



Position: Research Manager (5+ years' experience)

Reports to: Executive Director

Location: Washington, DC

Summary of Position

The National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring justice for all children through excellence in juvenile defense. Through community building, training, and policy reform, we provide national leadership on juvenile defense issues with a focus on curbing the deprivation of young people's rights in the court system.

Our reach extends to urban, suburban, rural, and tribal areas, where we elevate the voices of youth, families, and defenders to create positive case outcomes and meaningful opportunities for children. We also work with broad coalitions to ensure the reform of juvenile courts includes the protection of children's rights, particularly the right to counsel.

The Research Manager will be responsible for strengthening NJDC's capacity to use quantitative and qualitative research, data analysis, and developmental science in all our programmatic work; ensuring evaluation and performance measures are imbued in NJDC's internal processes; conducting research and writing on issues related to enhancing juvenile defense practice and policy and improving juvenile justice systems; educating and advising NJDC's regional centers and community members on using data and research to enhance policies and practices; and working with the NJDC team to craft creative, forward-thinking strategies to improve juvenile defense and reflect NJDC's vision.

NJDC is seeking a researcher with 5+ years of experience who is committed to advancing improvements in juvenile defense policy and practice; loves to research, write, and think critically; and is eager to build a career at the intersection of youth justice and social change.

Responsibilities

- Develop and execute research efforts to advance NJDC's mission
- Strengthen the empirical qualities of NJDC's work
- Evaluate the reach, effectiveness, and impact of NJDC's work in the community
- Research, draft, and edit compelling content to inform and improve NJDC's work and to educate juvenile defenders and advocates
- Offer bold, creative ideas

- Manage all tasks as assigned with a positive demeanor and team-player attitude

Skills & Qualifications

- PhD required
- 5+ years' experience as a researcher in the juvenile justice or other child-focused field
- Familiarity with the juvenile justice system and the provision of legal services to children a plus
- Excellent writing and editing skills
- Passion for juvenile defense
- Experience planning and implementing projects and programs
- Ability to balance multiple projects and work under tight deadlines
- Demonstrated ability to engage and cultivate relationships with diverse constituents
- Interest in collaborative teamwork, while also able to operate autonomously under minimal supervision
- Occasional evening or weekend work and ability to travel
- Sense of humor and positive mindset required

Application Instructions

Please send your resume, cover letter, a writing sample, and salary requirements to inquiries@njdc.info. No calls please. This position is available immediately. Applications will be accepted until position is filled, but priority will be given to applications received by July 6, 2018.

NJDC is an equal employment opportunity employer and will comply with all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status or family responsibilities, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, matriculation or political affiliation, and any other basis protected by federal, state, or local laws.