



TAKE A HIKE youth at risk foundation
1183 Melville Street, Vancouver BC V6E 2X5 | 604-638-3385
www.takeahikefoundation.org

Take a Hike In-Class Mentor and/or Outdoor Leader (for the 2011-2012 school year)

About Take a Hike

The Take a Hike program, operated out of John Oliver Secondary School, is an alternative education program that engages at-risk Vancouver youth through a unique combination of adventure-based learning, academics, counseling, and community involvement. www.takeahikefoundation.org/program

About the position

Take a Hike is looking for a small group of committed volunteers to engage at-risk youth with 1-on-1 support, positive adult role-modeling, and mentoring in the classroom and/or in the outdoors.

The in-class mentor will assist the students with academics and achieving their goals for the year. The Outdoor Leader will support the youth and staff on outdoor day trips such as canoeing, hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing (multi-day trips are also an option).

Qualifications

- Strong communication skills
- Positive attitude, ability and interest in dealing with complex youth
- Experience working with youth and/or outdoor enthusiast

Time commitment

The In-Class Mentor and Outdoor Leader must commit to volunteering with the Take a Hike program for a minimum of half a school year (September to December or January to June). We encourage volunteers to stay for the full year. Take a Hike youth often lack continuity in their lives, and we want to provide a stable and comfortable environment for all youth involved. It will be a much more enjoyable experience for the youth and volunteers if there is time to develop positive relationships.

Ideally, the In-Class Mentors and Outdoor Leaders will volunteer on a weekly basis for approximately 2-4 hours per visit. However, we are flexible with scheduling depending on the volunteer's situation. At the absolute minimum, we require volunteers to spend at least two days per month in the classroom or on trips. Volunteer hours will take place from Monday-Friday between 8:30-3:00 pm. All volunteer shifts will start at John Oliver Secondary School at 530 West 41st Street (at Fraser St).

Recognition

The volunteer will be recognized for their support at Take a Hike's year-end event in June. Upon successful completion of the work and at the volunteer's request, the appropriate staff person can provide a reference.

Volunteer engagement process / orientation

- Submit application to Jaydeen Williams
- Jaydeen will connect Volunteer with Pete Prediger (Take a Hike Therapist) for an informal interview
- Complete criminal record check
- Pete will contact you regarding the position. If approved, full program orientation, including review of academic requirements and outdoor learning objectives for the students
- Performance review at end of school year with staff (if desired by volunteer)



TAKE A HIKE youth at risk foundation
1183 Melville Street, Vancouver BC V6E 2X5 | 604-638-3385
www.takeahikefoundation.org

Accountability and contact

Pete Prediger, grade 10 therapist. Depending on the volunteer role, accountability may shift to another staff person once the volunteer has gone through the engagement process.

QUESTIONS can be addressed to Jaydeen Williams, Executive Director, 604-638-3385 or jaydeen@takeahikefoundation.org

For a volunteer application please go to www.takeahikefoundation.org