English Conversation Partner

The African Community Center (ACC) is seeking English Conversation Partner Volunteers! The English Language Conversation Partner will provide support for ACC refugees primarily through one-on-one tutoring and conversation sessions. An interpreter will be provided in the first session so that you can learn the basics about each other, find out what your partner's goals are and discuss how you can work together to achieve those goals, and develop a schedule for when you will meet as well as the best methods for you to communicate. This is primarily an independent role and will require creativity and planning. Minimal support and resources will be provided. Make connections and teach an invaluable skill to a community member in need!

This position will be located at: Various locations, primarily at the community member’s homes (East Colfax/225 Corridor)

Time Commitment: At least one day/week (Mon - Fri) for one hour or more, during school hours

What You Will Do:
- One-on-one interaction with refugee community members
- Teach and facilitate conversations in English
- Build a safe, welcoming, inclusive, multicultural environment
- Provide assistance to and learn from a diversity of individuals with varying skills sets, language capabilities, and backgrounds

What You Will Gain:
- An awareness of the challenges faced by marginalized populations
- A deeper understanding of refugee backgrounds and skill sets
- Improved intercultural communication skills
- Mentorship/tutoring experience

What You Will Need:
- High School degree; some college preferred
- Teaching/tutoring experience and skills a plus!
- Strong intercultural skills; demonstrated ability to work effectively with people from other cultural backgrounds
• Strong interpersonal and communication skills
• Able to learn quickly and to work independently
• Adaptable and flexible attitude
• Demonstrated interest in working with refugees
• Consistent and dependable work standards
• Ability to maintain client/agency confidentiality at all times
• Must be okay with interruptions from children of community members (can potentially bring your own kids to conversation sessions)
• The ability to report hours at the end of each month and to provide basic notes regarding what you are working on, progress made, etc.

You Might Also Have (a.k.a. Nice-to-Haves):

• Fluency in English and in one or more verbal and written languages of the local refugee population is preferred. Current priority languages include, but are not limited to: Arabic, Somali, Kiswahili, Tigrinya, Dari, Pashto, Nepali, Burmese and dialects spoken in Burma (Karen, Kachin, Rohingya and others).
• Relevant work or volunteer experience in tutoring or mentoring

Ready to make a difference in the lives of refugees and immigrants in Denver? Take the first step by going to our website and signing up for a General Orientation.

About ACC:

Vision:
ACC’s vision is to be an integrative center of multicultural exchange where community members feel a sense of belonging and actively contribute to an inclusive society.

Core Values:

Belonging: ACC fosters security and trust by building welcoming and diverse communities
Empathy: ACC offers compassion and understanding to individuals from all communities
Imagination: ACC is committed to extraordinary creative pursuits that exceed the status quo
Integrity: ACC consistently exhibits honest and just actions that affirm its promises