



SMALL GROUP

POSITION DESCRIPTION

A small group consists of at least four adults (age 25+) who meet together on a regular basis that are matched with a WAY Alliance youth. The group appoints a contact person who is responsible for communicating with other WAY Alliance volunteers and staff and ensuring the group fulfills its duties.

A Small Group:

- Consists of at least four adults who are ages 25+.
- Is genuinely interested in the concerns of youth who have experienced foster care.
- Is sensitive to people of different educational, economic, cultural, or racial backgrounds.
- Appoints a contact person who is responsible for communicating with other WAY Alliance volunteers and staff and ensuring the group fulfills its duties.

Responsibilities & Duties

- Pray** specifically for the needs of the youth, especially when the group meets together.
- Provide encouragement** through notes, small gifts, and care packages.
- Send a letter and/or small gift** to the youth on their birthday, holidays, and special occasions. This means the group should have the youth's birthday and know when they are graduating.
- Be a network of support for the youth.** For example, if the youth needs a job, utilize the group members' contacts to help the youth locate one.

Optional Activities

- Meet material needs (e.g. furniture, supplies, etc.)
- Meet financial needs (e.g. paying for phone service, driving lessons, etc.)
- Meet non-financial needs (e.g. senior photos)
- Sponsor mentor/mentee activities
- Meet with the youth in person
 - Drop off notes, gifts, care packages
 - Take the youth out to eat or to an activity
 - Host a get-together in honor of the youth (at holidays, birthday, graduation, etc.)

Length of Commitment

The Small Group is asked to serve a minimum of 12 months.

Application Process

- Orientation/Information Meeting
- Application (completed online by the Small Group's contact person)
- Interview (with the Small Group's contact person)
- Reference (from a leader in the Small Group's faith community)
- Background checks on Small Group Members are generally not required unless the group or individuals from the group choose to meet with the youth in person. Screening would then be completed prior to the meeting.