



NC Resilience and Learning Project – Program Manager, Eastern NC

After studying the impact of childhood trauma (known as adverse childhood experiences or ACEs) on learning and student behavior, the Public School Forum launched the **NC Resilience & Learning Project** in 2017 to implement whole-school and district-wide strategies to improve the academic performance and social-emotional well-being of students impacted by trauma. The model includes school-wide educator training and ongoing coaching and technical assistance. The Project is seeking a new full-time Program Manager to be based in eastern NC, ideally in or around Bladen, Columbus, or Robeson counties, to work directly with partner school districts in this area and surrounding counties as they join a growing movement of educators creating trauma-sensitive schools.

This full-time position provides an incredible opportunity to become immersed in the interplay of trauma and learning and to actively contribute to the expansion of a growing and significant program. **The ideal candidate will have experience as an educator and classroom teacher, a passion for this topic and for serving children and families, strong interpersonal skills, an understanding of schools and school culture, leadership skills to work independently, and experience in public speaking and leading meetings with individuals from diverse backgrounds.** Candidates should have an interest in working on systems change to promote the expansion of trauma-sensitive, safe and supportive learning environments that can improve educational and life outcomes for all students.

Primary Job Responsibilities:

This Program Manager will work intensively with selected schools across three school districts in eastern North Carolina. Candidates will ideally be located in or around Bladen, Columbus, or Robeson counties and will provide Project implementation in these three counties as well as general management and oversight of implementation work in the eastern North Carolina region as a whole. All of our training and coaching work with partner schools is currently being done virtually, however, when schools do fully reopen, it will be expected for this program manager to be willing and able to commute to other nearby districts on a weekly basis.

- Build relationships and establish collaborative partnerships with school staff in selected Project implementation schools, as well as district leaders, funders, and other key community organizations.
- Lead professional development activities and deliver trainings to school staff, district leaders, and other community partners on the topic of trauma and creating trauma-sensitive schools.
- Serve as lead coach in Project partner schools: facilitate bi-weekly meetings with diverse school steering committees; provide intensive and ongoing coaching around creating trauma-sensitive environments; and support school leaders in their readiness and action-planning process.
- Provide management, coordination, and oversight of Project implementation and growth efforts in eastern North Carolina districts as a whole.
- Assist with ongoing research around trauma-sensitive schools, working with Project team to stay up to date on other national models and the latest research in the field.
- Assist Project staff with creating and updating training resources and materials for schools.
- Assist Duke University evaluator with data collection and ongoing evaluation efforts including surveys, assessments, focus groups, and classroom observations.
- Generate reports and draft articles, narratives, and opinion pieces on the impact of the Project for media outlets and philanthropic partners.
- Attend other community events and meetings related to adverse childhood experiences and impacts on children; forming partnerships with other local community agencies in partner districts.
- Other duties as assigned.



Qualifications:

- Experience as an educator and classroom teacher.
- Experience with and commitment to the educational needs of traditionally underserved or under-resourced student populations.
- Passion for the topic of trauma and learning. The ideal candidate will possess some knowledge of the topic, including key research in the field of ACEs and trauma-sensitive schools.
- Previous experience with the culture of public schools in North Carolina with an understanding of the relationship and roles among all school staff.
- Strong communication and relationship-building skills; ability to work well with diverse 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.
- Excellent organizational skills; self-starter; exceptional attention to detail.
- Thrives in a team-driven, collaborative work environment.
- Effective writing skills; ability to write well and produce written products that are accessible and beneficial to a variety of audiences.
- Effective presentation and facilitation skills; ability to create engaging presentations.
- Ability to collaborate and work closely with external partners.
- Computer, web, and social media proficiency.
- Bachelor's degree required, master's degree preferred.

The salary range for this position is \$55,000 to \$65,000, dependent upon experience.

Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to Elizabeth DeKonty, Project Director, at edekonty@ncforum.org with the subject line "Program Manager – Eastern NC" by Monday, March 29, 2021.

About the Public School Forum of NC:

For more than 30 years, the Public School Forum of North Carolina has worked to shape world-class public schools through research, policy work, programs, advocacy, and continuing education for educators and policymakers. We are a nonprofit 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 original NC Teaching Fellows Program, the NC Center for Afterschool Programs (NC CAP), the North Carolina Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP), the NC Institute for Educational Policymakers, and the Dudley Flood Center for Educational Equity and Opportunity. In the Fall of 2016, the Forum launched its weekly television program, Education Matters, which airs on WRAL-TV, FOX 50 and UNC-TV's NC Channel.

Benefits:

This is a full-time position. The Public School Forum offers the following benefits: competitive compensation commensurate with experience, a generous 401K retirement plan; personal leave policy, term life insurance, and employer sponsored group health insurance with access to dental, vision, short and long term disability plans.

Equal Opportunity Employer:

It is the policy of the Public School Forum to provide equal employment opportunity (EEO) to all persons regardless of age, color, national origin, citizenship status, physical or mental disability, race, religion, creed, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, genetic information, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local law.