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Infant- Toddler Mental Health Specialist Day Care Council of New York

Now in its 73rd year, the Day Care Council of New York (DCCNY) is a membership, advocacy, and service organization for New York City's early childhood education providers and families seeking services. DCCNY plays a key role in supporting the growth and development of New York City's early childhood workforce and is seeking to expand its support for its member organizations in this area.

Job Description

The Infant-Toddler Mental Health Specialist will promote healthy growth in Infant & young children's social and emotional development by building the confidence, competencies, and skills of caregivers and staff. This position will provide consultation services that focus on supporting the relationship between children, ages 0-36 months, and the caregivers in their lives. The ITMH Specialist will provide programmatic infant and toddler consultation to teaching staff and family child care providers, and caregivers, using the Infant-Toddler Climate of Healthy Interactions for Learning & Development (I-T CHILD) observation tool. The Specialist will work with a cohort of 20 programs over the course of 4-6 months, and collect data for the measure developers at the Yale Child Study Center.

Program Specific Responsibilities:

- Offers consultation that reflects and respects the philosophy of early childhood mental health consultation practices and the assigned program, and is culturally responsive to the child and caregiver.
- Assesses strengths and challenges within the infant-toddler and early intervention setting/environment as well as teacher/provider practices using the IT Child Developmental Assessment.
- Supports infant-toddler staff in creating a prosocial emotional learning environment that is emotionally safe and responsive.
- Develops inclusive policies for working with infant-toddlers, young children, caregivers, and early childhood professionals.
- Supports infant and toddler staff with classroom management strategies to promote the social-emotional development for infants and toddlers in their care.
- Develops and conducts training and workshops for providers, caregivers, and community members.
- Collects and analyzes required data, maintains records and certifications, and supports compliance with child care and early intervention regulations and HIPAA, as well as, best practices in mental health consultation and trauma-responsive practices.
- Completes all required documentation timely and accurately.
- Participates in continuing education, which may include: ITMHC best/evidence-based practices, Adverse Childhood Experiences, Cultural Diversity & Humility, DC 0-5 Assessment, Early Childhood Mental Health Assessment, and Strategies.
- Participates in internal and external functions and meetings.
- Performs other duties as assigned by the Director.

Minimum Education and Experience Qualifications:

- A Master's Degree in Psychology, Social Work, Mental Health Counseling, or other related counseling/mental health degree, with a License/Certification in mental health.
- Three to five years of experience working with children and/or families in early childhood settings.
- Working knowledge of infant and early childhood typical and atypical development, early childhood mental health, adverse childhood experiences, family systems.
- Good written and verbal communication skills and an ability to present and engage with diverse audiences such as racially, ethnically, and socioeconomically diverse communities.
- Ability to work independently within a flexible schedule, including to work on some Saturdays, and demonstrate effective time management.

Preferred Education and Experience Qualifications:

- Dual advanced degrees in Mental Health discipline and Early Childhood Education.
- Demonstrated experience in early childhood education, intervention, and/or infant and toddler mental health.
- Working knowledge of evidence-based curricula to promote early childhood mental health, DC 0-5, and formal and informal social-emotional (SE) assessment tools.
- NYS AIMH Infant Mental Health Endorsed or related competencies/experience; can be discussed in more depth if offered an interview.
- Bilingual proficiency (English and Spanish) is preferred.

Hours per Week: 35 hours per week

Compensation: \$60,000 annually

Benefits: Eligible for benefits package offered to full-time staff

DCCNY is currently offering a hybrid work arrangement. This position is based in our Midtown Manhattan office but may require some travel throughout NYC. At this time, all staff are required to submit proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 via NYS Excelsior Pass/Excelsior Pass Plus.

Application Instructions

To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to **employment@dccnyinc.org**. We are hiring on a rolling basis and encourage interested applicants to apply as early as possible. No calls or recruiters, please.

Work Arrangement: Hybrid. In-person field work required.

The Day Care Council of New York is proud to be an equal opportunity employer, committed to inclusive hiring, and dedicated to diversity in its work and on its staff. We strongly encourage candidates of all identities, experiences, orientations, and communities to apply.