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**University of Houston
Graduate College of Social Work**

JOB OPPORTUNITY POSTING

Job Title: Project Director

Employer/ Agency: American Institutes for Research; Western and Pacific Child Welfare Implementation Center – Regions IX and X

Job Description: The American Institutes for Research (AIR) is seeking a Project Director with demonstrated technical assistance expertise and leadership in child welfare, preferably with experience managing a local, regional, or state child welfare system. AIR and its partners, the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA), the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP), Georgetown University's National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health (NTAC), and the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institutes (FMHI) at the University of South Florida, have been awarded a cooperative agreement from the Children's Bureau (CB), Administration for Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), U.S. Health and Human Services to establish the Western and Pacific Child Welfare Implementation Center in ACYF Regions IX and X. The Center provides training and technical assistance to states, tribes, and territories in transforming child welfare systems and improving the services delivered to children, youth, and families.

The project director will provide technical assistance to state child welfare systems in overcoming barriers to systems change. The project director and Center partners will work closely with selected states and counties, tribes, and territories to co-design a technical assistance approach that is values-based and mission-driven with the goal of improving outcomes for children, youth, and families in child welfare. While all states, tribes and territories in these regions are encouraged to participate in peer networking opportunities on systems change, others have been selected to receive more intensive training and technical assistance.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- ✓ Day-to-day management of the Center
- ✓ Responsible for overseeing all outreach, peer to peer networking and technical assistance efforts.

- ✓ Serve as liaison with Children's Bureau, ACF Regional Offices and Children's Bureau Training and Technical Assistance Network
- ✓ Maximize resources and use strengths available from partners and other TA centers
- ✓ Ensure technical assistance is delivered in an organized manner, consistent with the Center's objectives
- ✓ Supervise key staff and provide leadership to the core team and partners
- ✓ Promote stakeholder involvement and ensure and support family and youth involvement in every aspect of the planning and development of system level and service level work in an authentic and meaningful way
- ✓ Oversee the evaluation and continuous quality improvement efforts
- ✓ Serve as the spokesperson for Center

Qualifications:

Skills Required:

- ✓ Demonstrated expertise and leadership working in child welfare systems – preferably experience in child welfare agency management, child welfare practice and working with other child serving and tribal systems. Experience working in Regions IX and X is preferred, but not required.
- ✓ Demonstrated leadership in systems change initiatives, understanding of implementation issues, and experience in effectively addressing challenges.
- ✓ Skill in strategic planning, change management, implementing change, and action planning.
- ✓ Experience in project management, project planning, program development, and coordination.
- ✓ Understanding of and commitment to system of care values and ability to translate and apply theory through technical assistance tailored to meet complex systems.
- ✓ Ability to assess training and technical assistance needs and understand underlying systemic issues, identify and facilitate implementation of appropriate interventions, and evaluation of progress.
- ✓ Skill in the delivery of training, technical assistance, and consultation to child welfare agencies and facilitating group processes.
- ✓ Strategic and analytical skills with the ability to solve problems and make decisions.
- ✓ Demonstrated ability to work with a diverse array of people (youth and families in the child welfare system, state and tribal leaders, and other stakeholders) and demonstrated cultural and linguistic competency.

- ✓ Knowledge of the Child and Family Service Review, lessons learned about best child welfare practices, evidence-based practices, child welfare trends, and tribal child welfare issues.
- ✓ Skill in coaching and team building with co-workers, partners, stakeholders and ability to strengthen and cultivate relationships and work collaboratively with other organizations.
- ✓ Ability to work virtually and facilitate effective communications and utilize technology to ensure effective team work.
- ✓ Ability to communicate orally and in writing with a variety of audiences.
- ✓ Ability to manage and resolve conflict.
- ✓ Ability to prioritize work tasks, multi-task, and manage competing priorities.
- ✓ Flexibility and ability to adapt to a rapidly changing work environment.
- ✓ Ability to coordinate, manage and monitor quality across multiple projects/sites.

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Application Method: Interested applicants are encouraged to apply online by going to <http://jobs-airdc.icims.com/> and referencing job number 5923. The candidate can be based anywhere in the United States, but preferably in the Washington, DC AIR office or anywhere within Regions IX or X States including AZ, ID, NV, CA, OR, WA, AK, HI.

If your response to this job posting results in successful employment, please email the GCSW Office of Alumni and Career Services at mswjobs@sw.uh.edu with the hiring details of your new job opportunity. Thank you