

POSITION TITLE	Family Connector
FUNCTION & LOCATION	Field Operations, Multiple Locations
REPORTS TO	Director of Family and Volunteer Engagement
STATUS	Contractor, about 40 hours/month
CLOSING DATE	January 4, 2020



Do you want to make an impact on the lives of kids, schools, families, and communities? Do you dream of being in a role that enables you to truly collaborate with others to implement change and make a difference? Action for Healthy Kids (AFHK) is seeking organized, enthusiastic, and motivated individuals to serve as Family Connectors who will work to break down barriers to family engagement in schools and build authentic family-school partnerships in your community.

The Project

Family engagement is one of the most powerful predictors of children’s development, educational attainment, and success in school and life, but in too many communities, historical and systemic barriers to family engagement in schools have led to mistrust between families and school staff. Particularly now, during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is critical that school staff and families are coordinated, aligned and able to work together with mutual trust. AFHK’s model brings school staff and families from underserved communities together to identify and overcome barriers to engagement and develop effective and sustainable school-family partnerships that make sure kids are equipped with what they need to be healthy in body and mind.

You

Family Connectors are parents and caregivers serving the communities where you live to bring together families and school staff to develop effective and sustainable family-school partnerships that support kids’ health. You will be trained on family engagement best practices and community organizing principles to help break down barriers to family engagement, facilitate workshops that build mutual trust between families and school staff, and provide ongoing coaching and support to family-school partnership teams. Family Connectors work at depth with 3-5 school communities to implement a protocol of workshops, meetings, and coaching sessions, and receive quarterly professional development and skills-building opportunities from AFHK and our partners.

Us

Action for Healthy Kids is a national nonprofit organization committed to the belief that healthy kids create a better world. We pursue this vision by mobilizing family-school partnerships to address the child health crisis and prepare kids to be healthy in body and mind. We know the critical role schools play in cultivating healthy kids, and we believe that they can do that best when partnering with families to create environments at school and at home that help kids thrive. We provide tools and resources to support schools and families in working together to ensure that children are safe, engaged, supported, challenged and healthy. Action for Healthy Kids is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity across multiple and intersectional dimensions, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, socio-economic background, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, gender identity, disability status, and age and are committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for all employees.

Essential Responsibilities

- Build strong relationships with school staff and families at 3-5 partner schools.
- Engage new families at partner schools utilizing community outreach and organizing practices.
- Plan, coordinate and facilitate 3+ workshops at each school and provide ongoing assistance (via phone, video-conference or email) to family-school partnership teams to support project goals.
- Work with family-school partnership teams and AFHK team members to support partner schools in developing their implementation and sustainability plans, related to project goals.

- Evaluate and report on the successes, challenges and strategic opportunities of the program by administering surveys, maintaining records of activities and contacts, and sharing success stories.
- Represent AFHK and promote AFHK mission, goals, and programs in work throughout your community.
- Attend quarterly professional development/skills-building trainings.

Ideal Candidates for this role have:

- A hunger for creating welcoming, inclusive school cultures where family input is sought out, expected, and valued as part of the decision-making process.
- Passion, ability, and experience building strong, collaborative relationships between groups with different perspectives and experiences.
- Organization skills to manage relationships at multiple schools.
- Experience working and/or living in underserved and marginalized communities and/or experience supporting immigrant families. Strong bilingual Spanish/English skills may be required if necessary to support your community.
- Some experience organizing, leading, and/or convening parents/caregivers and/or community members to solve problems in a collaborative fashion.
- Some knowledge and/or experience working on family, school, and community health issues.
- Ability to prioritize tasks and deadlines and work independently with careful attention to detail.
- Flexibility to adapt to changing conditions and adjust project activities as needed to meet public health and school guidelines.
- Ability to travel to three different school communities, with some travel costs reimbursed (note: activities will likely include both in-person and virtual meetings, dependent on school and public health recommendations).
- Commitment to goals, vision, and values of AFHK.

Candidates with experience working in underserved communities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Monthly Compensation: \$700-850/month commensurate with experience

Location: Primary location will be your home, with some travel (if allowed) and/or virtual visits to partner schools.

To apply, please submit a resume to careers@actionforhealthykids.org by Monday, January 4th, 2020, with the Subject Line: Family Connector.

AFHK Values: Hungry for Change ♥ Think Big ♥ Flexible ♥ Caring ♥ Collaborative ♥ Work Hard, Play Hard

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