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Senior Director, Judicial and National Engagement

Job Category: Non-Field Office

Requisition Number: SENIO001699

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Posted: January 12, 2022

Full-Time

Seattle, WA 98121, USA

Job Details

Description

Casey Family Programs, an Equal Opportunity Employer, is the nation's largest operating foundation focused on safely reducing the need for foster care and building Communities of Hope for children and families across America. Founded in 1966, we work in 50 states, the District of Columbia and two territories and with more than a dozen tribal nations to influence long-lasting improvements to the safety and success of children, families and the communities where they live. Casey Family Programs values inclusion, diversity, equity, and respect for individuals in the workplace. We encourage candidates with diverse lived experience and perspectives from underrepresented communities to apply.

Casey Family Programs requires a COVID-19 vaccination for in-person work. Therefore, all employees will be required to present proof of vaccination status unless they qualify for a medical or religious exemption.

Job Summary:

The Senior Director of Judicial and National Engagement brings national expertise in key areas of access to justice, dependency court legal practice, and the development of partnerships and collaborations that will support judicial branch improvements and promote the social determinants of health and prevention. This position will promote effective practice strategies and support to national efforts to create communities of practice that advance judicial branch and national engagement strategies that will strengthen child, family and community well-being. The Senior Director brings national expertise in three key areas of Dependency Court work: (1) judicial and attorney leadership; (2) high quality legal representation; and (3) working to strengthen the "front-door" of the court. This position reports to the Managing Director of Judicial and National Engagement (JNE) and coordinates and provides consultation at a national level and in identified states

to achieve Casey Family Programs' mission and JNE's strategic priorities. The Senior Director coordinates and provides efforts to reduce the need for children to be reported to Child Protective Services or enter foster care by strengthening high quality legal representation for families, promoting preventive legal advocacy across the country, and promoting court reforms to narrow the front door of child welfare.

The Senior Director will ensure alignment of the team's work with national and jurisdictional goals, Systems Improvement and Casey Family Programs overall strategic priorities.

Essential Responsibilities:	% of Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, promote and develop strategies to advance equal access to justice, high quality legal advocacy, and support judicial branch partnerships and collaborations that promote 21st Century child and family well-being efforts. Serve as a thought leader with expert JNE team members in developing and advancing judicial branch strategies and priority projects that will promote the mission. Lead preventive legal advocacy efforts and support research and technical assistance initiatives associated to high quality legal advocacy at national and jurisdictional levels. Serve as a lead on select national partnerships. Work directly with select sites to offer consultation in attorney best practice, court administration and Court Improvement Program (CIP) strategies with expert JNE team members. 	30%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share in the operational management of the Judicial and National Engagement unit, overseeing and taking responsibility for national projects, including court and multi-system teaming, consultants, and national judicial and legal organizations, receives and responds to internal and external requests for judicial system products that further Casey's judicial and national engagement vision. Particular focus will be given to strengthening judicial and attorney leaderships, supporting efforts to strengthen legal representation and promoting reforms to narrow the front door of the court system, including developing preventive legal advocacy models across the country, 	20%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate process for JNE members to identify, promote, and disseminate court practice models, methodologies, and tools that improve access to justice and collaboration with the child protection agency and all five sectors of our society (public, non-profit, business, community and philanthropic) to produce positive outcomes for families and communities. Contribute to the design, development, implementation, and evaluation of national best child welfare court practices and prevention initiatives. Promote the management and continuous quality improvement of JNE priority projects to ensure alignment with and achievement of overall strategic goals. 	15%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work closely with teams across Systems Improvement, Child and Family Services, Indian Child Welfare, and other Casey work units to ensure alignment and quality improvement on objectives, practice, and outcomes from the Judicial and National Engagement Team. 	10%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and maintain budget in collaboration with the Managing Director and reports on assessment of monthly variances and spending projections. 	5%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In collaboration with other Casey units, ensure compliance with legal, financial, and Casey's strategic objectives and state plans, drafts required reports, as well as promoting the operationalization of the strategic priorities of the JNE team. 	10%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advance the use of multi-sector data, including both child welfare and maltreatment related data with community indicators of child and family well-being, with the judicial branch and national partners to support strategic priorities. Collects, compiles, and reports court site data and coordinates reports with Data Advocacy state agency data to identify intersections and distinctions. 	5%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other duties as assigned. 	5%

Qualifications:

- Law degree and a minimum of 8 years of prior experience in dependency courtroom practice, court administration experience, preventive legal advocacy, or related; or Master's Degree in Public Policy, Public Administration or related field with professional background of minimum 12 years' experience with judicial and executive branch activities, partnerships, legal policy, or dependency practice.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Strong attention to detail, organization. Collaborative partnerships skills a must.
- Direct experience as it relates to judicial policy and practice, court administration or legal representation best practice, and preventive legal advocacy. Expert knowledge of multi-disciplinary collaboration, judicial and legal continuing education, legal representation, child welfare and national policy affecting each area.
- Experience in strategic planning, systems integration, operational achievement of goals and an in-depth understanding of multi-state dependency court systems required. Knowledge and experience of national legal trends as it relates to child welfare policy. Understanding of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI), project management, and program implementation processes are needed.
- Strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and a clear understanding of current racial equity issues in child welfare and other public systems. The individual must demonstrate a clear desire and ability to promote better outcomes for marginalized and underrepresented communities and jurisdictions, including US territories and tribal nations.
- Experience in legal research and solid working knowledge of Lexis or Westlaw, MS Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, PageMaker, and SharePoint etc.), Google Apps, and Zoom. Ability to learn other pertinent software programs as required.
- Proven ability to be highly organized, detail-oriented so as to oversee budget and operations that are internal and external to the organization. Individual must be assertive in setting and maintaining deadlines and assuring quality in managing projects. Strong organizational skills, critical thinking, and effective written and verbal communication skills are needed.
- This regular full-time position is out posted and may require travel up to 50% or more of the time.
- Physical requirements include the ability to lift and reach for light objects; close visual acuity to prepare and analyze data, text, and figures; ability to type utilizing a computer keyboard; ability to travel to outside locations; and the ability to work at a computer for extended periods of time as a primary job function.

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