

PCA AMERICA & HEALTHY FAMILIES AMERICA

PUBLIC POLICY DEPARTMENT

February 4, 2019

JOB POSTING: PCAA & HFA STATE ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

JOB OPENING:

Full Time - State Advocacy Specialist,

Prevent Child Abuse America & Health Families America

Overview

The State Advocacy Specialist (SAS) provides public policy and advocacy support to the 50 state chapter network of Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA America) and PCA America's signature home visiting program, Healthy Families America (HFA). The Specialist provides leadership, strategic planning, guidance and support to advance the goals and mission of PCA America and HFA. The SAS will grow HFA and PCA America presence at state legislatures throughout the country by facilitating informative advocacy, educational campaigns, cultivating positive public and political will, and connecting allied political champions and stakeholders to each other. This position will focus on local and state capacity building through increased funding, resources, and positioning including identifying and engaging new opportunities and funding streams for our home visiting programs and state chapters. The SAS will maintain a close relationship to chapter and site leaders, providing the necessary technical assistance and support for a robust and responsive advocacy framework.

The candidate chosen for this position will be seasoned in cultivating strategic partnerships and eager to work in the field of child welfare to promote prevention policy, home visiting, collaborative community-based family programming, and healthy child development. The Specialist supports the federal policy team and distills national priorities into effective state advocacy strategies for our HFA and PCA America networks. This position requires up to 65% domestic U.S. travel.

Founded in 1972, Prevent Child Abuse America works to ensure the healthy development of children and the prevention of child abuse and neglect nationwide. PCA America is powered by our dedicated and thriving chapter network, which operates successfully in all 50 states as well as our signature home visiting program operating in 600 sites and 38 states, Healthy Families America. In 1992, Prevent Child Abuse America® launched the Healthy Families America® home visiting model to address high rates of child abuse occurrences among children under five. HFA programs support parents through life challenges such as single parenthood, low-income stressors, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), substance abuse, mental health issues, and domestic violence. Healthy Families America is rooted in the belief that early, nurturing relationships are the foundation for life-long, healthy development.

Roles and Responsibilities

1. Develop strategies to increase PCA America's & HFA's presence federally and at the state level including outreach education, aligning political champions and resources, bolstering stake holder involvement, removing barriers for greater access, and analyzing challenges.
2. Identify and grow new opportunities and funding streams for home visiting in states.
3. Support and bolster leadership at the state level and identify regions of greatest need or opportunity. Build awareness, educate and increase public and political will in support of our programs.
4. Provide strategic consultation, build capacity, and develop advocacy resources.
5. Contribute to the planning and execution of HFA's and PCA America's cross-country peer learning events (e.g. webinars, meetings, conferences, etc.), including assisting to identify topics that are most salient to state advocates and other state leaders.
6. Assess state and local site structures to determine capabilities, strengths, weaknesses and mobility and provide assistance to enhance and advance site advocacy capacity.
7. Assist in the development of state advocacy plans to ensure sustainability of home visiting programs and dissemination of advocacy tactics and training to sustain and mobilize the field.
8. Establish a presence in the state, at the local legislature and throughout critical networks among key constituencies. Maintain positive working relationships with high-level key stakeholders as well as with state and federal coalitions. Engage and partner with existing champions, networks, and stakeholders to develop innovative, inclusive, and community based approaches to better serve families.
9. Work with members of the organization's senior leadership, CEO, and Board of Directors to collaborate and grow outreach and advocacy strategies for programs.
10. In consultation with Senior Director of Public Policy, contribute and strategize to determine solutions to complex and/or cross-system policy problems, bringing both process and content knowledge.
11. In consultation with Senior Director of Public Policy, develop and apply legislative and administrative advocacy and systems change approaches and best practices, when appropriate, to reach a broad external audience.
12. Work closely with the PCA America national office and the HFA Implementation and Accreditation division to determine strategies for growth within our networks.
13. Balance competing interests, views and information, on an independent and bipartisan basis.
14. Perform other duties as assigned within the scope of this job description.

Necessary Qualifications and Skills

- Bachelor's degree required
- At least 5-10 years of experience in advocacy, policy, program(s) and systems building work, work with state and local governments or closely related work required
- Knowledge of current child welfare trends, challenges, federal and state opportunities, funding streams and policy climate in the early childhood and infant mental health field.

- Ability to readily acquire and maintain knowledge of a broad array of program, policy, research, and communication issues that are critical to PCA America's & HFA's operation.
- Ability to exercise consistently sound judgment in determining appropriate approaches in interactions with other divisions, senior leaders, and external partners related to complex, sensitive or nuanced issues.
- Able to build rapport within PCA America Chapters & the HFA network and external high-level stakeholders as appropriate.
- Knowledge of the Healthy Families America model a plus.
- Living in the DC metro area a plus.

Work environment:

The State Advocacy Specialist must maintain a home based office with Internet, telephone and fax capacity and be available to engage in domestic travel regularly.

Compensation:

Salary is commensurate with educational and professional experience. Benefits include Paid Time Off: Vacation, Sick, Holiday and Personal Days as well as a Non-Matching 401K, Health, Dental, Vision, Life, and Disability Insurance.

To Apply:

Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

Please mail, fax or email your resume, salary history, and cover letter to:

Marissa Morabito, Senior Director of Public Policy

Prevent Child Abuse America

228 South Wabash Avenue 10th Floor

Chicago, IL 60604

Fax: 312-939-8962

Jobs@PreventChildAbuse.Org

NOTE: Applications without RESUME, SALARY HISTORY, and COVER LETTER will not be reviewed. No phone calls will be accepted. To learn more about HFA, please visit: www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org. To learn more about our national Prevent Child Abuse America office, please visit: PreventChildAbuse.Org

Prevent Child Abuse America is an Equal Opportunity Employer