

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	Rolling



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 a diverse, organized, enthusiastic, and motivated group of individuals to serve as Family Connectors who will facilitate authentic family-school partnerships that support alleviating child health and well-being inequities, particularly in underserved and marginalized communities. We are currently hiring in the following communities: CA: Borrego Springs/San Diego, Los Angeles/Upland, Lompoc/Santa Barbara, IL: North Chicago, Hazel Crest/Chicago south suburbs, NY: New York City, Fort Covington, TN: White County/Sparta, TX: Irving, Austin/Hays County.

The Project

Family engagement is one of the most powerful predictors of children’s development, educational attainment, and academic success. Historical and systematic disparities have created a school culture and climate of mistrust in many underserved and marginalized communities, while COVID-19 has further compacted stressors as children face an unprecedented set of challenges to their physical, mental, social, and emotional health and well-being. It is critical, now more than ever, that school staff and families are coordinated, aligned and able to work together with mutual trust. AFHK’s family school partnership (FSP) model brings together school staff, families, parents and caregivers from underserved communities to identify and overcome challenges related to family engagement and child health and well-being. The Family Connector plays a key role in the equitable implementation of the model by supporting healthy school environments and family-school partnerships.

You

Family Connectors are passionate parents and caregivers who collaborate with families and school staff to facilitate authentic family-school partnerships that support kids’ health. Family Connectors are trained on family engagement best practices and community organizing principles to further develop the capacity of families, parents/caregivers and school staff at up to 5 schools to build mutual trust and ensure all families have the opportunity to be involved, implement strategies, and evaluate progress toward combating the effects of health and educational inequities and improving child health and well-being. Family Connectors receive a monthly stipend and quarterly professional development and skills-building opportunities.

Us

Action for Healthy Kids is a national nonprofit organization committed to the beliefs that healthy kids create a better world and zip code should not determine a child's health or educational outcomes. 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 equitable distribution of power and resources is done 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 working together to ensure that children are safe, engaged, supported, challenged and healthy.

Action for Healthy Kids is an equal opportunity employer committed to building and sustaining an organization that seeks and embraces diversity, actively pursues equity, and fosters an inclusive environment. We value and 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

- Develop relationships with school staff, families and parents/caregivers at up to 5 partner schools.
- Facilitate learning sessions for school staff and families on family-school partnerships.
- Facilitate completion of family-school partnership assessment, team agreement, and project plan at each partner school.
- Provide ongoing coaching and assistance (via phone, video conference, email and/or in person) to support the implementation of family-school partnerships and health and well-being projects.
- 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.
- Regularly collaborate with AFHK National Staff to provide partner school updates, convey successes and challenges, and respond to requests in a timely manner.
- Represent AFHK and promote AFHK mission, goals, and programs in work throughout your community.
- Attend and participate in regular Family Connector meetings and professional development workshops.

Ideal Candidates for this role have:

- A hunger for creating welcoming, inclusive school culture and climate 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 with the ability to prioritize tasks and deadlines and work independently with careful attention to detail.
- Public speaking skills to facilitate learning sessions.
- 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.
- Some computer skills, including familiarity with Microsoft Office applications, Zoom video conferencing, and the ability to create presentations and flyers.
- Flexibility to adapt to changing conditions and adjust project activities as needed to meet public health and school guidelines.
- Ability to travel to different school communities, with some travel costs reimbursed (note: activities will 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 with the Subject Line: Family Connector. We will accept applications on a rolling basis.

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

[ActionforHealthyKids.org](https://www.actionforhealthykids.org)