



Houseparent Position

Vision

Every child and youth in Mississippi will experience the advantages associated with growing up in a healthy Christian family environment.

Mission

Sunnybrook provides support to foster parents and children, while also preparing older youth to succeed in life by developing independence through education, job training, self-discipline, and a strong Christian foundation.

Sunnybrook has provided homes, hope, and healing to Mississippi's children for more than 57 years. Over the past year we have adjusted our care to concentrate on older youth through our Transitional Living Program (TLP). With some of the highest rates of incarceration, homelessness, and joblessness in the nation, Mississippi has a critical need for strategic intervention in the lives of its vulnerable older youth citizens. Through the TLP, individuals between the ages of 16 and 20 are guided to become productive citizens through workforce development training and daily living skills instruction as they are immersed in Christian community and discipleship.

Sunnybrook is seeking a fulltime live in **Houseparent**, preferably married. The Houseparent's primary responsibility is to teach, care for, and lead the older youth in their house. All of our houses are located on our gated campus in Ridgeland, MS. Because our houseparents have some of the greatest influence on our residents, we provide them with support, respite, off time, training, and community so that they may pour themselves into the lives of our youth. The position is fulltime, requiring residency in the house, and includes a generous salary and benefits package. If you have the passion and experience of investing in the lives of young people please contact Myrle Grate, mgrate@sunnybrookms.org.

We have 2 to 3 years, often less, to undo a lifetime of learning, train positive life skills, teach work skills, and promote Christian disciplines to a young person struggling with their identity as an adult. But, the consequences of not helping are tragic as these youth will likely end up jobless, pregnant, or in jail. We are breaking cycles of generational poverty and providing hope to those who are lost. The challenge and harvest are great, yet the results are eternal.

If you are interested in joining our team, please contact me at mgrate@sunnybrookms.org.

Sincerely,

Myrle Grate



Houseparent Position

Houseparents at Sunnybrook are employed to live in the house and provide frontline supervision and instruction for residents during non-program hours. Our desire is to have gospel-oriented individuals that are committed to Sunnybrook's vision and Christ's mission, serve as Houseparents. Our goal is for Houseparents to serve multiple years in order to provide the consistency at home that so many of our residents have never had.

Responsible to: Direct Care Supervisor

Qualifications: Highschool Diploma, and professional experience working with youth in a ministry setting

Work week: Full time position – 2 weeks working, 1 week off (flex) in rotation; full time benefits included

1. Expectations within the home:
 - Food services and assisting the residents as they learn to cook
 - Cleanliness and order of the home is interdependently reliant upon residents and houseparents
 - Productivity and operations are consistent and structured so that flexibility is available
2. Engagement with the residents:
 - Assisting, Modeling and Teaching residents healthy habits and productive skills related to daily living
 - Reinforcing program philosophies around the house with regards to work, creativity, problem-solving and serving others
3. Involvement with residents' personal development:
 - Afternoons, evenings and weekends are structured in a way that promote productive living
 - creating, facilitating and overseeing activities and events that foster individual development
 - Family life (Climate of the House) is resident-centered and is relational in orientation

Core Competencies and Measurable Expectations:

- Gospel-Driven – It is expected that *Houseparents* will maintain an eternal perspective to their assigned work within the houses. A core marker of *Houseparents* will be their desire to use everyday life experiences to both teach and model the Gospel for the residents they shepherd.



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- Flexible – It is expected that *Houseparents* will be prepared for the uncertainties that working in this field bring. *Houseparents* will be expected to be flexible (items outside of Sunnybrook control) in carrying out their job duties and daily plans. It is also expected that *Houseparents* will seek to improve processes that promote structure and consistency within the houses and on campus.
- Emotional Intelligence – It is expected that *Houseparents* will be able to connect relationally to residents in such a way that discrepancies in residents' baseline moods, words and behaviors will be recognizable and met with the needed support.
- Manage Conflict – It is expected that *Houseparents* will navigate adversity both within the home and with the team in a way that is solution-focused and reinforces program's mission and vision. Healthy boundaries are critical for *Houseparents* to establish and guarding these appropriately will inevitably lead to conflict amongst team members and/or residents. This has to be met head-on with truth-filled conversations covered in grace for one-another.
- Problem-Solver – It is expected that *Houseparents* will first seek to solve problems within the home before requesting assistance. The *Houseparents* are expected to be the primary leader within each house (not program staff) and thus will face the burden of solving their problems and the residents'.