



Africa Foundation Youth Employment Services (YES) Programme - ECD Practitioner

Title : ECD Practitioner
Region : KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
Duration : 12 months (01 May 2024 - 31 April 2025)
Closing Date : 08 March 2024
Stipend : R4407
Contact Person : Ntombenhle Dlamini
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The purpose and mission of Africa Foundation (AF) is to facilitate the empowerment and development of people living within identified protected areas in Africa, by forging unique partnerships between conservation initiatives and local communities.

AF is committed to sustainable development by focusing on projects within the areas of Education, Health Care & Clean Water, Environment & Conservation, Small Business Development and Youth Empowerment. Within the Youth Empowerment programme there will be opportunities for unemployed youth to be offered internships.

The Internship opportunity is a joint programme of Africa Foundation, Yes4Youth and the Communities where Africa Foundation operates. The main aim of the programme is to empower unemployed youth by offering them a first chance at a quality, paid work experience for the period of **12 months**. We are recruiting practitioners to support and manage a group of children in the implementation of our ECD Centres within our communities in KwaZulu-Natal.

The Internship is interactive and hands on, ensuring that the successful candidate will benefit from the stimulating and effective on the job experience environment. It offers the successful candidate the opportunity of working, managing and mentoring young people in several Conservation, community development and Management areas. The successful candidate will be exposed to our core areas of operation. The work environment is project oriented, which gives the individual a chance to develop their professional skills. We are looking for self-motivated team individuals who are passionate about Environmental Issues and community empowerment.

ECD Practitioner

- Looking after the health and wellbeing of the child, such as feeding babies and changing their nappies.
- Observing children's progress and development and keeping record of this to collaborate and communicate with parents.
- Helping children to develop core skills, such as numeracy and literacy. This could be by reading stories or playing counting games.
- Providing a safe and enabling environment for children to work in. This would require adhering to the learning environment's procedures and policies.
- Teaching to the curricular requirements to the Early Childhood Development
- Taking children on trips or outings outside of lesson time.
- Encouraging physical activities to keep children active.
- Supporting children's mental health, fostering an environment where children find help if they need it. This may include reaching out to children, checking in, and working with other teams to prevent or solve any issues.
- Boosting life skills, such as cooking in age-appropriate activities.
- Supporting communication and social skills to help children interact with those around them.
- Helping children with educational disabilities or needs with their studies. Some practitioners may have specific training to cater for specific needs.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Based at a local Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centre.

REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have and submit the following:

- Certified High school Matric certificate, diploma, degree or equivalent.
- Solid understanding of health and safety rules and legislation.
- Must reside in Communities where AF/andBeyond operates.
- Must be between the age of
- **18- 27 years** before application date **01 May 2024**.
- Must be black and South African citizens.
- Must be unemployed as of **01 May 2024**
- Must **NOT** be a previous YES4Youth placement.

Due to the nature of where Yes4Youth may be placed, a Covid-19 Vaccine and Police Clearance Certificate is required. Please ensure this is available/be prepared to do it.

KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

Must have knowledge and understanding of andBeyond Communities where AF operates.

SKILLS REQUIRED

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Enjoy the company of young children and being committed to helping them thrive.
- Imagination and creativity.
- A cultivated sense of responsibility; the ability to follow procedures and policies.
- Excellent organisational skills; the ability to plan the day and respond to the individual needs of every child in their care.
- Patience, enthusiasm and a caring nature.
- Knowledge of child development
- Safeguarding
- Health and safety
- Wellbeing
- Communication
- Support the planning of and delivering activities, purposeful play opportunities, and educational programmes
- Support children with special educational needs and disabilities
- Own role and development
- Working with others - parents, colleagues, and other professionals

RESOURCES PROVIDED

Cell phone (For the purposes of Y4Y App engagement training, surveys, reporting, and capturing data)

Send applications via email BEFORE **08 March 2024**.

Email address: kznapplication@afsouthafrica.org

*Successful applicants will be contacted telephonically; successful applicants will be informed of **Date, Time, and Place** of interviews. **If you do not receive a call or invitation for an interview within 2 weeks, please consider your application unsuccessful.**

***Please CLEARLY mark the POSITION you are applying for on the Subject of your application, CLEARLY specify if you would like to be considered for more than 1 post
And CLEARLY indicate if your particulars can be kept on our database, period of no longer than 6 months for other possible openings.**