Brighter Days (formerly Rainbow Days) is a Dallas-based nonprofit whose mission is *to help children and youth in adversity build coping skills and resilience to create positive futures*. Brighter Days is currently seeking a dynamic, upbeat, and passionate individual, to join our team as a **Children's Services Specialist** to help school-aged children and youth develop skills that will promote resilience, support & promote positive mental health practices, promote pro-social behaviors, prevent substance use disorders and improve behavioral health.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SPECIALIST

TITLE: Children's Services Specialist *(FC)*

POSITION SUMMARY: The Children's Services Specialist will work directly with children, ages 4-17, who are experiencing homelessness and residing in partnering shelters, domestic violence centers and motels throughout Dallas County. This position will facilitate weekly *Curriculum-Based Support Groups* (CBSGs®) with children at shelters and schools, including conducting participant assessments and pre/post surveys and assessment information; prepare and help lead engaging mentored events; prepare and help lead family outings; prepare and help lead three summer day camps & one spring break camp for children; support the program by helping to organize in-kind items and prizes for program participants; support program evaluation; and provide support for monthly food program for motel families and other related duties.

The nature of this work is primarily field/community based and requires daily travel throughout the City of Dallas and surrounding areas. Applicants must have their own personal, reliable transportation.

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Facilitates the Curriculum-Based Support Group (CBSG®) Program with fidelity to small groups of children at shelters, schools and at other assigned sites on a weekly basis. This includes daytime, afternoon, and evening placements, Monday – Thursday.
- Demonstrates effective small and large group facilitation and classroom management skills and, demonstrates healthy boundaries with clients.
- Supports and promotes positive emotional, mental, and behavioral health outcomes for children and families by providing meaningful connections, guidance and referrals as needed.
- Implements different assessment screening tools with program participants to identify additional needs and makes appropriate referrals to support wellness.
- Assists with the planning and implementation of Special Events for children and families experiencing homelessness. Driving cargo van or passenger van on a 1-2x monthly basis is required. These events include, but are not limited to:
    - Mentored Events (held 2-3x per year on Saturdays)
    - Field Trips (held 3-4x per year, including over Spring Break)
    - Summer Day Camps - Kids' University, Camp Bravo! & Outdoor Adventure Camp
    - Spring Break Camp
    - Saturday with Santa – Large holiday party for all children & families served
    - Back-to-School – Large event for all children and families youth served
    - Project Hope Food Program – Delivering fresh food to

*Actively seeks out, develops and maintains positive working relationships with schools, shelters, community centers and other assigned or identified sites as well as with other partnering social

services agencies. Works closely with site contacts to ensure all program deliverables are achieved.

- Documents all service activities and implements program evaluation process by implementing pre- & post-tests with participants at assigned sites.
- Collects participant and group data at assigned sites and inputs data into electronic database.
- Maintains physical participant, group, and site files.
- Serves as a liaison to the community with active participation in coalitions, networks, and committees.
- Demonstrates cultural competency and trauma-informed care when working with clients.
- Supports the organization of in-kind items utilized in program services.
- Assists Program Manager with preparation of timely internal and external reports as needed.
- Participates in regular team meetings and networking meetings.
- Maintains confidentiality of participants and abides by confidentiality policies.
- Other duties as assigned.

QUALITIES OF THE IDEAL CANDIDATE:

- Passion for Mission: Has belief in the program's impact and compassion for children, youth and families served who are experiencing trauma, adversity and hardship.
- Team Player: Works well individually and as a member of a group and maintains a professional and positive attitude in the workplace.
- Dedicated: Devoted to work assignments with loyalty, accountability and integrity
- Self-Starter: Motivated and inspired to perform without outside help; asks for help as necessary.
- Ability to Make an Impact: Inspired to perform well by the ability to contribute to the success of a project or the organization
- Strong Communication Skills: Both verbally and in writing.
- People & Organization Skills: Enjoys working directly with children and adults, yet also possesses organization skills to maintain proper documentation of services
- Flexibility: The ability to be nimble and aptly work across different projects and adjust tasks as needed based on organizational goals or emergent needs.
- High Achiever: Desire to Make an Impact: Inspired to perform well by the ability to contribute to the success of a project or the organization

SKILLS/QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's Degree preferred in the field of social work, human services, counseling, or education. Experience may substitute for education.
- A minimum of 2 years of related experience working directly with children and youth from underserved/underrepresented communities, including through a partnership or internship. School and nonprofit experience a plus.
- Bilingual Spanish-Speaker preferred.
- Must have reliable transportation and proof of auto liability insurance.
- Must be able to lift 25 lbs.
- Demonstrated ability and experience in working with individuals from diverse cultural, and socio economic backgrounds.
- Knowledge of trauma-informed care, substance use prevention, mental health promotion, adolescent development, and community-based services.
- Ability to drive cargo van and/or 16-passenger van as needed.
- A personal commitment to living a drug-free lifestyle.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

- Regular (daily) travel throughout Dallas County, including schools, shelters, and community agencies
- Multi-tasking, scheduling, and meeting multiple deadlines
- Work cooperatively with a wide range of programs and personalities

EVALUATED BY: Program Manager

HOURS & SCHEDULE: Full-Time (40 hours per week, M-F) Individual schedule will vary depending on site. Some afternoon/evening hours are required and approximately six Saturday events required annually.

BENEFITS: Generous health and life insurance package available after 60 days. Generous Paid Holidays and PTO benefits after 90 days of employment. Cell phone stipend. 403B plan.

SALARY: $45,000 - $55,000 (based on education, expertise and credentials)

TRAVEL: Local travel required to schools and community-based sites throughout the City of Dallas and surrounding area. The position will be reimbursed for his/her mileage at the state approved rate.

APPLICATION:
To inquire or apply for the position, please email your **cover letter and resume** to Careers@BrighterDaysTX.org