



## **Independent Living Specialist**

Want to join one of South Texas' premier child welfare agencies in "restoring innocence and strengthening families?" Family Tapestry, a Division of The Children's Shelter, is looking for you! Since 1901, The Children's Shelter has provided a continuum of Trauma-Informed Care for Bexar County children with a history of prolonged abuse, abandonment and/or neglect. Family Tapestry was created in 2018 to weave together the community to transform the foster care experience in Bexar County. Our goal at Family Tapestry is to ensure each child is safe in care, achieves permanency, improves their overall wellbeing, experiences fewer moves and shorter stays in care, and increases family engagement, which leads to better outcomes, trusting relationships, and meaningful connections. It takes one person to change the life of a child. Will you be part of our tapestry to fulfill our mission?

The Independent Living Specialist provides support to Foster Youth (age 17-21) aging out of the foster care system by providing life skills training and preparation for independence. The job requires sensitivity to the services populations' cultural and socioeconomic characteristics.

### **Responsibilities Include:**

- Develop and implement a multi-disciplinary Service Plan for each youth with the assistance of the Case Management Specialist.
- Assist youth to identify needs, set goals in building life skills by mobilizing resources for individual counseling on employment, vocational, housing, and educational services.
- Interact and act as a liaison between the school, placing agency, and other involved agencies, with regards to appropriate services.
- Collaborate with biological family members about independent living goals to assist the youth when emancipated.
- Develop and participate in scheduled recreational and/or cultural activities for youth.
- Assist in providing and arranging transportation for youth.
- Builds and maintains strong, collaborative relationships with the provider network, youth and community stakeholders.

### **Requirements:**

- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university in social work or related field is preferred.
- Minimum of two years' experience working with at-risk youth is required
- Working knowledge or Minimum Standards for Child Placing Agencies is preferred
- Bilingual with English and Spanish is a plus
- Maintain self-composure and self-control under stressful conditions, as this position requires a high degree of fortitude /emotional stamina. Clients may exhibit physical aggression, challenging, or offensive behaviors.
- Demonstrate a supportive, caring demeanor with clients.

**Family Tapestry is a Division of The Children's Shelter - an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to a culturally diverse workplace and offering a competitive pay and benefits package.**

You can apply on-line by visiting our website [www.familytapestry.org](http://www.familytapestry.org) or in person at:

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Monday-Friday 8am-5pm