

# TIRED-A-LOT

## Build Counselor | Tired-a-Lot Summer Studio

Department: Community Development | Reports to: Comm. Dev. Director | Effective: June 11- July 13

*A strong and healthy community begins in the heart of each neighborhood  
...That they may be encouraged in heart and united in love... Colossians 2:2*

*Bridge of Grace believes that each employee makes a significant contribution to our success. That contribution should not be limited by the assigned responsibilities. Therefore, this position description is designed to outline primary duties, qualifications and position scope, but not limit the volunteer or the organization to just the work identified. It is our expectation that each volunteer will offer his/her services wherever necessary to ensure the success of our endeavors to the Glory of God. Founded in 2012, this organization's primary function is to walk boldly in the transforming power of Jesus Christ as we aspire to develop our community.*

### **General Position Summary:**

We are looking for a highly-motivated, flexible, and energetic individual to help guide 1-2 dozen teenagers through the design process during our 5-week "Tired-a-Lot" Summer Studio"-a 2016 Knight Cities Challenge winning proposal that aims to promote design thinking and civic engagement to inner-city youth and increase their exposure to various design professions. The goals of the studio include re-imagining and activating one of our community's vacant lots using low-cost, locally-sourced materials, and creating a field-guide illustrating how residents in other neighborhoods can create installations similar to those designed by our teens.

As our Build Counselor, you will help students think pragmatically to translate their 2-dimensional design concepts into three dimensional mockups and full-scale working prototypes. You will help students consider budget and material constraints, while being conscientious of maintaining their initial vision or design intentions.

### **Primary Responsibilities:**

Your responsibilities will include collaborating with Summer Studio Leadership and staff to:

- Guide students through the process of creating working prototypes of their designs by providing desk critiques with each student/team, offering advice regarding:
  - the selection of appropriate fasteners, finishes, and materials (helping students understand the strengths and limits of each material),
  - construction techniques and best practices,
  - the creation of a materials list and budget (within the predetermined constraints), and...
  - designing installations that can be easily reproduced.
- Provide an introduction (or primer) about tool operation, as well as safety equipment and procedures
- Ensure that workshops complement the Summer Studio's daily and weekly "themes"
- Promote an atmosphere of both encouragement and rigor for studio students and volunteers
- Participate in daily debriefing sessions as well as lessons learned/best practices team exercise at the camp's conclusion
- Complete additional tasks (i.e. room setup and cleanup, acting as a chaperone during field trips, etc.) as needed to run the Summer Studio efficiently
- Complete additional tasks (i.e. room setup, photo/video documentation, blog entries, etc.) as needed to run the Summer Studio efficiently

## **Qualifications**

### Skills

- Proven experience operating construction equipment and hand tools while adhering to safety protocols and procedures.
- Excellent coordination and verbal communication skills
- Broad understanding of the design process and design thinking
- Strong demonstrated project management, volunteer coordination, and task management
- Ability to communicate clearly and fluently, about design and construction processes, in English (conversational Spanish is preferred but not required)
- Working knowledge and proficiency with Microsoft Office Programs including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Publisher. (Experience with Adobe Creative Suite is a plus)
- Experience operating CNC routers, as well as drafting and rendering skills is a plus

### Education Requirements

- Degree in architecture, landscape architecture, furniture design, or a related field OR ...
- Hands-on experience in architecture, interior design, or building trades (including: construction, carpentry, furniture-building, etc.)
- High School Diploma

### Personality Traits + Relational Skills

- Sense of imagination: open-minded about using upcycled, reclaimed, and locally-sourced materials creatively. Willing to think outside the box to help teenagers meet their design goals.
- Attention to detail and dedication to excellence: Be able to distinguish between good and great construction quality and articulate the difference
- Understanding and/or experience working in multi-cultural settings
- Enthusiasm and patience working with teenagers and volunteers who want to make difference in their community
- Excellent interpersonal skills and a collaborative working style

**Reports to:** Bridge of Grace Community Development Director

**Compensation:** \$3000, Weekly stipend of \$600

**Job Type:** Full time, Temporary

**To Apply:** Send letter of interest and résumé to: [rbradley@bridgeofgracecmc.org](mailto:rbradley@bridgeofgracecmc.org)

*Bridge of Grace Compassionate Ministries Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer. No applicant for employment shall be subjected to discrimination because of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability, age, reprisal for engaging in anti-discrimination activities, protected genetic information, sexual orientation or parental status.*

## Supplemental Information | Build Counselor

### Bridge of Grace Compassionate Ministries Center

#### Program Description:

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, we will launch our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Tired-a-Lot Summer Studio, a 2016 Knight Cities Challenge project! Tired-a-Lot is a 5-week youth-design studio that will reimagine and transform vacant properties in Mount Vernon Park.

Mount Vernon Park, an underserved neighborhood in Fort Wayne Indiana, has

- Residents who desire to build relationships with one another,
- A growing student population with limited access to the arts (and creative career fields), and...
- More than 15 vacant lots scattered throughout the community.

Tired-a-Lot, a design studio organized by Bridge of Grace CMC, for the youth of Mount Vernon Park, is an effort that will begin to address each of these concerns. The studio will foster civic engagement and resourcefulness by engaging students in the process of identifying and creating design solutions-- using low-cost and upcycled materials (like pallets and tires)-- to address a community need of their choosing.

During the summer, 12-24 high-school students from Mount Vernon Park and its surrounding neighborhoods will participate in a 5-week design studio, whose final outcome will be the reactivation of 1-2 vacant green lots in the neighborhood. The studio will also result in the creation of community toolkits that residents can use to learn how to create similar installations.

#### Organization Description:

Bridge of Grace Compassionate Ministries Center (BGCMC) -a faith based nonprofit organization affiliated with Many Nations Church of the Nazarene- was created for the purpose of transforming the Mount Vernon Park neighborhood as well as the lives of its residents.

Our mission is to encourage confidence and self-sufficiency by empowering individuals and families through a Christ-centered approach that endeavors to meet the spiritual, academic, physical, and emotional needs of our community.

#### Design Thinking + Program Structure

During the summer studio, students will be introduced to, and guided through, the four (4) stages of "Design Thinking" (which inform the studio's overall structure). Stages, and focus areas for each stage, are as follows:

1. Week 1: Inspiration
  - Focus Area 1: Data collection and Research (site + neighborhood-focused)
  - Focus Area 2: Daily Motivation + Reflection (community + self-focused)
2. Weeks 2 + 3: Ideation – Focus: Generating design solutions
3. Weeks 3+ 4: Implementation – Focus: Prototyping and building concepts
4. Week 5: Investigation – Focus: Aggregating community feedback and lessons learned to determine future best practices