



Serendipity's Mission is to provide the best environment for our students to heal and become educated, productive community members.

Student Work Experience Opportunities Fact Sheet

As the guiding philosophy for our therapeutic school, Serendipity embraces the principles of Re-Education. These focus on the strength inherent in each child, employing a variety of perspectives and experiential approaches to thoughtfully move students towards independence.

Program Definition

Serendipity's Upper School students are given the opportunity to serve in a variety of volunteer work positions throughout the school. The program's Student Work Coordinator helps students identify work placements in which they are interested and then matches them with onsite staff supervisors/coaches who oversee student work. The Employment Practice Program allows Serendipity's students to make meaningful contributions to their school community while developing and practicing the vocational skills necessary to support adaptive functioning after high school graduation. Each year, Serendipity's students are eager to serve in these roles and demonstrate pride in their work.

Student Work Opportunities:

Students hold the following volunteer positions at Serendipity:

- **Food Service Worker**
Duties include food preparation, lunch service, dishwashing and kitchen/dining hall cleanup.
- **Garden Apprentice**
Duties include assisting the Garden Coordinator to plant, cultivate and harvest produce as part of Serendipity's comprehensive farm-to-school initiative.
- **Maintenance Assistant**
Duties include assisting the Facilities Coordinator with various cleanup, maintenance and construction projects on the school grounds.



- **Administrative Assistant**
Duties include filing, sorting, supply ordering and general clerical support.
- **Student Tutor/Mentor**
Duties include working with assigned Lower School students within the context of academic activities, Therapeutic Recreation classes and social events.



For more information, please contact:

Kevin Thompson, Serendipity Principal
503-761-7139
ext. 149 kevint@serendipitycenter.org

Jackie Trussell, Treatment Director,
503-761-7139
ext. 135 jackiet@serendipitycenter.org

Kristin Harquail, Admissions Manager
503-761-7139
ext. 146 kristinh@serendipitycenter.org

Serendipity's Core Beliefs, drawn from the Principles of RE-Education:

- Trust is essential.
- Feelings should be nurtured.
- Groups are major sources of instruction.
- Community must be experienced to be learned.
- Intelligence can be enhanced.
- Competence makes a difference, especially with schoolwork.
- Self-control can be taught.
- Physical experiences help us define ourselves.
- Now is when life is to be lived.
- Time is an ally in support of positive changes
- Ceremony and ritual give order, stability, and confidence.
- Joy should be built into each day.