### **CHILDREN AT RISK – Houston**

# Spring and Summer 2021 Early Childhood Education Access & Quality Initiative

CHILDREN AT RISK is currently seeking candidates to fill internship positions centered around our Early Childhood Education efforts, working across issue areas to understand CHILDREN AT RISK's impact for Texas' youngest and most disenfranchised citizens. The selected candidates will have the opportunity to learn from a dedicated and collaborative group of policy experts who work strategically to use their knowledge and ongoing research concerning parenting to influence policy decisions.

Founded in 1989, CHILDREN AT RISK is a research and advocacy group dedicated to improving the quality of life of Texas' children in the areas of physical and mental health, education, human trafficking, basic needs and juvenile justice reform. We are a leading source of information on children's issues and an advocate and catalyst for change concerning the needs of all children in Texas.

## **Responsibilities:**

Specific responsibilities will be dependent upon each candidate's skills, career goals, interests and CHILDREN AT RISK's priorities. CHILDREN AT RISK expects that this internship will be used as a career development tool for the selected candidates and hopes to maximize the selected individual's internship experience.

We are seeking dedicated and focused candidates that possess excellent communication and collaboration skills to assist in advocacy efforts across our issue areas, with a special emphasis on Early Education Innovation and best-practices and understanding the needs of families with children 0-5 in Texas.

## Potential projects include:

- Innovation in ECE Practices: Identifying and track best practices of providers, agencies and communities with high populations of economically disadvantaged students. Specific innovations include ECE apprenticeships and matriculation plans.
- **Coalitions:** Support communities that have come together over the past two years to form local coalitions for their 0-5 children.
- State of Early Childhood Ed in TX: Study and build tools to support others' understanding of what is happening in Texas around children 0-5 and what we should be advocating for in the future.
- Home Visiting: Build an understanding of the Home Visiting landscape in Texas, especially concerning which geographic areas don't have access to these essential services. Collaborate with other organizations around Infant and Toddler issues.

## **Preferred qualifications**

We are in search of dedicated individuals to be key members of our team. Demonstrated interest in services for children 0-5 strongly preferred (child care, WIC, CACFP, PreK, etc). Working knowledge of Excel, Monday.com and other Office solutions is a must. A sense of humor and a passion for social justice issues, along with the belief that education and advocacy on children's issues are essential for societal improvement are strong plusses.

All candidates must be professional, with good written and verbal communication skills. Candidates should have a strong work ethic, positive attitude, and work well individually and in a team-oriented environment.

Benefits include a fun and engaging office atmosphere, recognition for tangible products that will benefit the organization beyond the summer, and the ability to have an impact on Texas children.

**Application Instructions:** Our positions are competitive and fill quickly. Interested candidates should submit a resume, a brief letter of interest, and a writing sample to Anna Hardway at <u>ahardway@childrenatrisk.org</u>. The deadline to submit applications for Spring is December 15<sup>th</sup> and for Summer April 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. For

information on CHILDREN AT RISK and the Center for Parenting & Family Well-Being (CPFWB) please visit <u>www.childrenatrisk.org</u>.

CHILDREN AT RISK is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, veteran status, religion, ancestry, color, race, ethnicity or creed. Remote options are available. Preference will be given to first generation college students.