

**eliminating racism  
empowering women**  
**ywca**

**Central Massachusetts**

Position:	Children's Advocate
Hours:	Greater Worcester: Sunday 8:00am–4:00pm, & Monday & Tuesday 3:00pm – 9:00pm. North Central Mass: Saturday & Sunday 8:00am –4:00pm, & Monday 12:00p – 5:00pm
Accountability:	Supervisor/Manager Residential Services
Location:	Greater Worcester or North Central Mass Shelters
Hourly Rate:	\$15.00 per hour
CORI Required:	Yes

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**About the YWCA Central Massachusetts**

For more than 125 years, the YWCA Central Massachusetts has served as a life-long positive force for women and girls, their families and communities. By leveraging the reach, power and passion of our members and supporters, we have created lasting change.

The YWCA Central Massachusetts offers a wide range of programs, including early education & care; domestic violence services; career assistance; healthy lifestyle promotion. Our services strengthen women and girls in the community, helping them to realize their full potential.

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**General Function:**

Represent the YWCA of Central Massachusetts, its mission and vision to the general public and professional groups and individuals. Main function is to provide individual and group counseling to children who have witnessed and/or been exposed to domestic violence in the home. Maintain knowledge of methods proven effective when working with children. Maintain resource information on services and referrals available throughout the community. Collaborate with community and professionals on special needs and issues of children living in violent homes. Develop and utilize curriculum for age appropriate groups of children. Interface with area children's agencies and schools to maintain effective collaborations. Provide supportive services to all survivors of domestic violence.

**Responsibilities:**

- Assess participants' needs
- Assess needs of children
- Provide personal advocacy for children
- Assess child safety and develop safety plan
- Conduct educational presentations
- Maintain appropriate records for all child Program Participants
- Maintain documentation as required
- Individual Counseling/Support Group Facilitation: Plan and facilitate weekly support groups for children, employing methods (play, art, etc.) appropriate to children's needs and development level. Provide individual counseling and guidance.

- Personal Advocacy and Follow-Up Contact: Assist survivors in securing needed referrals; determine scope of needs; assist with basic needs (food, clothing, etc.). Follow-up contact to offer emotional support, provide empathetic listening, and check on survivor's progress.
- Crisis Helpline/chat line Counseling: Provide survivors with crisis counseling, guidance, emotional support, information, referrals, etc
- Other duties as assigned by Supervisor/Manager

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's Degree in related field such as Human Services, Counseling, or Social Services
  - **Bi-lingual preferred**
  - Knowledge of domestic violence and/or family violence and related issues such as substance abuse and mental health, crisis intervention, individual and group counseling, community development, and education
  - Experience working with diverse populations
  - Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively with other professionals and team members
  - Ability to maintain professional boundaries and client confidentiality
  - Empathetic, non-judgmental and active listening skills
  - Ability to assess and intervene in crisis situations
  - Excellent written and oral communication skills
  - Organized; innovative
  - Knowledge of community resources
  - Proven ability to work well with children
  - Experience working with at-risk youth
  - Understanding of child development stages
  - Excellent computer skills required
  - Valid Massachusetts driver's license
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**How to apply:**

If you are interested in applying please send resume to:

Email: [HR@ywcaworcester.org](mailto:HR@ywcaworcester.org)

Fax: Human Resources at 508-754-0496

Mail: YWCA Central Massachusetts  
Attn: Director of Human Resources  
1 Salem Square  
Worcester, MA 01608-2090

The YWCA Central Massachusetts is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.