

**Christ's
HAVEN**
For Children
Christ's Haven for Children
Houseparent
Job Description

Christ's Haven for Children provides a warm, loving, Christian environment in which children in need of basic care can grow physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Our ultimate goal is to provide love and support to families in need. Our trauma-informed, family based model of care allows for our children and teens to be confident as they heal from past trauma and envision a bright future.

Successful houseparents support the children placed in their care by parenting the children as if they are their own. This includes providing for their spiritual, emotional social and spiritual needs. Houseparents at Christ's Haven must nurture and guiding these children according to the values and by using the tools of trauma informed care since children placed at Christ's Haven have suffered many adverse circumstances that require emotionally mature and intelligent parenting. Houseparents must be flexible because change is constant in each house for many reasons including the changing needs of each child as they develop and grow.

Houseparents are expected to prepare family meals, assign and facilitate age appropriate responsibilities/chores with in the home for each child, teaching each child basic home life skills, and community responsibilities at school, church and within the CH family.

Houseparents must be able to see past the trauma experienced by each child and provide the necessary consequences for the children's actions. Understanding that *these children are not a problem but an opportunity* is paramount in the success of all Houseparents.

Christ's Haven Leadership realizes that overseeing the education of each child in conjunction with meeting each child's emotional and social needs requires a great deal of physical and emotional energy from each Houseparent. Keeping this commitment in mind, Houseparents are encouraged to ask for help as needed and to seek counsel from those within the CH community and beyond.

Basic Requirements include but are not limited to:

- Must be a Christian who is able to sign a statement of faith as a condition of employment.
- Must have a stable marriage and family unit.
- Must be "life-long learners."
- Must be willing to accept coaching from experienced CH staff
- Must be able to withstand unwarranted criticism from these traumatized children
- Must have a high school diploma or GED.
- Must have or quickly learn basic computer skills needed to monitor use of technology by children
- Must have a valid Texas Driver's License and be able to pass both a state and federal background test and drug test.
- Must be able to travel as needed.
- Christ's Haven for Children has recently been certified by The Sanctuary Institute. All employees are required to be active participants in this process of trauma informed care. (In house training is provided.)