### Job Title
Illinois Executive Director

### Employer/ Agency
Playworks is a national nonprofit organization that improves school climate, reduces bullying and increases student engagement in school through play and physical activity. Through both our training programs and our on-site direct service, Playworks teaches children to resolve their own conflicts that arise at recess and carry over to the classroom, restoring valuable teaching and learning time. We help transform recess into a safe, fun and inclusive time that gets students active and engaged so they can return to the classroom focused and ready to learn. For more information, please visit [www.playworks.org](http://www.playworks.org).

### Job Description
We're looking for a dynamic, entrepreneurial and talented leader to lead our organization in the Chicago Area. The Illinois Executive Director will be responsible for the financial sustainability and growth of the program by developing local funding sources, increasing the number of school partnerships and leading the team that delivers excellent Playworks programs for schools throughout the local districts. This position requires demonstrated success in fundraising, board support and staff leadership. Successful candidates must bring a strong knowledge of the public school system, ability to lead/develop teams and proven experience managing the day-to-day operations of a growing direct service organization. This position reports to a regional executive director and is located in Chicago, IL.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- **Fundraising, External Relations and Development**
  - Manage Chicago based fundraising activities including developing foundations relationships, corporate sponsorships and individual donor solicitation strategies
  - Support the Chicago Board of Directors charged with providing guidance, actively supporting fundraising goals, and increasing networks for Playworks throughout Illinois
  - Serve as external face of Playworks in the community, within schools, in philanthropic circles and in the media to increase visibility and brand awareness
  - Work with community volunteers and volunteer agencies to promote greater community involvement
  - Work closely with a regional executive officer to design and implement a development plan for the Chicago region

- **Program Oversight and Operations:**
  - Oversee all aspects of Playworks’ Illinois programming, including program planning, implementation, expansion, evaluation and overall program quality
  - Work closely with national leadership team and with city executive directors throughout the country to gather, share and implement best practices and promote learning amongst our cities
  - Provide leadership for Playworks staff; establish organizational values, promote a fun, collaborative environment while communicating expectations and employee recognition
  - Ensure a wide array of professional development opportunities for each team member and effective performance evaluation systems that promote growth and achievement of individual and organizational goals
- Manage the city budget and work with a regional executive officer to develop and monitor programmatic budgets (program and leagues); including securing contracts and accounts receivables with schools and districts

**Qualifications**
- 5+ years of experience as a successful leader in the nonprofit sector, government, private sector or education with proven visionary management and strategic planning capability
- Experience creating and maintaining high-level relationships within the philanthropic community, school districts, government and private sector
- Knowledge of the cultural landscape of Chicago and surrounding communities and an ability to build collaborations with a variety of existing and new community contacts
- Strong experience managing a highly capable team using outcomes measurement and goal-setting
- Entrepreneurial self-starter and creative thinker with experience producing results in a rapidly growing, deadline-driven, fast-paced, dynamic environment
- Commitment to the mission, vision and values of Playworks
- Sufficient comfort and understanding with technology to use it to advance initiatives and improve operations
- Bachelor’s degree required; advanced degree preferred
- This position requires travel to various locations
- If you use a vehicle, you must provide a current MVR, proof of liability and property damage insurance with a minimum of (100,000; 300,000) on vehicle used in addition to a valid drivers license

**Salary/Hours**
- Competitive Non-Profit salary
- Employer-paid health coverage
- Access to employee-funded pre-tax health and child care spending accounts
- Paid vacation, sick and holiday leave

**Application Method**
http://www.playworks.org/join-the-game/join-our-team/illinois-executive-director

To post a job opportunity or if your response to this job posting results in successful employment, please email the GCSW Office of Alumni and Career Services at mswjobs@central.uh.edu with the hiring details of your new job opportunity. Thank you.