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## Lakota Language Childcare Provider

### Position Overview

Childcare Providers will spend their day at the childcare center overseeing activities with the children ensuring all communication is in Lakota. This will include such activities as reading to the kids, leading activities, playing games, supervising recess and mealtimes, and putting kids down for naps. These tasks will be shared between childcare providers. Childcare providers will also help to keep the learning and play areas tidy, clean, and organized, and will assist in day-to-day operations as needed.

### Reports to

Lakota Language Initiative Director- Matt Rama

### To Apply

Please email a resume or application to [jobs@thundervalley.org](mailto:jobs@thundervalley.org). Include "Childcare Provider" in subject line. Or contact: Matt Rama, Initiative Director, at 441-3823 or by email at [mrama@thundervalley.org](mailto:mrama@thundervalley.org). This position is open until filled.

### Compensation & Benefits

Hourly Compensation: \$9.00 to \$12.00, depending on experience

Position Type: Full-time, non-exempt, not to exceed 40 hours per week

Benefits for full-time employees:

- Health Insurance- Employee premium paid by TVCDC
- Dental Insurance- Employee premium paid by TVCDC
- Vision & Hearing Insurance- Employee premium paid by TVCDC
- Simple IRA with up to a 3% match from TVCDC
- Accrued Paid Time Off up to 160 hours per year
- 10 Annual Paid Holidays

### Essential Duties & Responsibilities

- Must be a fluent speaker of Lakota, with a high level of proficiency. Someone who uses the language with other speakers on a daily basis is ideal.

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- Must be willing to use *no English whatsoever* within the role of daycare provider. Any conversations, phone calls, communication with parents, etc. that require the use of any English must be conducted away from the children's hearing.
- Must be good at working with toddler-aged children, maintaining a loving, enthusiastic, and patient demeanor. Needs to be energetic enough to keep up with and play with the children as needed.
- Must be fully committed to the success of the program. Needs to be 100% reliable – not missing days or showing up late for work without reasonable cause. It will be important for the children to have all caregivers present, all day every day. The guidelines of the position are very straightforward: Spend time with the children, and ensuring all of your communication is in Lakota. This will include such activities as reading to the kids, leading activities, playing games, supervising recess and mealtimes, and putting them down for naps. These tasks will be shared between the full-time caregivers.
- As the children begin to speak, the providers will – kindly but consistently – steer them towards using Lakota instead of English in the context of the childcare.
- The providers will work together on creating and maintaining an extensive shared vocabulary including “modern” terminology, to ensure that English is never needed.
- The providers will help to keep the learning and play areas tidy, clean, and organized.
- The providers will assist in general areas of childcare operations to include changing children's diapers and/or clothes, assisting in meal preparation, service, and cleanup, outdoor play and activities to include gardening and assisting on playground equipment, and other areas as needed.

### Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills

- Previous childcare experience is desirable. *A college degree or teaching certification is not required, as fluency and commitment to the program are far more important at this stage.*
- Knowledge of Lakota culture, traditional stories, and Lakota songs are desirable.
- Ability to assist in day-to-day operations at childcare center as needed.

### ADA Specifications

TVCDC is committed to making reasonable accommodations in accordance to the ADA for disabled employees who meet job requirements for education background,

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employment experience, skills, licenses, essential job duties and function, and any other qualification that are job related. Employees must be able to perform tasks that are essential to the job, with or without reasonable accommodation. The Childcare Provider may be required to: Lift children 15lb-50lbs

Mission Driven

Ideal candidate has as a strong belief in the TVCDC mission and wants to be a part of a growing and constantly evolving organization.

Thunder Valley CDC Mission

Empowering Lakota Youth and families to improve the health, culture, and environment of our communities, through the healing and strengthening of cultural identity.

*The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by the individual(s) assigned to this position. They are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities, and skills required. Management reserves the right to modify, add, or remove duties and to assign other duties as necessary. In addition, reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this position.*

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