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Vocational ESOL Teacher

(Part-time, averaging 20 hours per week)

IRIS is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help refugees and other displaced people establish new lives, strengthen hope, dare to dream, and contribute to the vitality of communities in Connecticut and across the country. We also provide support to Americans who are sponsoring refugees for resettlement.

In welcoming peoples fleeing persecution and conflict, we are honoring our national heritage as a country of immigrants as well as our commitments under U.S. and international law. IRIS helps newcomers with services and support critical to their transition to self-sufficiency and to making local communities across the U.S. their home.

IRIS seeks spirited, experienced ESOL teachers to teach job-readiness focused English classes for newly arrived refugees with limited English who are seeking employment.

Job Summary & General Responsibilities:

IRIS is launching its own Vocational ESOL (VESOL) programming for newly arrived refugees to help them gain the basic English skills required for employment. These intensive three-hour classes will be held four days a week (Monday to Thursday) in our New Haven and Hartford offices (time of day to be negotiated). The classes may include a remote option for clients who live far away or are unable to travel to the IRIS office. Classes will focus mainly on speaking and listening skills and also include basic reading, writing, and digital literacy. Each class will last six to eight weeks. We plan to hold six or seven sessions over the course of the year.

This position is grant-funded. Grants typically fund for a period of one year. Extension grant-funded employment is subject to the availability of funds.

In submitting an application for employment, the applicant grants IRIS permission to check references as well as question anyone who might be familiar with the candidate's job performance.

Key Responsibilities:

- Work with the IRIS ESOL Coordinator and Adult Education team to implement, evaluate, and refine our new VESOL curriculum
- Teach students to use Burlington English and assign homework
- Participate in regular IRIS Education Team meetings; support other educational programs and initiatives as needed
- Create a safe, inviting, and engaging classroom environment
- Assess student needs and adjust teaching plans to meet these needs
- Provide differentiated instruction for students at different levels
- Monitor student progress
- Keep careful attendance and assessment records
- Incorporate job-readiness, digital literacy, and life skills
- Lived experience desired

Requirements | Candidates must have:

- Bachelor's degree (minimum)
- ESOL teaching experience (CT 088 endorsement preferred)
- A dynamic, engaging, student-centered teaching style
- Experience with refugees, asylees, immigrants, undocumented or mixed status families
- A commitment to anti-racism, cultural sensitivity, and the mission of IRIS
- Strong presentation, communication, and people skills
- Ability to assess students' needs and to provide differentiated learning opportunities to students at different levels
- Experience with hybrid teaching (with some students in person and others on Zoom or Google Meets)
- Outstanding time management and organizational skills

- Flexibility, patience, and a sense of humor
- Strong digital literacy skills; ease using Google Workspace and spreadsheets
- Fluency in spoken and written English

Reports to: Manager of Early Childhood & Adult Education

Compensation: This is a part-time hourly (20 hours per week). The salary range for this position is \$25.00 - \$30.00 per hour.

Benefits: Vacation and sick leave

Diversity and inclusion are hardwired into IRIS' mission: We are dedicated to welcoming peoples from all over the world who are fleeing persecution, war, and violence. We are more effective at serving our client's needs when we are representative of the communities we live in and work with. So we are an enthusiastic Equal Opportunity Employer. We strongly encourage people from underrepresented groups to apply. Please reach out if you need accommodations in applying.

To apply, send an email to humanresources@irisct.org as soon as possible with the following:

- A subject line that says "Vocational ESOL Teacher -YOUR NAME"
- A cover letter
- An attached resume
- Three professional references (at least two direct supervisors)

Applications will be reviewed as they are received and will continue to be accepted until the position is filled and no phone calls are accepted.