submit a certificate of good health from a physician if I am accepted to the Project. I understand that I am responsible for all medical costs incurred during my stay.

Signature_____

Date_____

*It is recommended that you have some type of medical insurance before your arrival.

Financial Agreement

I understand that I am responsible for transportation to and from South Dakota at an arrival point specified by the Project and that I will be responsible for purchasing my own meals, other than those food items which I may take from the local Food Bank or Food Donations.

Signature_____

Date_____

References

Please list the names and addresses of the three individuals who will be writing letters of recommendation on your behalf. The letters of recommendation should be sent directly to the Cheyenne River Youth Project, PO Box 410, Attention: Tammy Eagle Hunter, Youth Programs Director, PO Box 410, Eagle Butte, SD 57625.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

*** Cheyenne River Youth Project® is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that receives its financial support through grants, private donations and local fundraising.**