

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND - TEXAS

The Children's Defense Fund of Texas (CDF-Texas), with offices in Austin, Houston, and McAllen, is a non-partisan nonprofit 501(c)(3) child advocacy organization. Over its 15 year history, CDF-Texas has championed policies and programs in child and family healthcare coverage, helping to reduce our state's high rate of uninsured children, and has greatly expanded youth leadership development opportunities in communities across the state. For its innovative work, CDF-Texas was recognized in 2011 for excellence in children's health outreach by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Its signature youth leadership development program - the CDF Freedom Schools program - was recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan as one of the most effective out-of-school-time programs in the country. CDF-Texas' effective advocacy has helped develop and lead successful statewide campaigns for child and family health, including the [Texas Well and Healthy](#) Campaign, [Texas Left Me Out](#), [Cover Texas Now](#), and the [Texas CHIP Coalition](#), and has garnered multi-year support by national and local leaders in the field.

Established in Texas in 1999, CDF-Texas is supported by state and national foundations, nonprofits, individuals and corporations. With offices in Austin, Houston (central office), and McAllen, CDF-Texas has the capacity to work statewide, with programs on the ground in numerous additional communities including, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth, Galveston, and San Antonio. CDF-Texas is part of a network of 8 state offices of the national Children's Defense Fund, established in 1973.

CDF Mission

The Children's Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start* and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

CDF provides a strong, effective and independent voice for all the children of America who cannot vote, lobby or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of poor and minority children and those with disabilities. CDF educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investments before they get sick, drop out of school, get into trouble or suffer family breakdown.

More information can be found at www.cdf-texas.org and www.childrensdefense.org.

Position Responsibilities and Requirements:

Reporting to the VP of Field at the national office, the Executive Director will be the chief executive officer for CDF in Texas, and will supervise all CDF employees, programs, and facilities in the state. The Executive Director will assure CDF-Texas' overall effectiveness, assure acquisition of sufficient resources, project a positive statewide public presence and work with state staff and the CDF-Texas Advisory Board to implement CDF's mission in Texas.

The successful candidate will demonstrate his or her abilities in the following areas:

- Commitment to our organization's mission and stakeholders.
- Ability to guide the organization in the development and implementation of strategic and annual work plans.
- Ability to lead and work with the Development Director to set and meet all goals in the development of resources for advocacy, program work and general operating costs through a

multi-faceted development plan including grants, corporate giving, events, major gifts, and annual giving campaigns.

- Ability to understand, guide and oversee the organization's financial management.
- Ability to serve as principal spokesperson for CDF-Texas, communicate clearly and maintain relationships with multiple stakeholder audiences. Ability to guide and oversee communications, advocacy and outreach professionals using best practices in pursuit of goals to expand the organization's audience and impact.
- Ability to recruit, develop, mentor, retain and supervise a highly capable staff within a collegial environment in which information is shared, staff efforts are valued and integrated, and responsibility and authority are effectively delegated.
- Ability to develop and engage a state-wide advisory board in meaningful support of the organization's fundraising efforts, programs, policy development and advocacy.
- Ability to communicate with, understand and anticipate the diverse concerns of people of varied economic, racial, ethnic and religious orientations both internally and externally.

Ideal candidates will have the following experiences:

- Significant leadership experience on and proven effectiveness with child advocacy and 3 – 5 years of senior management experience.
- Commitment and ability to work with diverse groups of people and to convene and lead coalitions.
- Experience working with a board of directors and building consensus.
- Proven experience in fundraising for nonprofit organizations in Houston and Texas, including individual donor campaigns, grants management, and corporate giving.

This is a full-time salaried position based in the Houston office. CDF offers a competitive benefits package and salary commensurate with experience.

To apply, please submit cover letter and resume at this [link](#).

THE CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER