**BLINDNESS: Learning In New Dimensions (BLIND) Inc.**

**HOME MANAGEMENT Instructor Job Posting**

For 30 years, Blindness: Learning In New Dimensions (BLIND, Inc.) has provided small group instruction in the alternative techniques of blindness. Our programs are based on a positive attitude toward blindness and a belief in the normality and competency of blind people. We know that with proper training and opportunity, blind people can live full, happy, and successful lives. We work hard to create an environment that promotes active learning and collegiality where adult students can empower themselves and exceed their expectations. We are one of three training centers rooted in the philosophy of the National Federation of the Blind, and are located just blocks south of downtown Minneapolis.

Successful applicants will be skilled in teaching and versed in the skills of home management, and should believe in the capabilities of blind people. Successful applicants should be passionate about teaching, excited by new challenges, and interested in working as part of a small but energetic team.

Instructors undergo staff training in order to ensure that they are fully competent to teach in their subject areas, understand the experiences of students in training, and build a solid foundation in the beliefs of blind people. Therefore, we are willing to work with sighted applicants who have a solid background in specific areas, and are willing to learn and practice nonvisual skills using a blindfold. Please read on to see what fields are preferred.

Both staff and student instruction is performed non-visually, with students who have any degree of remaining sight wearing blindfolds (sleepshades).

**Duties and Responsibilities**

1. Provide individualized instruction in nonvisual alternative techniques to blind adults in all areas of home management, including but not limited to:

* food shopping and preparation
* budgeting and menu planning
* sewing, cleaning, labeling
* clothing selection, organization and care
* Technology related to the area, such as bar code scanners, Bluetooth kitchen gadgets, and cell phone applications

2. Provide instruction for up to four adult students in a classroom with two full kitchen setups. The number of students may increase during projects such as Thanksgiving dinner. This position coordinates food preparation, serving, and setup for student activities, including student small and large meals.

3. Collaborate with the Residential Coordinator to ensure students have the tools and skills to work in their apartments, and assist with apartment instruction at least once per month.

4. Develop individualized lesson plans while working within the curriculum, and update it as needed.

5. Write comprehensive monthly reports on each student describing progress made and goals for the next month.

6. Create a yearly budget for the Home Management area, and keep record of expenses to be updated no less than once per quarter.

7. Maintain and update inventory of both kitchen equipment and food supplies, including disposal of expired products.

8. Participate and assist in all center confidence building activities, including white water rafting, dogsledding, camping and other challenge recreation activities. Some activities are off-site and require overnight travel.

9. Promote the organization's progressive philosophy of blindness and positive attitudes to students, co-workers and others, and provide support and guidance to students throughout their program.

10. Other duties as assigned.

**Requirements:**

1. Advanced skills in the area of home management

2. Willingness to undergo and successfully complete a period of paid staff blindfold training in order to learn or further develop alternative skills of blindness.

3. Ability to plan, organize and develop lessons.

4. Effective written and verbal communication skills and ability to work as part of a team

5. Be proficient in the use of Microsoft Office and Google Suites.

6. Ability to work with a variety of students, including those with multiple disabilities, ethnic background, or negative attitude.

**Preferred Qualifications:**

1. College degree—Preference to candidates with field of study in a field of blindness or teaching family sciences/home economics related field, or

2. Experience working with the blind in an instructional setting using the structure discovery teaching model

3. National Certification in Rehabilitation Teaching for the Blind (NCRTB) holder.

Position Benefits:

* Medical benefits
* Employer-contributed 403B retirement program
* Greater Minneapolis monthly transit pass
* paid attendance (including transportation, lodging and stipend) at National Federation of the Blind, state and/or national conventions
* Paid holiday leave totaling 19 days annually on average
* Accrued additional paid leave based on hours worked

Interested applicants should submit a resume, cover letter, and a 1-page writing sample describing what makes the candidate unique for this position, to Jennifer Kennedy, Executive Director, at jkennedy@blindinc.org. We are looking to interview candidates before the end of 2019. Please be sure to include all materials as incomplete applications will not be considered.

Contact Jennifer Kennedy via email at jkennedy@blindinc.org, or at 612-872-0100 with any questions regarding this position.