



3657 Michigan Ave • Colorado Springs CO • 80910 • 719.301.5411

## MARY'S HOME ACADEMY TEACHER POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>Title:</b>	Mary's Home Academy Teacher
<b>Accountable To:</b>	Mary's Home Academy Volunteer Coordinator
<b>Status:</b>	Volunteer position without opportunity for employment

### Organizational Background

Dream Centers is a faith-based non-profit organization founded in 2011 to provide health and hope to people of Colorado Springs who are working to rebuild their dreams. The two entities of Dream Centers are the Women's Clinic and Mary's Home. Mary's Home is a long-term, educationally-focused, in-depth program for single mother families working to exit homelessness permanently.

### Position Purpose & Overview

The primary purpose of a Mary's Home Academy teacher is to provide a safe, calm, loving, respectful, interactive, and experiential learning environment for Mary's Home students. Teachers must be willing to set aside preconceived notions and seek to understand the cultural backgrounds and experiences of individuals coming out of trauma. Teachers must be highly coachable, highly skilled, and highly adaptable in areas specific to the characteristics and needs of the student population. Teachers enter into a "transformational relationship" with the student which focuses on learning through trust. This trust is developed by creating an environment where students are listened to, valued, affirmed, and protected. Students are empowered by teachers to be shapers of their own learning and learning experiences. Teachers therefore embrace a facilitator role, which emphasizes psychomotor activities, dialogue, and peer-to-peer learning.

**Note:** If selected as a MHA teacher, you will be connected with the MHA team and be able to discuss topic areas. Available classes vary from semester to semester, but some possible topic areas include: yoga, college readiness, career readiness, emotional health, healthy relationships, self-identity, physical health, homemaking, Alpha, parenting, finances, car maintenance, self-defense, life skills, and communication. There is space for lead teaching and co-teaching within the Mary's Home Academy. A co-teacher is there to support the Lead Teacher and the students, but is not the primary teacher leading the content. New teachers, even those with facilitation or teaching experience, often start out as a co-teacher for a semester to learn the culture and methodology of the Mary's Home Academy.

### Responsibilities

- Present curriculum that fosters student healing, development, and/or life skills competency
- Ensure that class content is consistent with Mary's Home values and is based on Biblical truth, collaborative expertise, and/or evidence-based research
- Include at least two experiential activities per class to engage students through ideas, feelings, and actions
- Immediately respond to threats to students' physical or emotional safety
- Report concerns about students or situations occurring during class in an appropriate and timely manner



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- Report attendance after every class to ensure student accountability and support the Continuing Education Units Program
- Maintain professional boundaries with students similar to those of a college or workplace environment
- Adhere to the Mary's Home Academy Volunteer Code of Conduct and enforce Student Code of Conduct with care
- Hold necessary boundaries with residents
- Practice excellent self-care to maintain emotional and relational health

### Requirements and Qualifications

- Follower/disciple of Jesus Christ and committed to personal spiritual growth, in agreement with the Nicene Creed
  - OR if not a follower of Jesus Christ, faith friendly and not promoting views contrary to the Christian faith
- High commitment to confidentiality while working with the families, volunteers, and staff
- Have experience and skills in teaching and/or facilitating
- Have received training or be in the process of receiving training in trauma-informed care
- Have received or be in the process of receiving Mary's Home Academy teacher training
- Willing to make at least a 1-semester commitment to the role

### Time Commitment

One to three hours advance research, dialogue planning, and experiential exercise planning per class, plus class time.

### Physical Requirements:

Working Environment	Seldom	Occasional	Frequent
Cold (50° F or less)	X		
Heat (90° F or more)	X		
Gases/Fumes/Dust	X		
Heights	X		
Noise	X		
Climbing (Stairs/Ladders)	X		
Driving	X		
Standing			
Sitting			X
Walking	X		
Bending	X		
Work with Others			X
Working Alone		X	
Crawling or Kneeling	X		
Repetitive Movements		X	
<b>Office Machines</b>			
Telephone	X		

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Fax	X		
Calculator	X		
Computer/Mouse/Printer			X
Copier		X	
Dictaphone	X		
Scanner		X	
<b>Moving Heavy Items</b>			
Lifting/Lowering	X		
Pushing	X		
Reaching Over Shoulder	X		
Reaching Forward	X		
Carrying	X		
<b>Other Requirements</b>			
Visual Acuity: Near			X
Visual Acuity: Far			X
Color Discrimination			X
Hearing			X
Speech			X
Manual Dexterity			X