



Trauma & Learning Fellow

For nearly 30 years, the Public School Forum of North Carolina has worked to shape world-class public schools that inspire and support all children and drive a vibrant North Carolina economy through research, policy work, programs, advocacy, and continuing education for educators and policymakers. We are a not-for-profit partnership of leaders from business, education, and government that makes significant contributions to K-12 public education in North Carolina. In addition to research and analysis in the public policy arena, the Forum has created and run numerous programs, including the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program, the Beginning Teacher Leadership Network (BTLN), the NC Center for Afterschool Programs (NC CAP), the North Carolina Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP), and the NC Institute for Educational Policymakers. In the Fall of 2016, the Forum began hosting a weekly television program, *Education Matters*, which airs on WRAL-TV and UNC-TV's NC Channel.

The Forum recently began an intensive effort to support educators as they help students traumatized by exposure to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) succeed in school. To achieve its goals in this area, and to help launch the North Carolina Safe & Supportive Schools Initiative (NCSSSI), the Forum is seeking to hire a Trauma & Learning Fellow to work with Forum staff, consultants, and partners. The Fellow will help develop awareness among educators of the potential impact of childhood trauma on learning. He or she will also assist schools in partner LEAs as they join a growing movement of educators piloting efforts to create trauma-sensitive schools.

This full-time, one-year fellowship provides an incredible opportunity to become immersed in the interplay of trauma and learning, and to actively contribute to the growth of a new and significant program. The ideal candidate will have a passion for this topic and an interest in building a career working on system change to promote the expansion of trauma-sensitive, safe and supportive learning environments that can improve educational and life outcomes for all students. He or she will be familiar with the work of our content partners, the Trauma & Learning Policy Initiative (TLPI) of Massachusetts Advocates for Children (MAC) and Harvard Law School, and other leading national organizations.

Job Responsibilities:

- Support the Forum's efforts to design and deliver professional development activities and training for educators and others who are creating and advocating for trauma-sensitive schools.
- Develop educational programs on trauma and learning; draft related program materials and tools; and conduct outreach and development and maintenance of relationships with educators and schools, consultants, and community and advocacy organizations.
- Establish partnerships with schools to pilot the use of a framework to create trauma-sensitive schools, and support them in their use of the framework throughout the fellowship year.
- Generate reports and draft articles and opinion pieces that track the impact of NCSSSI's work.
- Develop and execute a communications strategy.
- Assist the Forum team in the drafting of reports and proposals to philanthropic partners.

Qualifications: Candidate Profile and Experience

- Experience with and commitment to the educational needs of at-risk children.
- Deep passion for the topic of trauma & learning. The ideal candidate will possess some knowledge of the topic, including key research and major actors in the design and implementation of programs to create trauma-sensitive schools.
- Excellent organizational and relational skills; self-starter; exceptional attention to detail.
- Thrives in a team-driven, collaborative work environment.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to work well with a groups including teachers, parents, and students; school and district staff; partner organizations; media; and government officials, including legislators, agency staff, and local school board members.
- Effective writing skills; ability to write well and produce written products that are accessible and beneficial to a variety of audiences.
- Computer, web, and social media proficiency.
- Master's degree in public policy, education, social work, psychology, or other relevant field preferred. The ideal candidate will have two or more years working in a school or other educational environment, including experience working directly with children traumatized by adverse childhood experiences.

Fellowship dates are negotiable but will ideally start no later than June 2017.

Compensation

The Public School Forum offers competitive compensation commensurate with experience, and a generous 401K retirement plan, personal leave policy, and term life insurance policy for employees. The Trauma & Learning Fellow position is intended to be a one-year commitment as the Fellow prepares for further academic study or transitions from undergraduate or graduate studies to full-time, permanent employment, including through future job openings at the Forum.

Applying

Submit cover letter and resume to Rhonda van Dijk at rvandijk@ncforum.org. Include job posting title in subject line. Applications will be accepted through March 15, 2017.

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