

January 2020 | Los Angeles



## POLICY DIRECTOR, MENTAL HEALTH

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### OUR MISSION & HISTORY

Established in 1993 to drive a children's agenda on emerging issues, The Children's Partnership (TCP)'s mission is to improve the lives of underserved children where they live, learn, and play with breakthrough solutions at the intersection of research, policy, and community engagement.

### POSITION SUMMARY

TCP seeks a highly skilled and experienced policy professional with strong project management abilities. This position will serve as the organizational expert in mental health, helping shape our policy agenda and overseeing the execution of a 2-year partnership pilot project focused around adolescent mental health.

Utilizing community engagement, research, and advocacy, the Director will help shape, lead, and implement strategies across TCP's policy and advocacy work in support of TCP's broader agenda to improve the wellbeing of children from marginalized communities.

The Director will execute a pilot program that offers an equitable grantmaking process, facilitates learning opportunities and captures and documents data in a way that will inform the mental health field at large regarding investments in young people directly impacted by depression, anxiety and suicide.

### THE PILLARS OF OUR WORK

• Advance an Equity Agenda for Children • Build and Elevate Partnerships • Drive Community-Informed Research & Policy • Be the Leading Voice for Children • Promote a Dynamic and Innovative Organizational Culture

### OUR VALUES

Balance, Equity, Growth, Accountability and Trust

**NOTE: While this is currently a grant-funded position for 24 months, TCP is committed to seeking additional funding for the role to continue beyond this grant timeframe in order to support advocacy around child and youth mental health.**

### RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Policy & Advocacy:

- Serve as TCP's policy expert on mental health, with a focus specifically on child & adolescent mental health
  - Identify policy themes across TCP staff priorities to guide TCP collective policy analysis and advocacy agenda around child and adolescent mental health
  - Direct the development and implementation of policy and advocacy strategies in California around child and adolescent mental health and use this work to inform TCP national engagement
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- Provide in-depth research & policy analysis related to health equity, public health, and other systems affecting children and youth
  - Monitor and analyze implementation of state and federal laws and legislation as related to children and youth and mental health and prepare reports that convey the impact both positive and negative of policy and legislative proposals.
  - Establish relationships with local, state and national lawmakers in order to influence policy, in conjunction with Government and Community Relations staff
  - Identify and work with key community, government, corporate, and other partners, in conjunction with Government and Community Relations staff
  - Produce high-quality written materials, such as Issue Briefs, fact sheets, blogs, and letters
  - Plan and staff convenings, facilitate meetings, and give presentations.
  - Represent TCP in select state, local & national external workgroups, meetings, briefings & other venues to promote the organization's goals & strategies.

**Project Oversight:**

This project is expected to reach & engage people-of-color led organizations to better mental health outcomes for young people of color. TCP's role is to lead the design, administration and coordination of a community-focused sub-granting process and to facilitate grantee convenings, site visits and evaluation opportunities. Some travel required. The Director will be expected to:

- Manage all components of a large grant, including developing a workplan, tracking activities, managing the project budget, writing reports and proposals, and executing/supporting sub-grants
- Coordinate project partners around project scope and objectives and ensure that all project components are delivered on-time, within scope and within budget
- Build and manage relationships with sub-grantees to provide targeted supports, technical assistance and consultation in an effort to increase their capacity to engage in advocacy on these issues
- Work with partner organizations and experts to evaluate programmatic success
- Write and distribute reports, articles, briefs and memoranda on issues related to adolescent mental health access and support issues
- Organize, participate in, and conduct trainings, webinars, and conferences to spotlight & disseminate best practices, build awareness and knowledge for sub grantees and relationship-build with impacted communities
- Cultivate relationships with national and state leaders and partners
- Find synergy with TCP policy and advocacy priorities and identify opportunities to advance state level policy action, where relevant

**Communications:**

- Work with TCP's Communications team on press strategies, serve as spokesperson on relevant issues, and assist in drafting key statements and releases.
- Participate in relevant TCP media events and strategic Sacramento events, as needed.
- Be available to respond to unanticipated issues or events that may fall outside our Policy Agenda but relate to TCP's mission and overall program agenda.
- Work with TCP's Development staff to write and edit proposals and progress reports and manage grants for identified projects.

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## COMPETENCIES (KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES)

- Expertise in mental health policy & children's mental health issues
- Knowledge of policy and issues related to racial justice and equity, healthcare delivery systems, social determinants of health, such as immigration status, early childhood development, including impacts of adverse childhood experiences, and other issues affecting children and their physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- Strong project manager with clear expectations for timelines and deliverables and ability to devise and implement project workplans
- Excellent management skills; ability to influence and engage direct and indirect reports and peers
- Ability to achieve results and remain flexible at a rapid pace
- General knowledge of advocacy and lobbying compliance as a 501(c)(3)
- Exceptional troubleshooting and problem-solving skills, resolving issues proactively and creatively
- Excellent research, writing, and policy analysis skills, including ability to accurately and concisely summarize complex information for a broad range of audiences
- Ability to effectively communicate within a diverse community with a variety of stakeholders
- Strong oral communication & public speaking skills
- ability to work collaboratively with a diversity of individuals at all levels, independently and as a team

## QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE

- Master's degree
- Minimum of eight to ten (8-10) years of health policy experience or relevant professional work
- Existing network of relationships with California state and federal policymakers and executive agencies
- Demonstrated capacity for developing and implementing a policy agenda, including policy and program research and advocacy strategies
- Demonstrated knowledge of or investment in issues specifically impacting communities of color
- Ability to synthesize complex policies and data into clear and compelling updates, advocacy materials and strategies

Full-time position (FLSA: Exempt).

Salary: Commensurate with experience. Excellent health, retirement & other benefits.

Some local, statewide, and national travel required.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Email resume and cover letter summarizing interests & qualifications to [search@childrenspartnership.org](mailto:search@childrenspartnership.org). State "MH Policy Director" in the subject line. No phone calls, please.

*TCP is an Equal Opportunity Employer that will not discriminate against applicants or employees based upon any characteristics that are protected by federal, state, or local laws, regulations or ordinances. In addition, the organization will consider qualified applicants with criminal histories in a manner consistent with the Los Angeles Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring.*