COMMUNITY PROJECT SPECIALIST

1099 - Contract Position

Jump IN for Healthy Kids

Position Summary:

Responsible for promoting the prevention of childhood obesity by supporting the development of interventions that improve healthy eating and physical activity environments for children, in community settings. This will include work in schools through the Jump Right UP program, with employers or with other community partners. Oversees assessment, intervention, and evaluation activities related to these different environments. Provides consultation and encouragement to community partners developing policies, procedures, and guidelines relative to healthy nutrition and physical activity, especially within the school environment.

Position Responsibilities:

- Develops relationships with appropriate community partners to accomplish project objectives.
- Interacts and maintains communication with local and regional health, social service, and educational entities.
- Works with Jump IN Research Manager to implement evaluation strategies and measure progress toward healthier environments.
- Monitors activities relevant to school-based wellness policies and programs, specifically utilization of various school wellness instruments.
- Offers evidence-based models and support for the adoption of policies, procedures, and guidelines related to increasing access to healthy foods/beverages, limiting access to unhealthy foods/beverages, and an increase in physical activity engagement.
- Provides tactical support such as technical consultation and leverages other resources to enable schools and community partners to increase access to healthy foods/beverages, decrease access to unhealthy foods/beverages, and increase physical activity engagement.
- Encourages and promotes program activities within program sites, schools, target neighborhoods, and the general community.
- Supports grant-based requirements in the areas of the assigned project.

Qualifications:

- Completion of a degree in health education, education, public health, or a related field and a minimum of one year of experience working with schools or community partners on health. Relevant community experience will also be considered with a completed degree.
Experience in health, community, and/or educational project planning, development, implementation and promotion within an urban setting.

Demonstrated computer competencies: access the Internet for research purposes; send/receive e-mails and files; use word-processing and spreadsheet software.

Knowledge of:
- coalition building process
- public health principals and concepts
- institutional policy development
- data management/analysis

Available to attend meetings outside of normal working hours (8:00AM-5:00PM).

Have transportation and be able to travel locally on an ongoing basis.

Equal Opportunity Employer

About Jump Right UP:

In 2017 Jump IN for Healthy Kids created Jump Right UP a partnership to improve the health of kids in Indianapolis school districts.

The purpose of Jump Right UP is to provide technical assistance and resources to achieve the goals of promoting positive nutrition and physical activity, organizational, and environment policy and practice changes in schools, to assist in the prevention and reduction of childhood obesity, and overall improvement in children's health. The Jump Right UP program aims to create a sustainable infrastructure for health and wellness school cultures to flourish.

As part of the evaluation effort, the Alliance for a Healthier Generation's School Health Index (SHI) is used to measure the number of best practices adopted by each school and district. The SHI was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in partnership with school administrators and staff, school health experts, parents, and national non-governmental health and education agencies to:
- Enable schools to identify strengths and weaknesses of health and safety policies and programs.
- Enable schools to develop an action plan for improving student health, which can be incorporated into the School Improvement Plan.
• Engage teachers, parents, students, and the community in promoting health-enhancing behaviors and better health.

The SHI is based on CDC’s research-based guidelines for school health programs, which identify the policies and practices most likely to be effective in reducing youth health risk behaviors. By using the SHI, Jump Right UP participating schools are able to assess the practice on 6 of the 10 categories of the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model.

Jump Right UP then assists schools in identifying and successfully completing goals based off on the SHI assessment, while also working with district leaders to create a successful wellness infrastructure.