

**Date Posted: 10/10/2011**

**University of Houston  
Graduate College of Social Work**

**JOB OPPORTUNITY POSTING**

**Job Title:** Project Director

**Employer/Agency:** KIND (Kids in Need of Defense)  
Guatemalan Child Return and Reintegration Pilot  
Project

Kids In Need of Defense (KIND) is an innovative partnership among the Microsoft Corporation, Angelina Jolie and other interested philanthropists, law firms and corporate contributors. KIND is dedicated to providing both pro bono representation and positive systemic changes in law and policy to benefit unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children. KIND is headquartered in Washington, D.C.

**Job Description:** KIND seeks a Project Director to oversee a pilot project that 1) seeks to support the return and social reintegration of unaccompanied Guatemalan children who are being deported or are voluntarily departing the United States; and 2) helps KIND and its project partners achieve the goal of developing a return and reintegration model that can be replicated in other countries.

The Project Director will carry the following responsibilities:

- 1) Oversee the implementation of the return and reintegration project that partners with Guatemalan organizations to provide returning children with services and support;
- 2) Work closely with KIND's legal services staff and other partners to identify potential project participants among those Guatemalan children facing the possibility of return to their home country;
- 3) Cultivate strong, dynamic relationships with KIND's NGO partners in Guatemala and appropriate agencies serving unaccompanied children in the US and

Guatemalan governments;  
4) Oversee the work of the project's Social Worker that includes oversight of service delivery and coordination of services with Guatemalan NGO partners;  
5) Conduct trainings and site visits with KIND staff and other partners;  
6) Assist in the monitoring and evaluation of the project to identify best practices that ensure the project's success and help lay the groundwork for eventual replication; and  
7) Promote KIND's mission and vision in public policy-making and philanthropic fora.

**Qualifications:**

1) Masters or PhD level professional with a background in social work, immigration policy, and/or child protection;  
2) Demonstrated ability to gather, assess, synthesize, and summarize research data;  
3) Exceptional written and oral communication skills in English and Spanish, strong staff management and internal teambuilding skills, ease and poise in social and professional settings with project partners, sponsors, and government officials;  
4) Excellent organizational skills;  
5) Ability to work independently on multiple projects in a deadline-oriented environment;  
6) Passion for the plight of unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children, and the enthusiasm and skill to communicate that passion to others;  
7) An understanding of the US government and the ability to be a well-respected and effective representative of the program;  
8) Ability to work in the context of the Guatemalan political environment, culture, government infrastructure, and NGO community; and  
9) Previous experience providing direct client services preferred; and  
10) Fluent in Spanish.

**Employer/Agency:**

KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE

**Address:**

1331 G Street NW

**City, State:**

Washington, DC 20005

**Application Method:**

KIND is an EOE committed to inclusive hiring and dedicated to diversity in both its staff and important work.

Nominations or applications, including a cover letter, resume, writing sample and three references, should be sent to: Vibha Bhatia at [vbhatia@supportkind.org](mailto:vbhatia@supportkind.org).

Please no inquiries or phone calls. Applicants selected for interviews will be duly notified.

The final applicant will be asked to undergo a background check before acceptance of the final offer.

**Opening Date:** Application deadline is October 12th, 2011

***If your response to this job posting results in successful employment, please email the GCSW Office of Alumni and Career Services at [mswjobs@sw.uh.edu](mailto:mswjobs@sw.uh.edu) with the hiring details of your new job opportunity.  
Thank you***