

## **ABC in Darien – Resident Director job opening – starting immediately (January 2021)**

A Better Chance in Darien is accepting applications for the Resident Director position to nurture and support eight academic scholars who reside in the ABC in Darien house while attending Darien High School. Candidates are being sought to begin immediately for the remainder of the 2020-2021 academic year as well continue as Resident Directors the 2021-2022 academic year.

**Consideration of candidates will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume to [janeuzzi@aol.com](mailto:janeuzzi@aol.com) and [Chadae.bowler@gmail.com](mailto:Chadae.bowler@gmail.com).**

### **Position Overview**

The Resident Director (RD) is an in-house professional who plays a critical role in the ABC experience. Due to time requirements, we strongly encourage couples to apply. The RD(s) must be committed to providing the scholars with the tools needed to thrive and successfully complete the ABC program, and for creating a sense of community in the ABC house. In addition to providing the ABC scholars with a safe, supportive and tolerant home-like atmosphere in which to live, learn and excel, the RD(s) work closely with the ABC in Darien Board of Directors, parents, teachers, guidance counselors, and the larger Darien community. The RD(s) reports directly to the ABC in Darien Board of Directors.

### **Requirements for Resident Director**

- Education required: Bachelor's Degree
- Experience working with youth and/or raising children of one's own
- Commitment to understanding and endorsing the mission, goals and culture of ABC with a particular interest in excellence and equity in education
- A general understanding of the broad issues facing educational systems and specific issues facing students of color
- Flexibility in work hours, as the role requires at least one RD to be present before 7:30am and after 4:30pm
- A general fondness for working with children, including kindness, acceptance, tolerance and empathy
- Demonstrated experience in listening, anticipating and responding to the needs of students of diverse social, cultural, economic and educational backgrounds
- Demonstrated ability to resolve conflicts and defuse emotionally charged situations through negotiations and effective communication
- Effective oral and written communication skills, using tact and diplomacy with the scholars, their teachers, counselors and the community at large
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Commitment to addressing issues of diversity and belonging (including, but not limited to, race and gender identity)
- Possession of a valid driver's license and insurance with a clean driver's record, and a willingness to occasionally provide transportation for the scholars
- Successful passing of a background check
- At least one RD must be in possession of a passenger vehicle

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- At least 3-5 years of experience working directly with students
- Residential experience with students (which includes raising one's own children)
- Working knowledge of public schools and their operations
- Demonstrated working relationships with school/college officials, parents and students
- A problem solver and self-starter with common sense and mature judgement
- A good listener and evaluator of information, particularly when dealing with adolescents and teenagers
- A commitment to promoting diversity
- Ability to maintain a high level of professionalism and confidentiality
- Prior experience in education, social work and/or counseling

### **Benefits**

- Housing year-round, and meals during the school year. RDs live in the ABC in Darien house in separate RD quarters
- Monetary stipend depending on experience
- Time off during school hours, school vacations and summers
- The opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of the scholars

### ***About A Better Chance National & A Better Chance in Darien***

*A Better Chance is a national non-profit organization that provides academically talented minority high school scholars with an opportunity to attend outstanding public and private secondary schools throughout the United States.*

*ABC in Darien, now in its 39<sup>th</sup> year, is an ABC Community School Program based in Darien, CT and has eight academically talented young women attending Darien High School and living during the school year in a home in Darien with two Resident Directors. At Darien High these scholars have the opportunity to attend a high school which offers a rigorous curriculum that nurtures their academic potential and prepares them to have the confidence and independence not only to succeed in college, but to also be leaders in their future endeavors. The scholars are highly motivated, talented and energetic, and participate in school athletics, clubs, community service programs and other extra-curricular activities. 100% of our graduates have gone on to four-year colleges and many go on for advanced degrees.*

*All of our scholars attend Darien High for four years and are from the NY, CT, MA, or NJ area. The students live in the ABC in Darien house with the Resident Directors who supervise daily life while creating a warm and caring atmosphere.*

**A Better Chance in Darien website [www.abcdarien.org](http://www.abcdarien.org)**

**A Better Chance National website [www.abetterchance.org](http://www.abetterchance.org)**