



Position Announcement: Director of Child Welfare and Prevention Services

Company Description: Founded in 1988, Children's Action Alliance (CAA), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is an independent voice for children and families at the state capitol and in the community. In 2016, CAA launched The Arizona Center for Economic Progress (the AZCenter) to protect the revenue needed to invest in education, basic services, and economic opportunities to build thriving communities. Both CAA and the AZCenter work with elected officials (local, state, federal, and tribal), community partners and coalitions to protect Arizona's ability to invest in education, health care, and human services for all in the state. www.azchildren.org
www.azeconcenter.org

Location: The team works a mix of hybrid and remote schedules, at their discretion, with a workplace at 326 E. Coronado Road, Suite 108, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

Mission: Children's Action Alliance is an independent voice that identifies and eliminates barriers to the well-being of children and families and creates opportunities through partnerships and policy solutions.

Budget size: \$2 Million

Summary of position

The director of Child Welfare and Prevention Services policy will work with policymakers, public agency leadership, and community groups throughout the state to:

- Promote policies that support communities and families and prevent children from entering the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.
- When system involvement is needed, ensure the interventions provided reduce trauma, strengthen safety, and increase access to resources that support children and their families.
- Improve outcomes for children and families impacted by the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

Internally, this director works with the Executive Director to coordinate work with other directors, and the Arizona Center for Economic Progress to maximize the impact of the organization's work. Externally, this director works with national, state, and local elected officials and their staff, state agency personnel, state and national funders and advocacy organizations, media organizations and community and grassroots stakeholders.

Major Duties and Responsibilities

- Serves as one of Children's Action Alliance's leaders at the State Capitol on issues related to children and families who are impacted by the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. This requires building and maintaining strong relationships with legislators, legislative staff, the Governor's Office, state agency leaders, coalition partners, and community stakeholders to advance CAA's policy priorities.
- Analyze state budget proposals and legislation; consider and propose recommendations; track bills, committees, and other legislative activities during the legislative session. Testify at legislative committee hearings, as necessary.
- Conduct data and policy research on child welfare and juvenile justice issues and create fact sheets, policy briefs, communications materials, and presentations.
- Develop and implement strategic recommendations for community-level and state-wide policy solutions or other action steps to prevent system involvement and improve the experiences and outcomes of those children and families who are impacted by the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.
- Work with CAA's affiliate, the Arizona Center for Economic Progress, to identify and advocate for the economic policies and supports which will help families to succeed and prevent involvement in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.
- Identify and secure additional grant funding for child welfare and juvenile justice systems, advocacy, and projects; manage relationships with funders, oversee grant budgets, reports, and other grant administrative functions.
- Increase public awareness of children's issues through the media, public events, publications, and issue campaigns.
- Network with national colleagues and experts to stay current on research and emerging issues in policy and practice around the country.
- Provide leadership and collaborations with the child welfare and juvenile justice stakeholders around the state; develop working relationships with state and community leaders in child welfare and juvenile justice.
- Oversee the Opportunity Passport program, a financial education and matched savings program designed to help young people achieve success as they move from foster care to adulthood.
- Support the work of Fostering Advocates Arizona, connecting young adults leaving foster care with the information, resources, and support they need to successfully transition to adulthood.
- Manage and maintain diverse coalitions of child welfare and juvenile partners, to speak with a unified voice at the state legislature and provide informed messages and credible resources that help policy makers create positive change for our children.

Qualifications

Education: Bachelor's Degree in a related field or equivalent related work experience is required.

Experience: Five years of relevant experience.

Location: Phoenix or surrounding areas.

Technical:

- Knowledge of child welfare and juvenile justice policy and practice issues such as prevention services, in-home services, foster care, adoption, kinship care, independent living for youth aging out of foster care, cross-systems youth issues, delinquency processes and interventions, the role of the courts and related oversight bodies.
- Knowledge of and experience with the state legislative process.
- Knowledge of and experience with state agency level advocacy (example: rule making, internal policy and procedure development)
- Experience building diverse and effective alliances and coalitions, particularly with staff and leaders from grassroots community organizations.
- Experience working on regional or state-level advocacy campaigns, electoral campaigns, or running coalition efforts.
- Knowledge of the federal legislative process is desirable.

Other

- Excellent communication skills (verbal and written) and the ability to communicate data findings and issues to external audiences.
- Ability to translate data findings and research into specific policy recommendations.
- Experience working in coalitions and the ability to work in a team environment with diverse allies.
- Strategic thinking and flexible and collaborative workstyle, with a focus on authentic community engagement.
- Experience analyzing data.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite applications
- Bilingual speakers preferred.

Salary Range: \$85,000 to \$95,000

Benefits:

- Flexible working environment, including hybrid work
- Major medical and dental insurance and life insurance
- Matching retirement contribution
- Competitive leave policies for vacation, sick leave, personal leave, and earned sabbatical
- Paid holidays, including the last week of December
- Tuition or professional development training reimbursement up to \$2,500 each year.

Apply:

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest and a resume to Dlujan@azchildren.org.