

**POSITION TITLE:** Project X-It Mentor

**DEPARTMENT:** Fiscal Resiliency Pilot – Early Learning and Family Services

**SUPERVISOR:** Caitlin Willson, AmeriCorps VISTA/Project X-It Coordinator

**HOURS AND COMMITMENT:** flexible (dependent on volunteer schedule)

**OUR MISSION:** *To act as a catalyst for positive change, both in the community and in the lives of the people we serve.*

**POSITION SUMMARY:**

The Opportunity Council's Early Learning and Family Services (ELAFS) department is recruiting mentors for an exciting 2-year financial resiliency pilot, *Project X-It*. Project X-It will provide financial education and coaching and monetary incentives for 24 families enrolled in Head Start in Whatcom, Island, and Skagit counties. Both parents and children will actively participate. In addition to building financial skills for both generations, we plan to coach families through an individualized plan that includes group learning and one-to-one opportunities.

We are seeking dedicated individuals to mentor a family enrolled in our pilot. Mentoring will consist of providing one-on-one financial coaching using our financial toolkit and collaborating with a family to develop goals in a Family Resiliency Plan.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Mentors will be trained to work closely with a parent developing goals to improve financial health while providing needed social and emotional support. We prefer mentors who are able to commit to assisting a family at least during the first year of the pilot, with an option to continue volunteering for an additional year. Mentors will meet one-on-one with a selected family at least 2-5 hours per month at the beginning of the pilot and less frequently as the pilot progresses.

**TRAINING:**

Thorough training is provided, and no previous experience is required. Prior to being matched with a family, all mentors will receive quality training in poverty culture, goal setting, financial coaching, and the financial tool-kit with continued support and opportunity for personal and professional development from staff and coordinators. Additional optional training sessions will be provided for continued mentor development throughout the pilot.

**VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS:**

Applicants must be dedicated, supportive, patient, and flexible individuals who are willing to be an advocate for a family regardless of difference in lifestyle, beliefs, culture, or background. As a mentor, it is important to have good listening skills, initiative, and the ability to maintain confidentiality. Applicants should also demonstrate an interest in supporting low-income families through one-on-one coaching.

**WORKING CONDITIONS:**

Example text: Work is generally performed in a fast-paced office environment with frequent interruptions. May require travel within the agency's service area for community networking, meetings, outreach and other job-related activities.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Sitting, Standing, Walking, Lifting: less than 25 lbs, Carrying: less than 25 lbs

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** November 10th

**TO APPLY:** Apply online at <http://www.oppco.org/how-to-help/>, please specify "Project X-it" in the application.