

JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE:	Health & Wellness Specialist
DIVISION/TEAM	Blueprints for Health & Wellness
REPORTS TO:	Executive Director

OVERVIEW

Blueprints for Health & Wellness, aims to reduce the risk of suspension, expulsion, and staff turnover that often results from emotional, behavioral, and mental health challenges in Early Care and Education settings through the provision of mental health training, coaching, and supports for Early Childhood Educators, Administrators, and Families.

The Community Building Children’s Center (CBCC), offers a full-day, year-round, Reggio-inspired early care and education program for children ages 12 months through 5 years. CBCC is committed to supporting young children, their families, and the staff who care for and educate them through the development of environments that foster friendship, curiosity, self-esteem, and joy.

Our goal is to create a strong community of learning and mutual support. We believe in the amazing capacity of each child: their imagination, intelligence, and capability. We believe that when children are surrounded by loving, nurturing, and joyful family members and teachers it creates a foundation for peaceful, generative lives.

We believe in the unity of the human family and in caring for the earth, our home. We open our doors, hearts, and minds to all who are willing to embrace this journey with us. By doing so, we create a community of compassionate people with children at its center.

OBJECTIVE/PURPOSE

The Health & Wellness Specialist, in collaboration with the Executive Director & Program Director, is responsible for providing mental health coaching and real-time supports to the staff, children, and families of CBCC. The Health & Wellness Specialist will perform a wide array of services including, but not limited to, mental health observations and review, staff coaching & training, screenings, assessments, referrals for additional services when applicable, and behavior management and support plans. The Health & Wellness specialist upholds the organization’s philosophy, culture, and mission with the goal of bringing Emotional, Behavioral, and Mental Health Support to the children, families, and teachers of CBCC, supporting our community of compassionate people with children at its center.

PRINCIPLE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Health & Wellness Specialist works with CBCC staff and families to enable identification of infant and early childhood mental health, behavioral challenges, and developmental differences and to provide appropriate, timely, support through in-person real-time interventions.

General Consultation & Observations

- Maintain regular communication and accountability of responsibilities to the Executive Director
- Mental health observations and consultation in classrooms and through socializations and/or home visits

- Provide written and oral strengths-based feedback from mental health observations to classroom teachers
- Provide guidance on interpreting social-emotional screening and assessment tool findings to teachers and families
- Conduct observations on individual children as assigned
- Participate in meetings with staff and/or families to plan strategies to address the mental health needs of individual staff, children, or families
- Facilitate/Support referrals to community health and mental health providers
- Facilitate professional development training as requested

Early Educator Coaching

- Staff mentoring, development, & support
- Side-by-side mentorship and child behavioral support
- At least weekly classroom observations aimed at identifying staff and children who need support
- Weekly reflective management coaching meetings with teachers
 - Facilitate discussions using reflective practice
- Work with lead teaching staff to identify behavioral, emotional, & developmental differences among children
- Provide classroom support when challenging behaviors arise

Small Group & Individual Child Sessions

- Bi-weekly small group sessions for struggling children
- Individual observations, supports, and action plans for struggling children
- Monthly parent-teacher-coach collaboration sessions for identified children

Resource Development and Management

In Collaboration with the Executive Director:

- Maintain a comprehensive database of community supports, services, and resources for children, families, and teachers struggling with emotional behavioral, or developmental challenges.

Program Development

- Participates in Blueprints for Health & Wellness program development, evaluation, and improvement activities including:
 - Providing training and technical assistance as requested and agreed upon
 - Providing guidance and modeling developmentally appropriate activities for children as well as effective ways to work with and support young children's social-emotional development and well-being
 - Participation in program planning for overall mental health service delivery
 - Participation in program monitoring and self-assessment as requested
 - Support CBCC staff with resources for staff mental health & wellness
 - Other services delivery as planned and agreed upon

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Education & Experience

- Master's Degree in Social Work, Psychology, or related field with knowledge of Infant and Early Childhood Development and Mental Health
- Licensed or Certified Mental Health Professional (preferred)
- At least 2 years' experience working with young children and their families
- Experience coaching/mentoring adults

Knowledge

- Demonstrated knowledge of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health
- Demonstrated understanding of differences in mental health services and concepts across cultures
- Demonstrated knowledge of current child mental health services systems
- Experience formulating and writing assessments and support plans for young children
- Knowledge of trauma-informed care practices
- Knowledge of community resources
- Knowledge of Washington State Childcare Licensing Standards (preferred)
- Knowledge of reflective practice and supervision

Skills

- Build and maintain strong, collaborative relationships with CBCC staff and families
- Review of standardized screening and assessments for young children
- Provide resources and supports for referrals to appropriate community services
- Excellent communication and problem-solving skills
- Demonstrated ability to work in collaboration with a team
- Holds a positive, collaborative, and supportive disposition
- Demonstrated commitment to racial equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Demonstrated commitment to the Code of Ethical Conduct
- Experience with Microsoft Office, Google Suite

Other

- Must have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance
- Must meet all requirements to be alone with children in an early childhood program:
 - A Cleared Background Check
 - Pediatric First Aid/CPR/BBP
 - Childcare Basics Training or Equivalent
 - TB Test
 - Up to Date MMR and Covid Vaccinations

COMPENSATION

Part-Time: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (24 Hours/Wk)

Pay Range: \$27-\$33/hr; \$33,696-\$41,184 annually (*Dependent on Experience and Education*)

Other: \$1500 Sign-On Bonus; Paid Parking; Sick Accrual; 11 Paid Holidays

Blueprints for Learning is proud to be an equal opportunity workplace and encourages men, women, persons of color, and those with disabilities to apply.