

2022-2023 AmeriCorps Member Position Description



Partner Organization Name: Orleans Public Defenders

Corps Member Position Title: OPD – Bond Advocate

Supervisor: Max Lurye

Days/Hours of Service: M-F 9:00 am - 5 pm

Physical Location: 2601 Tulane Ave

Organization Mission and/or Goals:

Dignity, Justice, Hope

Program Mission and/ or Goals:

To ensure that no one remains in jail simply because they are unable to afford a bond. We hope to advocate for people who require community-supported release from jail by working with partners to develop release plans based on a person's unique set of needs.

Member Position Summary:

Outreach Coordinator - The Client Services Division (CSD) offers individualized services to clients who are in need of alternatives to incarceration and are unable to afford bond. Corps members will develop release plans based on needs assessments conducted by the Corps member. Release plans involve connecting clients to community-based resources and social services to ensure clients are supported once they return to community. These services include substance use resources, mental health treatment, housing, employment, benefits assistance, etc.

What are the measurable short and long-term goals that should be achieved by the member during their service term that the member can be evaluated on?

Alternatives to incarceration include referral/resource coordination, health education through direct service provision and indirect services by engaging community organizations and service providers. Corps members will have the opportunity to educate outside organizations about serving individuals involved in the criminal legal system in a more informed manner. Case management and referral service will improve continuity of care between service providers

throughout the region, the jail system, and reentry into the community. These interventions increase the availability of medically necessary treatment for clients, decrease incarceration's trauma, and create a healthier community that works to prevent future crime. The Corps member will also create space for healing and recovery during a process that is typically highly disruptive to lives and communities.

Essential Functions of Position:

Conducting needs assessments, submitting referrals to community partners, and helping clients access partners/ resources once they are in the community. This work involves going into the Orleans jail to meet with clients and supporting them once they are released until their needs are addressed. This includes taking calls, submitting applications, communicating information to and from the legal team, etc

Ideal Candidate Qualifications

- Strong communication and writing skills.
- A willingness to remain flexible in an unpredictable work environment
- High School Diploma

Required Transportation Requirements (ex: own vehicle or able bike to site)

Having a vehicle is preferred but not required