



## ***Day in the life of the: Teaching Assistant***

**Your schedule** – – You are working the same family-friendly schedule that appeals to many in the field of education. This is an hourly position that works a typical school schedule from Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Your responsibilities** – During the school day, the students are at the center of everything you do. You are the extra set of eyes and provide the additional input that is needed to help the class run more smoothly.

Your talents are relied on both inside and outside of the classroom to:

- provide support and safety of the youth within the school setting;
- assist with behavioral and educational needs throughout the day as needed; and
- mentor/role-model for our youth within Hillside.

Unlike traditional schools, trauma informed care is provided to youth who either live at one of our residential locations or attend one of our day treatment centers. If you enjoy working in a classroom setting, you'll like knowing that about 75% of the Teaching Assistant's time is spent within the classroom.

You are to be actively involved in:

- working with youth on their academics;
- planning activities for recess, taking walks, playing games, and music activities (following the students' safety plan);
- assessing and respectfully addressing behavioral issues that may include physical aggression, sleeping, and defiance within the classroom;
- documenting and reporting behaviors back to the units and/or Clinicians to assist in supporting the goal setting and progress of the youth; and
- Implementing approved TCI strategies, when needed.

**Your Background** – To accelerate successfully in this role, you should have prior work experience in a public school or with at-risk youth and be committed to trauma-informed care, degrees including, but not limited to, Psychology, Education, or Communications are also helpful. Please refer to the job posting for specific educational and experience requirements.

**Your Total Experience** – This is a very fulfilling role, one in which you positively impact the lives of the children you work with every day. As a Teaching Assistant your support really will make a difference. The most rewarding aspect of this position is the relationships you build with youth and your team. Although the environment at times can be chaotic, it gives you an opportunity to show your unique talents. The rewards from being a part of the success stories of these youth are immeasurable!

Hillside is proud of its commitment to supporting the goals and aspirations of its employees; it's even part of our Shared Values! Teaching Assistants can expect a traditional progression to a level II or III Teaching Assistant with additional working experience.

Hillside Family of Agencies provides individualized health, education, and human services in partnership with children, youth, adults, and their families through an integrated system of care. Our Teacher Assistants are personally and professionally dedicated to this mission not only in practice but in spirit.

*“Employees in this role must be able to handle stressful situations calmly, be able to work in a team dynamic, have a sense of humor, and have a desire to make a positive impact on the youth that we serve!”*

-Teaching Assistant, Varick