



## **POSITION: CONNECT TO KIDS (C2K) CONSULTANT**

### **For Mental Health Professionals**

**Connect 2 Kids (C2K) is a pioneering program at JPA, aimed at helping teachers better understand and respond to the social-emotional and behavioral needs elementary school students to facilitate positive teacher-student relationships.** C2K partner schools are located in highly under-resourced communities in Chicago and many of the children have experienced multiple forms of trauma. C2K's relationally-oriented interventions provide ongoing mental health consultation, training, and support to teachers, along with thematically related parent community groups and social-emotional classroom lessons for children. In addition to services, C2K also includes rigorous program evaluation and research.

**JPA is seeking to expand our team and hire a full-time mental health consultant who has expertise in early child development.** The C2K consultant takes a lead role in this innovative program, providing critical support to teachers and families, while also having the unique opportunity to contribute to program development and evaluation.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Collaborate with elementary school teachers (PreK-3<sup>rd</sup>) and other school staff to provide ongoing, weekly mental health consultation in the school setting
- Provide support, feedback, guidance, and resources to teachers, with the goal of supporting positive teacher-child interactions and relationships
- Provide observations of individual students and classrooms, with follow-up reports/consultations to teachers and occasionally parents
- Facilitate school-based social-emotional lessons that model how to build SEL into daily classroom practices
- Build relationships with school counseling and behavioral teams
- Meet weekly with the C2K program coordinator and other C2K consultants to participate in case consultation and planning for program implementation
- Complete necessary documentation and contribute to program evaluation and research activities

#### **Qualifications:**

- Master's degree in social work, professional counseling, or related field required
- LSW/LPC required LCSW /LCPC preferred
- Must have experience providing mental health consultation and 3+ years of professional clinical experience working with children and families, preferably in school based settings

- Must have experience in relationship-based, trauma-informed, and attachment-focused practice
- Experience or background in early child development and work with children under the age of eight highly preferred
- Experience and understanding of urban, under-resourced communities and the systemic forces that impact them
- Must have experience with and commitment to providing culturally responsive services
- Understanding of and commitment to social service values and ethics
- This position may require local travel; therefore one must own a car to be able to travel to multiple sites if necessary during the work week

**Benefits:**

- Weekly individual clinical supervision
- Weekly staff clinical consultation
- Yearly professional development stipend
- Very generous PTO package (vacation, sick and personal days)
- Excellent health benefits with substantial employer cost share
- Family leave, if applicable
- Retirement plan with employer matching

Job Type: Full-time

Salary: Commensurate with experience

**COVID-19 considerations:**

Must be vaccinated to work in CPS schools

Our consultants will provide virtual consultation, to teachers if schools return to remote learning

Please send your cover letter and resume to [humanresources@jpachicago.org](mailto:humanresources@jpachicago.org) to apply. *JPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**JPA** is a 120-year old social impact agency whose mission is to improve the social and emotional well-being and functioning of vulnerable children so they can reach the fullest potential at home, in school, and in our communities. This is accomplished by providing therapeutic counseling services to at-risk children and families, conducting research, sharing knowledge, and providing expert consultation and guidance to others serving these children and families. JPA partners with schools and centers across the city with the hope of sharing its trauma-informed, mental health, developmentally-informed lens.