



Next STEP Restorative and Community Support



We are looking for a goal-oriented, passionate, and youth-centered individual for a direct service role that supports middle and high school-aged youth who attend **Next STEP** and **Tree Street Youth**. We need someone passionate about access and equity who values forming trust-based mentoring relationships with youth and wants to work collaboratively with the Next STEP and Tree Street Youth teams to provide social emotional and academic support to middle and high school students.

In addition to direct service work, **we invite and work to empower all team members to explore leadership roles tied to program design**. We are constantly engaging in a unique design process that seeks to transform the educational opportunities offered to students in Lewiston. We are intentionally working to do school differently.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Tree Street Youth is a young non-profit organization located in the Downtown “Tree Street Neighborhoods” of Lewiston, Maine. Our vision is to cultivate leaders who fear less, love more, and dream big, boldly shaping the future and creating communities united across lines of difference. Our mission is to support the youth of Lewiston-Auburn, Maine through academics, the arts, and athletics. We provide Lewiston- Auburn youth with a safe place that encourages healthy physical, social, emotional, and academic development.

At all times we strive to create a safe and welcoming environment for all youth while equipping them with the tools they will need to not only be successful now, but also in their futures. As an organization we encourage all youth no matter what grade they are in to explore all higher education options and future opportunities as they become lifelong learners, engaged citizens, and contributors to the world.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Next STEP (Support + Teamwork + Engagement = Success) began in 2017 with a unique design team of Lewiston Public School district leaders, Tree Street staff, community members, and youth who envisioned a new way of doing high school. After a year of research that included conversations with hundreds of LHS students, education and community leaders, and the discovery that nearly 1/3 of the students attending Lewiston High School were “off track” (behind by at least a year in credits), the design team set out to build a responsive school framework grounded in 3 primary findings:

1. Students yearned desperately for real-life relevancy in what they were learning at school;
2. Students wanted to explore the complexities of justice and engage in community building across lines of difference;
3. Students had significant social-emotional needs and needed unique, collaborative supports to ensure that they could remain focused and engaged in school.

Building from these 3 findings, Next STEP’s pilot was born during the 2018-19 academic year with 20 students. All students opted in to participate in the program and help co-create the school framework with a new set of teachers and community partners. The program will expand to serve grades 7-12 in the upcoming school year.

POSITION OVERVIEW

This position focuses on providing social, emotional, and academic support to middle and high school students.

Next STEP responsibilities:

- Support all Next STEP students to stay engaged in their academics and school programming
- Facilitate and support daily circle
- Support the creation and implementation of restorative processes
- Support students in exploring aspirations, purpose-driven pathways, and future goals
- Support with school-based projects or special events
- Provide 1-on-1 support to students as needed, including social emotional and academic support

SUPERVISION

Next STEP Anchor, Oren Stevens

SCHEDULE

This is a full-time position, 40 hours per week, with the typical schedule being Monday-Friday, 7:30AM-3:30PM, although there is some flexibility and variability. May include occasional weekend hours.

START DATE

Immediate

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to julia@treestreetyouth.org and alli@treestreetyouth.org. Selected candidates will receive an email to set up a phone/zoom or in-person interview.

**** All decisions are based on nondiscriminatory factors without regard to race, color, religion, sex/gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or status as a veteran. We promote a positive and healthy working environment with respect for diversity.*