



The mission of TNOYS is to strengthen services and supports for Texas youth and their families to help them overcome challenges and achieve healthy development. TNOYS is seeking a Mental Health Policy Fellow to grow our policy team and deepen our policy focus on supporting the mental health of high-needs youth across youth-serving systems in Texas.

Position Title: Mental Health Policy Fellow

Location: Austin, Texas

Job Overview: The Mental Health Policy Fellow will report to and be mentored by the TNOYS Director of Public Policy and will play a critical role in TNOYS' legislative and regulatory advocacy work to strengthen, support, and protect critical services for Texas' highest needs youth. The Mental Health Policy Fellow will work collaboratively with TNOYS leadership, staff, members, youth partners and other stakeholders and will participate in the Hogg Foundation's Mental Health Policy Academy.

The key focus of this position will be on policy supporting the state's highest needs youth—those youth who are underserved or who have been placed in restrictive settings because of lack of more appropriate settings or services—regardless of the system or systems involved. With a focus on behavioral health and mental health support, the fellow will learn about policy and systems change across youth-serving systems, which include child welfare, housing, juvenile justice, schools and victim services, and will participate in TNOYS initiatives to positively impact these policies and systems.

Key Responsibilities:

- Develop and maintain relationships with TNOYS members, partners and other relevant youth-serving stakeholders.
- Engage and collaborate on statewide policy and advocacy focused on improving supports for and outcomes associated with high-needs youth.
- Work closely with TNOYS staff, TNOYS members, advocacy partners and other relevant stakeholders to identify opportunities to improve outcomes for the state's highest needs youth.
- Research and write analyses, track and analyze legislation and educate policymakers and their staff on relevant behavioral health and mental health policy issues across youth-serving systems before, during and after the 2021 Texas legislative session.
- Work with other TNOYS policy staff to keep TNOYS members informed and engaged in TNOYS policy work.



- Participate in the Hogg Mental Health Policy Academy and other training and professional development as determined appropriate to the position.

Other Responsibilities:

- Participate in staff meetings and other TNOYS activities as appropriate.
- Represent TNOYS in a manner consistent with its values and fulfill other TNOYS employee requirements as applicable.

Qualifications:

- Graduate of a master's degree program of law, social work, public policy, or other related program within the last 18 months;
- Ability to work well with a team and individually;
- Ability to multi-task and manage time appropriately to reach goals;
- Ability to work in a remote office environment, and travel locally for regular in-person meetings with supervisor as well as with partners and stakeholders;
- Demonstrated commitment to TNOYS values and a strong interest in helping to serve the mental health needs of at-risk and high-needs youth.

Position Type: This is a two-year full-time position, beginning in July 2020 and extending through July 2022. The fellow will be eligible for all TNOYS employee benefits, including paid time off and a competitive health insurance package. The fellow will operate under the same expectations as other TNOYS staff members, who work remotely, and who have access to space at the TNOYS executive office in Austin, if needed. The fellow will be provided regular supervision, guidance, feedback on his or her work and mentorship through virtual and in-person meetings with colleagues and supervisor, as well as emails, and calls.

Salary: \$48,000 plus benefits including health insurance, paid holiday, vacation and sick leave.

Application Instructions: To apply for this position, please submit a cover letter, resume, writing sample and three references to hire@tnoys.org.

Closing Date: Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis.

Texas Network of Youth Services is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer and strongly encourages members of traditionally underrepresented communities to apply, including people of color, LGBTQ+ identified people, gender-nonconforming people, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and people who speak a language in addition to English.