**Colorado Circles for Change** 

CCFC Denver.org



### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

POSITION: Youth Justice Organizing Program Manager PROGRAM: Community Organizing, Policy & Advocacy (COPA)

COLORADO CIRCLES FOR CHANGE IS COMMITTED ON ENSURING JUSTICE AND EQUITY ARE AT THE FOREFRONT OF ALL WE DO, AT EVERY LEVEL OF THE ORGANIZATION. CCFC UPHOLDS AN INCLUSIVE CULTURE WHERE A DIVERSE WORKFORCE CAN THRIVE, CONTRIBUTE, AND FEEL VALUED. WE EXPECT ALL STAFF TO COMMIT TO A JOURNEY OF BEING ANTI-RACIST WITHIN AN INTERSECTIONAL LENS SO WE CAN ENSURE A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR ALL AND DISPARITIES DO NOT EXIST WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION AND THE WORK WE DO IN COMMUNITY.

#### **Organization Description:**

Colorado Circles For Change is a small grass-roots organization established in 1994 as the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) of Denver. In 2017, the staff and board of directors, informed by community, partners and participants embarked on a strategic plan and began doing business as Colorado Circles for Change (CCFC). The mission of CCFC is "to create a pathway for our youth to discover sacred relationships with self, family, and community to eliminate violence and incarceration so that youth reach their full potential." CCFC's values are Social Justice, Inclusiveness, Community, Transformational & Cultural Healing, and Non-Violent Resolution of Conflict. CCFC envisions a community where all our youth embrace their sacredness through a journey of transformational healing. CCFC is committed to ending the school to prison pipeline, mass incarceration, and creating the next generations of hood healers.

### **Organization Culture:**

CCFC's culture is that of family, community, collaboration, empowerment, healing, liberation, safety, respect, and sacredness for cultural traditions, integrity, celebration, failing forward through mistakes by learning together in a non-shameful way that is restorative and just. We work to embody an understanding that CCFC belongs to the community, and we are here to be of service in a humble, compassionate way where power is shared. We center the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of our team to ensure we are of service in the most impactful way.

# **CCFC 5 program areas:**

- Restorative/Transformative Justice (RJ/TJ)
  - ✓ <u>RESTORE</u>, <u>Face2Face</u>, and <u>Community Group Circles</u> in which CCFC works with the public juvenile justice system in Denver to coordinate and provide early intervention Restorative and Transformative Justice services. Facilitation of services is provided by a cadre of volunteers led by the Program Manager
  - ✓ <u>Mi Avenida</u> is a new program and partnership with Lookout Mountain Youth Services Center. The Program/Case Manager will work with youth inside Lookout to prepare for a successful transition back into the community through case management and engaging youth in restorative justice programs.
- Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) which supports youth through a variety of leadership and Rites of Passage Programming.
  - ✓ <u>Joven Noble (Noble Youth)</u> is a national culturally rooted, gender-specific Rites of Passage program for boys of color to support positive character development, transformational healing and keep them out of the criminal justice system so they can live healthy vibrant lives.
  - ✓ <u>Xinachtli (Blooming Seed)</u> is a national culturally rooted, gender-specific Rites of Passage program for girls of color to support positive character development, transformational healing and keep them out of the criminal justice system so they can live healthy vibrant lives.
  - ✓ <u>Hueliti (Strength & Power)</u> is an advanced leadership program for high school and young women focused on eliminating gender-based violence, incarceration, and forms of oppression within an intersectional approach for girls of color through service learning, activism, and civic engagement.

# • Mentoring

✓ <u>Kalpulli</u> (Beloved Community) is a mentoring program for middle school youth with the focus of supporting high school matriculation and graduation focused on positive peer to peer and adult – youth mentoring within a cultural and healing justice context.

# • Women, Family and Community Services

- ✓ <u>Circulo de Sanacion</u> are monthly healing circles and annual retreats for women in the community who are impacted by violence, incarceration, racialized bigotry either directly or as mothers.
- ✓ <u>Cara y Corazon</u> is a culturally-based family strengthening/community mobilization program that assists parents and other extended families to raise and teach their children with a positive cultural base.

✓ <u>Community Collaborations</u> are community trainings and other opportunities to collaborate and build power together.

# Community Organizing, Policy and Advocacy (COPA)

- Youth Justice Apprenticeship centers youth most impacted by inequities rooted in white supremacy, specifically interpersonal and institutional racism including the cradle to prison pipeline and mass incarceration. YJA employs youth apprentices to build support for longer-term racial justice actions and holds space for community healing efforts. Paid youth apprentices work to combat hate speech, harassment, discrimination, and systemic forms of racism such as dismantling the juvenile justice system. The youth work to create infrastructure and capacity support for social justice organizations and political re-enfranchisement that impacts Black, Brown, and Indigenous youth while responding to and resisting new and evolving threats to the safety and well-being of communities of color.
- ✓ Empoderando Racíces is focused on building power, especially by those directly impacted, to reduce youth incarceration, promote effective local treatment/solutions, and cultivate collaborations with likeminded community individuals and organizations. This program works to ensure Black, Brown, and Indigenous Youth are involved in the juvenile justice system through community organizing, advocacy and policy work.

# **Position Opportunity:**

The Youth Justice Organizing Program Manager manages all aspects of the COPA programs listed above including creation of program area goals, curriculum development, implementation, facilitation, grassroots community organizing, advocacy and policy, data and evaluation reporting, develops partnerships with juvenile justice agencies and youth justice partners, and manages volunteers, contractors, and interns. The CCFC Youth Justice Organizing Manager will work with NCYL's YJI Colorado Team of attorneys and policy advocates to lead and facilitate a collective impact effort in collaboration with elected officials, justice system and community stakeholders, and impacted youth and community members to (1) reduce youth incarceration and system involvement, (2) promote effective local treatment options, (3) improve interagency collaboration, and (4) help ensure Black, Brown, and Native youth are not overrepresented in any part of the juvenile justice system. CCFC Organizer position will lead community outreach, youth engagement, and community power-building efforts; serve as a bridge between the policy arena and the local community; train youth leaders to elevate issues impacting their communities and advocate for change, and; coordinate youth justice system reform efforts in collaboration with community stakeholders, youth advocates, and NCYL's YJI Colorado Team. The Youth Justice Organizing Program Manager will work closely with other staff in various program areas to ensure CCFC is meeting its mission in the most collaborative and impactful way within the framework of la Cultura Cura, anti-racism, and youth

empowerment. The position also supports the Executive Director with community trainings, fundraising, and other duties as assigned. Currently, the Youth Justice Organizing Manager reports to the Executive Director. Some Saturdays and evenings required.

# **Essential Duties/Responsibilities:**

### Capacity Building and Leadership

- Stays abreast of trends in positive youth development, transformative justice, La Cultura Cura, intersectionality, juvenile justice issues impacting Black, Brown, and Indigenous youth, and community healing practice and research.
- Builds, manages, and engages in active communication and networking with all referral sources and relevant community partners, groups, organizations, and colleagues in the field of youth justice and Black, Brown, and Indigenous youth.
- Represents CCFC at meetings, workshops, conferences, and other opportunities to build power for youth justice.
- Meets with the Executive Director regularly and attends staff meetings and occasional board meetings.
- Communicates all important programmatic, policy and advocacy matters to the Executive Director.
- Maintains a community-focused climate, rooted in compassion, respect, and collegial with other staff and welcoming to participants, families, community members, volunteers, and partners.
- Actively participates in and upholds an anti-racist, anti-oppressive culture that is inclusive of all, safe, and rooted in sacredness for all.
- Serve as a strong mentor for youth participants, colleagues, and partners.
- Support fundraisers, community trainings, and special events as needed.

### Planning and Development

- Supports with curriculum and workshops for the Youth Justice Apprenticeship.
- Creates goals, timeline, partnerships, collaborators, and evaluation methods for all COPA programs.
- Constantly evaluates, adjusts, and maintains effective youth justice programming and community organizing efforts.
- Develops plans to build partnerships with various youth justice organizations.
- Prepares and modifies documents, including correspondence, reports, promotional materials, drafts, memos, and e-mails as required by own duties or by the Executive Director
- Prepares and supervises the preparation of all program statistics and reports for the Executive Director, the Board of Directors, the courts, and other referral sources, contractors, and funders.

- Manages the COPA programs of CCFC so that expenditures fall clearly within budget guidelines and discusses anticipated variations with Executive Director.
- Keeps clear financial records, including receipts for budgeted expenditures, and submits them to the Operations Manager promptly.
- Supports the Executive Director in implementing fundraising plans including some grant writing.
- Works with the Executive Director to develop a professional development plan that ensures growth and excellent job performance and satisfaction.
- Coordinates partners and guest speakers to support programs and youth needs.
- Works with Program Coordinator to ensure youth and families are accessing food from the CCFC food program.
- Create and manage case notes and summary reports for participants referred from the juvenile justice system when needed.
- Convene at least 5 focus groups with impacted youth and families to learn about youth experiences in community and justice system.
- Work with community stakeholders to identify issue areas and develop proposals for youth justice reform, end harmful practices, and expand health-centered responses

# <u>Direct Service, Implementation and Management</u>

- Manages all aspects of COPA program content, implementation, facilitation, writing reports, and grant requirements.
- Oversees all COPA programs and engages trained volunteers to run the sessions under Program Managers' supervision.
- Along with the Program Coordinator, ensures all data is collected for evaluation and reports.
- Provides on-going supervision to Program Assistant, volunteers, interns, contract facilitators, youth, and families.
- Assess the appropriateness of youth participants for services and ensures court and juvenile justice requirements are met.
- Completes program observations, provide feedback and performance evaluations for volunteers, and create a team culture that promotes professional growth and development.
- Works with Program Coordinator to identify volunteer needs and provide oversight to volunteers and interns.
- Ensures that the COPA programs are meeting quality assurance standards.
- Supports the development of curricula, workshops, and activities for Empoderando Raciés program.
- Oversees the implementation and tracking of programs, workshops, and circles, including participant records, registration forms, attendance, programs delivered, and completed evaluations.
- Identifies potential partners, meets with NCYL's (National Center for Youth Law) YJI (Youth Justice Initiative) Colorado Team weekly, juvenile justice partners, attends

- monthly policy roundtable meetings and youth/juvenile and criminal justice coalition meetings.
- Works with Youth Leadership Program Coordinator to maintain a clean, attractive, and appropriate space for programming.
- Coordinate's coverage in times of absence.
- Creates program norms, monitor disciplinary matters, and support a culture of selfdiscipline, and restorative approaches.
- Supports participant/parent/community engagement, including (but not limited to): program kick-off events, end of program graduations, summer retreats, positive customer service, feedback strategies, and other activities.
- Identity, develop, and expand community stakeholder network
- Convene and engage community stakeholder monthly to build movement among youth and community engagement/empowerment.
- Develop community education, trainings, and outreach tools to educate community on youth justice law and policy
- Conduct weekly community education, trainings, and outreach events to empower community to engage in policy process
- Support development of LEAF (Lived Experience Advocacy Fellowship) and coordination of LEAF program
- Conduct outreach statewide to recruit and engage LEAF fellows
- Provide mentorship and guidance to individual LEAF fellows

### Professional Performance:

- Maintains a creative, team-building approach to job performance and seeks to bring a constructive, problem-solving orientation to all tasks.
- Performs all tasks and responsibilities with attention to detail and in a complete and timely manner, complying with CCFC's guidelines and conforming to the scheduling requirements of the job and programs.
- Supports CCFC's mission, vision, and values and promotes youth justice rooted in an intersectional approach.
- Exercise's discretion and professional judgment always in keeping with the responsibilities carried by CCFC for the well-being of the youth and families it serves; acts with honesty and integrity in all aspects of CCFC business.
- Actively strives to upgrade professional skills through a professional development plan and engages in appropriate professional training and experience that ensures growth, excellent job performance, and satisfaction.
- Actively strives to create and maintain an inclusive and intentionally anti-oppressive environment and organizational culture through communication and interaction that demonstrates respect for all including race, ethnicity, culture, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, economic status, and lived experience.
- Maintains a climate which is professional and collegial with other staff and welcoming to volunteers and youth and families.

- Encourages the voice of youth and families in all aspects of programming and organizational leadership.
- Commits to creating and participating in individual and collective liberation through on-going self-care activities.
- Elevate youth voices and experiences, opportunities for improvements to youth justice, and need for investment in community-based options using multimedia communications

#### Other

- Support the overall CCFC team in maintaining a clean building and yard.
- Other duties as assigned

# **Qualifications:**

# Knowledge, Skill, and Ability:

- Demonstrates alignment with and commitment to CCFC's mission, vision, and values.
- Demonstrates strong knowledge and skills in positive youth development, transformative
  justice, trauma-informed, intersectionality, alternatives to youth incarceration,
  transformational healing, and La Cultura Cura framework.
- Demonstrates strong communication skills and is *preferably* bilingual in both English and Spanish (written and verbal).
- Relates well to diverse groups of people; values inclusiveness of all communities, cultures
  and life experiences, ability to build rapport with different constituencies, good listening
  skills, uses diplomacy and tact; appropriately handles difficult and challenging situations in a
  restorative way.
- Demonstrates computer skills and knowledge of relevant software, the Internet, and e-mail.
- Demonstrates knowledge of operation of standard office equipment.
- Demonstrates knowledge of administrative procedures and systems, such as filing and record keeping.
- Demonstrates flexibility in scheduling, availability, and last-minute changes to accommodate job responsibilities and to achieve success in reaching established goals.
- Must be a self-starter and able to work independently and have very strong initiative yet can perform well in a team environment.
- Has strong organizational skills and the ability to focus on details.
- Experience in developing, implementing, and facilitating youth programs and healing circles.
- Experience in developing, cultivating, and maintaining community partnerships.
- Proven track record of leadership, integrity, professional maturity, self-motivation, and commitment.
- Have a Colorado driver's license and valid Colorado insurance or a reasonable plan for getting to and from partner organizations.
- Direct supervisory experience required (could be in a volunteer capacity).

### **Experience & Education:**

CCFC is committed to ensuring an inclusive organizational culture and recognizes various methods of training, education, and lived experiences. Applicants who have the skills and abilities to connect with our families and youth based on these various methods of development are encouraged to apply. CCFC understands many skills can be taught and developed with training and support therefore a heavy emphasis is placed on an applicant's personal connection to organizational mission, vision, and values and their lived experience connected to the issues we work on. Associate Degree or two years of college preferred. Bachelor or Master Degree a plus (or working towards a degree). Bi-lingual in both English and Spanish (written and verbal) and bi-cultural preferred. Three years of experience working in youth program development, juvenile justice alternatives, or community organizing programming preferred. Fundraising experience a plus. Must have the ability to work with communities of color, communities impacted by various forms of violence, incarceration, under-resourced, and communities with diverse life experiences in a positive and empowering way. Preferred experience working with and managing staff and volunteers. Applicants of color with personal experience with the justice system and returning citizens are strongly encouraged to apply.

#### **Inclusiveness Statement**

CCFC is dedicated to implementing equity as a tool to strengthen and enrich every aspect of our organization, this includes being anti-racist, valuing diversity, and contributing to an inclusive work culture. CCFC continually strives to meet the needs and reflect the diversity of the communities we serve by valuing and respecting the individuality of all our employees, volunteers, board members, youth participants, families, and community partners. Equity is at the center of all we do as an organization, and it is expected by all that join our team to intentionally work towards creating a thriving culture absent of harm related to one's identity or lived experience.

# **Equal Employment Opportunity**

CCFC is committed to making all personnel decisions without regard to race, creed, age, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, gender, gender expression, marital status, sexual orientation, veteran status, disability, or any other protected class as required by applicable law. All employees are expected to actively support these values and objectives in our work environment and with others with whom we come into contact.

# Compensation

Full-time position pay is \$55,000 annually <u>non-negotiable</u>, an additional \$2,000 annually for Spanish speaking skills, generous paid time off, holidays, flexible schedules, generous staff wellness opportunities, life insurance, retirement contribution, cell phone reimbursement, and a joyful, empowering work environment.

To apply; please answers the below questions in 500 to 1000 words and send with a resume and cover letter to info@ccfcdenver.org by Monday August 16st, 2021 6 pm MST.

- 1. In your opinion, what are the top 3 major social injustices that affect the lives of youth today, and how?
- 2. What does our community look like without these injustices? How do we get there?
- 3. What is your contribution to changing those injustices?
- 4. What does healing justice look like in the lives of youth?

Please indicate Youth Justice Organizing Program Manager Position in the subject line.

No phone calls please.

Receipt of all emailed resumes will be acknowledged.