



KAAN 2018

Caring for Our Community: Mental Health, Self-Care, & Advocacy

JUNE 29-JULY 1, 2018

*DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Minneapolis - Park Place
1500 Park Place Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55416*

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR ADOPTEE MENTOR CORPS

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

KAAN was founded in 1998 to build a national adoption community that seeks to understand and improve the lives of adoptees and their families. We offer annual conferences whose attendees include adult adoptees; adoptive parents, siblings, and spouses; birthparents; Korean-Americans; Koreans; and others. We also offer year-round support through our website, newsletter, and other methods.

MENTOR CORPS PROGRAM GOALS

This program, where adult and older teen adoptees sign up for programs interacting with children and youth at the conference, is part of our plans to strengthen the KAAN community. Our goals for this program are to:

- Provide a safe, positive experience within the conference
- Give adult and older teen adoptees an opportunity to serve as mentors and have a positive impact on the youngest members of our community while also receiving a small stipend to offset conference fees
- Introduce young adoptees to adult adoptee role models with whom they can interact in a pressure-free environment
- Support families (both adoptive families and families headed by adult adoptees) with young children ages three through adolescence by providing more options in attending the KAAN conference
- Foster a deeper sense of community and partnership amidst the participants of the conference

MENTOR CORPS PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

The children at the conference are divided into two main groups:

- those in the childcare program (ages 3 to 6-7 years) and
- those in the youth program (ages 7 to 17 years).

Opportunities to interact with each group exist. (Teen adoptee mentors are eligible to serve in the childcare program only.) Programs are coordinated and supervised by our youth/childcare program co-sponsor, Sejong (www.sejongusa.org). Most activities involve a number of staff and mentors and take place at the hotel (an offsite youth field trip is often planned for Saturday). Mentors are needed starting Friday at 1:00PM through our Sunday close at 12:30PM.

MENTOR CORPS MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

When signing up for this program, members of the mentor corps agree to:

- Express a genuine interest in and desire to connect with the conference children and youth
- Serve for ten or more hours during the conference

- Be prompt and prepared for responsibilities, including responding to advance communications from program leaders
- Focus on the children and refrain from side conversations or use of cell phones and other electronics
- Act as a role model, displaying kind and patient behavior, dealing with conflict calmly and respectfully, and reaching out to program leaders for support when encountering a situation you don't know how to handle

APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND BENEFITS

If you are an adult adoptee or teen adoptee who is interested in this program, please contact us at info@KAANet.org by February 15 (sooner is better). We request:

- Your contact information, including phone number
- A short description of your experience, if any, in working with children and youth
- Your reasons for wanting to participate in this program

All mentors who meet the listed expectations will receive a small stipend at the end of the conference. Those who serve more than ten hours are also eligible for complimentary conference registration, shared hotel housing, and partial travel reimbursement of up to \$200 as well, per our standard speaker/presenter/staff policies. All of these benefits have required steps to utilize; make sure to read these policies upon acceptance of your role.