

## **Lincoln County News Ad**

### **Position Available**

#### **YOUTH OUTREACH SPECIALIST:**

Do you like to Face Book, text, blog, and create websites? Do you need to earn some money this summer and get work good experience? The Heart and Soul Planning Project of Damariscotta seeks a youth intern for 20 hours per week, from June 15 to August 15 to develop internet based, social network methods to engage young people on issues concerning them in the community and to develop methods to seek responses from youth on long term planning issues in town. Applications due June 1. For complete job description visit [www.damariscottame.com](http://www.damariscottame.com) or call 380-4802.

### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

#### **YOUTH OUTREACH SPECIALIST**

##### **Background**

The Damariscotta Planning Advisory Committee (DPAC) is seeking a high school student to serve as a Youth Outreach Specialist for the Damariscotta Heart and Soul Planning Project. DPAC recognizes that Damariscotta's young people play a crucial role, not just as future leaders, but as community leaders now. Passionate, committed young people draw serious attention from neighbors, grassroots leaders and elected officials, and can bring a community together to make change while adding a fresh perspective to ongoing challenges.

As DPAC reaches out to citizens throughout Damariscotta, we are serious about working to engage young people. By connecting with youth on their turf, DPAC hopes to engage new voices into the decision making processes in town. The best way to do this is with other young people. It is DPAC's goal to listen to youth in the community, incorporate their voices in future planning efforts and keep them engaged over the coming years. In this way, participating youth will build new relationships with other young people as well as with adults from the community.

DPAC is committed to building sustainable, independent, long-term civic networks of leaders (both adults and young people) who can rally the community to solve local problems, and offer their voices with new and unique solutions.

##### **Job Description**

The youth organizer position requires someone with self-confidence, initiative, an open-minded outlook, and ease in varied social situations and community environments. S/he must engage well with social groups regardless of age, race, class and country of origin. S/he must be comfortable communicating with youth on their terms, showing leadership, and inquisitiveness as well as understanding of the social stressors and demands on young people. S/he must be an independent worker who is also capable of taking direction.

## **Primary Responsibilities**

- Develop internet based, social network methods to engage young people on issues concerning them in the community
- Develop methods to seek responses from youth on long term planning issues in town
- Identify and partner with local groups such as youth service providers, grassroots groups, local youth programs and organizations to solicit youth involvement and youth input
- Develop and maintain communication with a broad coalition of youth groups
- Coordinate youth meetings and forums
- Facilitate youth participation in a collective decision-making processes
- Help youth groups identify issues to address that are realistic, with attainable goals, that promote wider youth involvement
- Integrate youth organizing with long-term, community-driven policy change efforts
- Attend Damariscotta Planning Advisory Committees and report on progress
- Potential to continue on-going communication with youth and DPAC throughout the school year, with future funding.

## **Qualifications**

Must have skills and ease with social networking sites including facebook, twitter, blogs and websites. Must be able to write well. Must have ability to organize, written and verbal communication skills and WORD. Monday through Friday, 20 hours per week, flex time possible.

**Salary:** \$2000 for June 15 to August 15 2009 with possibility for continuation throughout school year, 2009. (9 weeks, 20 hours per week with July 4 off) Student will be a contract employee of Friends of Midcoast Maine, a partner with the Heart and Soul Planning Project.

Send resume and 2 references to e-mail address [dpac@damariscottame.com](mailto:dpac@damariscottame.com) by June 1.

## **Contact:**

Jane Lafleur,  
Damariscotta Heart and Soul Program manager  
380-4802  
[dpac@damariscottame.com](mailto:dpac@damariscottame.com)

DPAC, the Town of Damariscotta and Friends of Midcoast Maine  
are equal opportunity employers.

