



NATIONAL FOSTER YOUTH INSTITUTE

Position: Senior Policy Manager

Job Type: Full Time, Exempt

Location: Washington D.C. preferred, remote possible

Supervisor: National Policy & Organizing Director

Salary: 70,000 – 80,000 Annual Salary

Benefits include health care, dental and vision

National Foster Youth Institute

Founded by Congressmember Karen Bass in 2012, NFYI is dedicated to ensuring that current and former foster youth have a seat at the table alongside legislators, policymakers, decision makers, families, and advocates. We believe that truly transformative foster care reform is possible only when individuals who have personally experienced the child welfare system have leadership roles in changing it. NFYI creates pipelines of leadership that connect current and former foster youth with decision makers to change the systems that impact them. We do that by building relationships with members of congress, training and empowering foster youth and families to make their voices heard, and by organizing grassroots support for child welfare reform.

We are at a pivotal moment in our organization's history as we build on past successes and extend our reach. NFYI seeks an engaging Senior Policy Manager to join our team that will help the organization to achieve even greater impact for foster youth and their families.

Position Description

The Senior Policy Manager uses dynamic and creative tactics to support and build a social movement led by the families and youth most impacted by the child welfare system. The role of the Senior Policy Manager is to inspire a cadre of dedicated, committed, community activists in championing national foster care reform. The Senior Policy Manager identifies the strategy for changing cultural norms across the country, by prioritizing policy to creating a demand for change at the system levels.

The Senior Policy Manager develops NFYI's local and national policy platforms, working directly with policy makers, funders, advocates and NFYI members across the country, while actively collaborating with NFYI staff and stakeholders. The Senior Policy Manager is an experienced community organizer with deep understanding of strategic systems change and some experience in youth development and training. This position cultivates meaningful relationships with community partners, decision makers and constituents of the child welfare system. This role is a combination of research, persuasive communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. The Senior Policy Manager reports directly to the National Policy and Organizing Director.

Overview of Responsibilities:

- In collaboration with NFYI staff, develop NFYI's policy priorities and areas of focus and federal legislative agenda.
- Develop and maintain strong and collaborative relationships with key policymakers at a federal level.
- Lead the recruitment and management of Congressmembers for NFYI's Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Week.
- In collaboration with the National Policy and Organizing Director and the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, host congressional briefings, townhalls, dinners, listening tours and Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Week.
- Manage and train Policy Intern(s) in obtaining professional and policy skills to accomplish the policy goals of NFYI.
- Work in collaboration with the National Policy and Organizing Director, to develop and facilitate advocacy and policy trainings for Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Week, National Voices and Local Chapters.
- In partnership with the Communications Director, develop newsletter content focused on key policy or legislative issues, or events of note related to NFYI's organizing, legislative and advocacy priorities.
- Track analytics.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Must have a bachelor's degree (BA, BS) or higher from an accredited college or university or at least 3-year experience in public policy. Federal policy preferred.
- Experience mentoring and managing volunteer teams, staff and interns.
- Cultural competency to work with individuals from diverse backgrounds.
- Work well with people in various communities, institutional and governmental organizations.
- Expertise in building relationships with local and federal leaders and engaging them in strategy development.
- Strong communicator including listening and facilitation skills with diverse groups and in under-resourced communities.
- Ability to work independently, be flexible and resourceful, and manage multiple priorities.
- Be a thought partner who works well in a team-oriented environment.
- Knowledge of the local, state, and national political and policy process.
- Track record of successful campaign/policy work (issue or electoral).
- Demonstrated commitment to social justice.
- Detail-oriented with excellent communication, organizational, interpersonal, and writing skills.

- Experience with public speaking and presentations.
- Must have reliable transportation, be able to drive a car and have appropriate auto insurance coverage, and a valid Driver's license.
- Strong preference for former foster youth or familiar with child welfare policy and/or experience working with foster youth.
- Experience in training and curriculum development.

This is an opportunity to have a real impact and create real potential for growth. To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to: jobs@nfyi.org with the subject: Senior Policy Manager.