

Easter Seals Youth Leadership Network



Easter Seals is currently seeking youth who are interested in being part of the Youth Leadership Intern Team or Speakers Bureau.

Goals of Easter Seals Youth Leadership Network:

Program activities develop youth leadership, self-determination, and independent living skills. Programs are designed to empower youth to advocate for themselves, take control of planning their adult lives, and experience educational and professional success. The Youth Leadership Network will develop leaders who will be the next generation of educators, advocates, civic leaders, and catalysts for change in Massachusetts.

- To establish a network of youth with disabilities, working toward and for positive social change
- Provide youth with disability related opportunities to participate in the Disability Rights Movement and build a positive identity as a person with a disability
- Enable youth to demonstrate their leadership skills and share them with others
- Provide opportunities for various forms of mentoring to inspire youth to achieve employment, high education, and general success.

Youth Intern Position

We are seeking applicants who are energetic and driven to empower youth and young adults to become contributing members of their communities. We want applicants to have the ability to mentor and inspire youth & young adults (ages 14-26) with disabilities to become strong self-advocates and develop leadership skills. Applicants should have a passion for social justice and a desire to advance the disability rights movement.

What are the Youth Leadership Program Intern's Responsibilities? (Hours broken down per month)

- Serve as part of the Youth Leadership (YL) team to develop and lead youth projects and initiatives. (2 hrs)
- Lead activities during each monthly meeting (2 hrs)
- Connect with members in between meetings to promote their engagement (2 hrs)
- Collect attendance and verify YLN member's contact information at every meeting
- Provide social media post about each meeting
- Contribute materials on a weekly basis to the to the YL Network's social media center (2 hrs)
- Build rapport, mentor and inspire YL members
- Provide feedback to YL staff on overall program (1 hr)

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- Participate in training for youth interns (1 hr)
- Connect twice a month with the regional YL staff person to review internship (2 hrs)
- Connect with the other regional youth interns on a periodic basis (2 hrs)

What is the commitment if I were selected to be a program intern?

Program interns will be required to attend and document monthly regional Youth Leadership Network meetings with support, supervision and guidance from the regional Youth Leadership program staff. Program interns must participate in training, and must be available by phone, email, or online chat room for supervision by YL program staff twice a month. Interns must also be available to connect with other regional interns once a month to talk about ideas. Program interns should expect to spend about 15 hours per month working on Youth Leadership Network activities. A stipend of 150.00 per month will be paid to each program intern.

Requirements of program intern:

- Be between 16 and 26 years old
- Have a disability
- Live in Massachusetts or attend college in Massachusetts
- Understand the need for inclusion of people with disabilities in higher education and employment
- Have knowledge of online media such as Facebook
- Have access to the internet
- Have a desire to advance the disability rights movement
- Have leadership experience from school, club, or other organization

Speakers Bureau Position

Members will speak at upcoming Youth Leadership Network (YLN) meeting and events around related experiences they have had in their lives. Easter Seals regional leadership meetings take place monthly in Boston, Worcester, Springfield and Bridgewater. Each meeting is for youth and young adults with any type of disability between the ages of 14-26.

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What is the Youth Leadership Speakers Bureau?

- Opportunity to use and strengthen public speaking skills by presenting at an upcoming YLN meeting.
- For dedicated young adults who can share life experiences around the areas of leadership, employment, advocacy, or community service.

What is the commitment if I were selected to the Youth Leadership Speakers Bureau?

Selected youth should expect to come to an upcoming regional YLN meeting in the area selected below. Arrangements will be made between Easter Seals staff and speaker's bureau youth as to the meeting date and time they will present at. Selected participants will receive a stipend after their presentation.

Requirements of the program:

- Be between 16 and 26 years old
- Have a disability
- Live in Massachusetts or attend college in Massachusetts
- Understand the need for inclusion of people with disabilities in higher education and employment
- Have a desire to advance the disability rights movement

Preference will be given to:

- Former participants in the Youth Leadership Network or Youth Leadership Forum

The application below is for both positions (youth intern & speakers bureau). You may apply to both or just one of the positions.

Please e-mail completed applications to:

Youth@eastersealsma.org

Eligible applicants will be contacted to schedule an interview

If you have question about this position or regarding any youth programs at Easter Seals please contact Desi Forte at the email above or by calling 617-226-2855

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APPLICATION

I am applying for (check all that apply): Youth Intern Speakers Bureau

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Primary Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Birthday: _____

Because the Youth Leadership program is designed specifically for young people with a disability and Youth Leadership Program Interns serve as mentors and role models for our participants, information regarding your disability is required.

What is your disability?

Do you feel you can perform the essential functions of the Youth Leadership Program positions with or without an accommodation? (Circle one)

YES, I need accommodations NO, I will not need any accommodation

If YES, what accommodation do you feel you need.

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If applying for the Youth Intern position, please answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper or typed below.

- 1.) Please explain what leadership means to you?
- 2.) What talents or skills do you have? (Examples: Are you good at getting people excited? Are you a Twitter expert? Are you a great listener?)
- 3.) What issues do you think are important to the disability community today?
- 4.) If selected, which YLN location(s) would you prefer to intern at?
 Boston Worcester Springfield Bridgewater

If applying for the Speakers Bureau, please answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper or typed below.

- 1.) Please explain a life experience you would like to share with the YLN group?
- 2.) This is not a requirement, but do you have any previous public speaking experience? Yes No
If so, please explain:
- 3.) If selected, which YLN location(s) would you prefer to speak at?
 Boston Worcester Springfield Bridgewater

