



Position Announcement: Executive Director of the Arizona Center for Economic Progress

The Arizona Center for Economic Progress (AZCenter) seeks a new Executive Director. Launched in 2017, the AZCenter is an affiliate of Children's Action Alliance (CAA), a 501(c)3 nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization in Arizona for 33 years. The AZCenter works with advocates, policymakers, and communities to connect the dots between the inequities in our economy and solutions to create a fair and socially just Arizona. The AZCenter is a leader in advancing policies at the state and federal level that create fairer tax codes which raise the revenue needed to invest in education, affordable housing, health care, infrastructure and other supports needed to build thriving communities and better economic opportunities for all Arizonans.

We recognize that many of the barriers and disparities that block the path toward better economic opportunities for people of color can be traced to a history of discriminatory and racist policies, the impacts of which continue to be felt today. As an organization, we are committed to advancing race equity and inclusion both through the policies we seek and throughout the internal workings of our organization. You can learn more about our work and our partners at azeconcenter.org.

About the position:

The Executive Director will report to the President and CEO of CAA. The ideal candidate has the vision and skills to continue the growth of the AZCenter as a trusted source of information, an influential mover of policy, and as an agent of transformational change for traditionally marginalized populations. We are looking for someone who:

- Understands the systems-level challenges facing low-income Arizonans and people of color;
- Can effectively manage multiple projects and personnel to produce accurate and timely work products;
- Possesses excellent communication skills and can convey AZCenter positions with a diverse set audiences and venues (media, legislators, advocates and stakeholders, etc.);
- Possesses the political savvy and strategic thinking to successfully advance policy solutions in a nonpartisan manner;
- Brings a track record of professionalism, creativity, and integrity.

Responsibilities:

- Develop community-centered policy solutions that address inequitable and oppressive structures, systems, and practices to build thriving communities and better economic opportunities for all Arizonans.
- Craft and implement AZCenter’s strategic plan by collaborating with staff, forming an advisory board, and engaging with key stakeholders to set clear goals to achieve the organization’s mission
- Build and sustain the community-centered campaigns and movements (including the strategies and tactics) necessary to advance policy priorities at the state and federal level.
- Routinely represent the organization and actively collaborate with national partners, including the State Priorities Partnership (SPP), the Economic Analysis and Research Network (EARN), and the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP).
- Achieve new funding to sustain and grow the organization—namely through writing grant proposals, gaining new individual donors, and implementing fundraising campaigns.
- Serve as the leading public face of the AZCenter in the media, at the State Capitol, and speaking at events across Arizona.
- Shape organizational brand and communications to achieve short- and long-term goals and objectives.
- Oversee the hiring and development of policy and outreach staff.
- Manage and monitor the operating budget.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor’s Degree in a relevant field plus at least seven years of relevant work experience.
- Demonstrated expertise or knowledge in: state fiscal policy, K-12 public education funding, postsecondary education and job training programs, affordable housing policy, and child care programs; nutrition assistance state-tribal relations, and/or federal safety net programs.
- Knowledge of and experience with the state and federal legislative process.
- Knowledge of the systems-level challenges facing low-income Arizonans and communities of color.
- Demonstrated ability to independently convey complex policy and data to with various audiences at differing levels of specificity.
- Demonstrated aptitude for building and cultivating strong relationships with external partners and stakeholders.
- Demonstrated leadership experience, particularly supervising and developing highly effective professionals.
- Demonstrated commitment to AZCenter’s vision and mission.

Compensation:

Salary range \$95,000-\$105,000, depending on experience and qualifications.

Major medical and dental insurance, life insurance, matching retirement contribution.

Competitive leave policies for vacation, sick leave, personal leave, and earned sabbatical.

Location:

CAA operates a hybrid (office and home) working system that allows employees to work in the most productive location based on job description, project or task. We provide employees with the resources to work effectively from either the CAA office or remote locations. When health conditions permit, we will resume occasional in-person meetings at our office located in central Phoenix. For that reason, we are looking for the candidate to reside in the metro Phoenix area.

To Apply:

Position will remain open until filled. Send cover letter, and resume to: hr@azchildren.org

The Arizona Center for Economic Progress strongly encourages members of traditionally underrepresented communities to apply, including people of color, LGBTQ identified people, gender-nonconforming people, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and people who speak a language in addition to English.