Job Announcement:
Government Affairs Director

Background
The Colorado Children’s Campaign is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research, policy and advocacy organization committed since 1985 to realizing every chance for every child in Colorado. We advocate for the development and implementation of data-driven public policies that improve child well-being in health, education and early childhood. We do this by providing Coloradans with trusted data and research on child well-being and organizing an extensive state-wide network of dedicated child advocates.

As the leading voice for Colorado’s children at the State Capitol and in communities across the state, the Children’s Campaign has been at the forefront of hundreds of policy wins for kids. Among the numerous laws and programs we’ve helped establish are the Colorado Preschool Program, Child Health Plan Plus and the Reading to Ensure Academic Development (READ) Act. The Children’s Campaign is committed to integrating values of diversity, equity and inclusion into daily work with intention, action and humility in order to advance racial and economic equity within our organization, our networks and our partnerships.

Position Description
The Government Affairs Director is responsible for advancing the mission of the Colorado Children’s Campaign by managing the strategy and execution of our state legislative agenda, including managing key relationships with elected officials and policymakers. The Government Affairs Director serves as the primary lobbyist for the Children’s Campaign and reports to the President and CEO.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Manage the development and execution of the Children’s Campaign’s annual state legislative strategy, in coordination with the full Policy Team;
- Represent and advocate for the organization’s position on legislation and budget priorities with members of Colorado’s General Assembly, the governor’s office, executive branch cabinet members and agencies, and stakeholders;
- Count votes for and against bills, amendments, and budget priorities; negotiate bill language in conjunction with policy area VPs; monitor and shepherd legislation through the entire legislative process from bill drafting to committee hearings to floor debate and voting to the governor’s signature;
- Lead the internal Policy Team process, including preparing for, facilitating and following up on regular Policy Team meetings;
- Manage a process for monitoring and reporting on state legislation using a variety of legislative tracking tools;
- Help analyze policy and develop recommendations for action;
- Provide recommendations related to political context and help strategize on and execute outreach to activate various networks and advance the Children’s Campaign’s agenda;
- Work with staff to develop and coordinate testimony for legislative hearings, and testify when appropriate;
- Manage the Children’s Campaign’s relationship with contract lobbyists;
- Develop and cultivate relationships with strategic partners, including elected and appointed policymakers, candidates for public office, other lobbyists and advocacy partners representing diverse perspectives;
• Attend coalition meetings, national conferences, in-state meetings, and other relevant stakeholder gatherings to learn from partner perspectives and represent the Children’s Campaign’s interests;
• Support all relevant staff in the tracking of and advocacy for federal legislation, state regulation, and local initiatives, as appropriate;
• In coordination with the VP of Advocacy and Communications and policy area VPs, help to create and disseminate communications tools related to the organization’s legislative agenda, including: a weekly electronic newsletter, legislative fact sheets, annual Legislative Priorities and Impacts documents and candidate education outreach materials;
• Prepare and deliver presentations on advocacy and Children’s Campaign policy priorities to a variety of audiences around the state, including, but not limited to: community partners, the Children’s Campaign’s Board of Directors, Circle of Friends and It’s About Kids networks;
• Work with the Finance Director and President to manage the organization’s compliance with state and federal lobbying laws and regulations.

Qualifications and Job Requirements

• B.A. or B.S., or equivalent work experience;
• Lobbying or closely-related political and/or legislative experience;
• Commitment to the mission and work of the Colorado Children’s Campaign;
• Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively with people of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and political persuasions;
• Sharp political acumen;
• Experience with state government, preferably in Colorado;
• Demonstrated understanding of how to develop and advance a policy agenda in legislative and regulatory settings;
• Knowledge of and commitment to Children’s Campaign policy issues, including health, K-12 education and early childhood, and strategies for eliminating the barriers that create disparate outcomes across these issue areas;
• Ability to work effectively with a variety of partners, including elected officials, board members, fellow staff and community partners representing diverse perspectives;
• Ability to work with colleagues in an inclusive manner that demonstrates openness to differing perspectives and experiences;
• Understanding of how to use and present data effectively to diverse audiences to advance an agenda;
• Excellent written and verbal communications and presentation skills, with emphasis on persuasive communications;
• Strong organizational skills, ability to manage competing priorities and multi-task;
• Available and willing to travel, as needed;
• Flexible, innovative, energetic, hard-working and able to work as a member of a team;
• Commitment to supporting a culture of continuous improvement.

Compensation

This is a full-time exempt position. The anticipated salary range for this position is $72,000 - $82,000, including a strong benefits package with health insurance and paid time off, but salary is negotiable based on experience.

To be considered for this position, please send a cover letter and resume to Leslie Colwell, Vice President, Education Initiatives, at apply@coloradokids.org. We review applications on a rolling basis so it is to your advantage to apply as soon as possible.
For more information about the Colorado Children’s Campaign, please visit [www.coloradokids.org](http://www.coloradokids.org).

The Colorado Children’s Campaign is an equal opportunity employer that values workplace diversity. We strive to create an inclusive work place that embraces diverse backgrounds, life experiences and perspectives. The Children’s Campaign prohibits discrimination of employees or applicants on the basis of race, creed, color, age, sex, national origin, marital status, sexual identity, sexual orientation, religious or political affiliation, disability or any other classification considered discriminatory under applicable law.