

# public citizens for children + youth

**Position Title:** Vulnerable Youth Policy Director to Lead the STOP the Harm/START the Healing Campaign

**Position Summary:** PCCY is seeking a seasoned professional to lead its research and advocacy efforts focused on improving the outcomes of children who are under the supervision of the county welfare and juvenile justice system in Philadelphia and the surrounding Pennsylvania counties.

**Key Duties:**

- Convene experts and key stakeholders to distill the chief policy issues that must be addressed to identify and, where possible, improve the practices and services that will decrease inappropriate youth placements, eliminate the risk of harm, and promote the healing of children, with the overarching goal of improving the well-being of children who may enter or be diverted from the dependency or juvenile justice systems.
- Develop a unified vision and policy frame that can be advanced by PCCY which supports the healing of youth who enter either system.
- Build a coalition and lead the coalition's development of a multi-year public engagement strategy that will ensure broad stakeholder and elected official support for the reforms needed to stop the harm and start the healing of youth involved in these systems.
- Write reports and policy memos to make the case for reforms; craft and drive the strategy to advocacy for the adoption of the reforms.

**Qualifications:**

- Knowledge of the significant policy and practices in the dependency and juvenile justice systems, including familiarity with the statutes, regulations, practices and operational systems.
- Track record of effective working relationships direct service providers as well as policy experts.
- Experience leading coalitions and/or engaging partners in crafting and implementing advocacy strategies.



- At least five years of relevant experience with supervisory responsibilities; the ideal candidate will have several years of management experience (*i.e.*, project or case management, managing staff, volunteers, or coalitions), and experience working with child welfare and/or juvenile justice systems.
- Ability to advance legislative goals; experience doing so a plus..
- Proven written and oral communication skills and proficiency with social media.

**Position Description:**

- Facilitate a multi-layered stakeholder engagement process to provide guidance and support for a local and state policy agenda aimed at achieving the policy goals outlined above.
- Support and expand the stakeholder engagement process by writing all necessary meeting summaries, policy proposals for discussion, consensus review documents and related materials needed to support an effective advocacy strategy that attracts broad support of the reforms.
- Conduct outreach to service providers, youth, parents, youth-serving organizations, and other key stakeholders to build a community of support behind the desired reforms.
- Build partnerships with key statewide and regional leaders to support those reforms that require state-level and/or local? action.
- Write compelling articles, commentaries for publications and blogposts to keep stakeholders motivated and engaged.
- Prepare the background documents for policymakers regarding desired reforms; localize the information effectively to ensure lawmaker interest in the issue and willingness to support the agenda.
- Support the engagement of PCCY board members in policy and advocacy process by staffing a committee of board members and major donors who have expertise in the dependency and juvenile justice systems.
- Support PCCY development efforts by assisting Development staff with early childhood education related grant applications and reports to funders
- Recruit and supervise interns who assist with infant/toddler research and outreach

**Other Duties (as needed):**

- Attend and present information at PCCY board meetings and subcommittee meetings
- Assist with PCCY outreach events which may be during evening or weekends
- Attend and participate in staff meetings and staff committees
- Actively support PCCY fundraising efforts
- Actively support PCCY's social media and communications campaigns

**Important Skills:**

- Ability to work independently and with others
- Consensus building skills and large group facilitation experience
- Ability to work well under pressure in a fast-paced environment and adjust to rapidly changing information
- Attention to detail
- Ability to prioritize and manage multiple projects
- Ability to collect, interpret and simplify large datasets
- Very strong written and oral communication skills
- Ability to travel to communities across the region
- Proficient in Excel and social media platforms

**Reports To:** Executive Director

**Salary Range:** Depending on experience, the position will be up to \$110,000

**Apply:** Resume and cover letter to [info@pccy.org](mailto:info@pccy.org)