

PREVENTION FIRST

Training & Technical Assistance Specialist – Reimagine Youth Development

POSITION SUMMARY

The purpose of this position is to perform a variety of technical and administrative tasks using a racial equity and trauma-informed lens to address the specific learning and professional development needs of Reimagine Public Safety Act (RPSA) Providers serving Chicago and Greater Illinois communities. This position coordinates and delivers training, technical assistance, and support services to build organizational capacity and provide a comprehensive, evidence-based approach to reducing gun violence and transforming communities.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Facilitates training curricula via classroom, virtual classroom, webinar, etc., to diverse populations in Chicago and Greater Illinois; prepares for training; coordinates logistics; conducts follow-up with participants for feedback; delivers workshops and presentations.
- Coordinates training programs led by outside consulting groups; screens and secures appropriate consultants; provides general guidance to and works with consultants to ensure programs are in accordance with the identified needs; monitors activities of consultants to ensure proper use of resources.
- Conducts process and outcome evaluation for all assigned training and events, including a review of participant evaluations and completion of a training report.
- Reviews program curriculum for classroom-based training, online training, webinars, and professional development resources; evaluates consumers' baseline knowledge, skills, and abilities; conducts research on a variety of subject matters and interviews subject matter experts to develop the content of training programs. Recommends changes and updates to existing Prevention First training curricula.
- Participates in the collection and analysis of data to determine professional development needs, including training and technical assistance of providers.
- Works with state system partners (IDHS Bureau of Firearm Violence Prevention, UIC, etc.) to coordinate technical assistance to meet the performance issues and learning needs of violence prevention, youth development, and high-risk intervention providers.
- Facilitates training technical assistance for youth development, high-risk youth intervention services, and violence prevention providers, and advisory councils. Assists providers by advising, amplifying, and advocating through various evidence-based and collaborative approaches.
- Monitors training and technical assistance services for effectiveness and responsiveness to provider needs, including consultant-led training programs; attends training and conducts follow-up with participants and training consultants.

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- Builds relationships with state agency department representatives, violence prevention, youth development, and high-risk intervention agencies in Chicago and throughout Greater Illinois with the highest levels of firearm violence to cultivate partnerships to strategize, plan, and collaborate efforts.
- Manages electronic media activities, including updating and maintaining the RPSA Groupsite and webpage, social media marketing, and provides information to be included in monthly electronic newsletters.
- Assists with the development of program budgets as assigned; monitors assigned budgets to remain within budgetary allowances; obtains and processes related invoices; prepares travel vouchers, contracts, timesheets, and other required documents and forms for approval.
- Develop professional development resources using Prevention First guidance, as assigned.
- Represent the department and/or Prevention First on various internal, regional, and community-based committees, with various organizations, and at conferences; attend all internal staff meetings, organizational retreats, and planning meetings.
- Responds to violence prevention, youth development, and high-risk intervention field, and advisory council inquiries regarding resources, networking, technical assistance, and training opportunities.
- Demonstrates commitment to valuing diversity and equity and contributing to an inclusive working and learning environment.
- Operates basic office equipment, including a phone system, computer, fax machine, copier, and related machinery; utilizes various computer programs, including word processing, spreadsheet, desktop publishing, and related programs, including website maintenance software.

POSITION QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor's degree in Education, Social Work or related field with a minimum of three years experience in violence prevention, youth development, facilitating or delivering trainings, project management, coordinating technical assistance or coaching services and performing related tasks, strategic planning; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Experience working directly with youth and high risk youth interventions preferred.

DESIRED SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Facilitation Skills – Ability to bring about an outcome (such as learning) in large groups, small groups and one-on-one scenarios.
- Creative - Ability to produce new concepts, ideas and solutions.
- Goal Oriented - Ability to focus on a goal and obtain a pre-determined result.
- Communication Skills – Ability to organize and convey ideas clearly in writing and verbally.
- Critical Thinking – Ability to analyze and evaluate an issue in order to form a judgment.
- Interpersonal - Ability to get along well with a variety of personalities and individuals.

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ABOUT PREVENTION FIRST

Prevention First is a nonprofit and the leading organization for knowledge-building and the dissemination of evidence-based prevention strategies. Our mission is to equip communities with resources and support to build pathways that prevent substance misuse and promote safety and lasting well-being for all through training, education, and partnerships. Since 1980, Prevention First has provided training, technical assistance, and resource materials to thousands of schools, community groups, parents, and youth. We specialize in building the capacity of practitioners to build and sustain effective community coalitions to prevent substance abuse, develop comprehensive strategic prevention plans, and select and implement appropriate evidence-based prevention strategies. We are funded through the Illinois Department of Human Services and offer our services throughout the state.

We offer an exceptional benefits package to our full-time employees (80% and above):

- Paid Time Off Accrual System (eligible day 1)
- Paid holidays
- Medical, dental & vision
- 401(k) plan (eligible after 90 days, vested after 1 year)

This is a full-time, FLSA-exempt position, reporting to the Manager of RYD Training and TA. We have locations in both Chicago and Springfield, with the opportunity to work remotely. The starting salary is \$55,000.

Prevention First is committed to creating a diverse environment and is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. We're committed to having an inclusive and transparent environment where every voice is heard and acknowledged. We are dedicated to equality and believe deeply in diversity of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, national origin, and all the other unique characteristics that make us different.

APPLICATION

We strongly encourage people from underrepresented groups to apply. Please e-mail your cover letter and resume to humanresources@prevention.org.