Position: Social Development Intervention Consultant, ASD Nest Support Project

Starting Date: July 5th, 2017, or before

Minimum Qualifications

We are seeking a speech-language therapist with substantial experience working with students with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and knowledge of effective developmental interventions to address their social challenges. This professional will have expertise supporting educators in the public school system and must be able to work collaboratively with project colleagues, as well as with school-based therapist, educators, and administrators.

Our Professional Learning Consultants:

- Travel to schools across the five boroughs to support the implementation of the ASD Nest model in public schools across New York City
- Independently manage their time and schedules and tailor their consultation supports to the individual needs of each school
- Understand and model Nest best practices for school staff
- Use creativity and thoughtful compassion to design and deliver workshops that promote understanding and respect for the strengths and challenges of learners with ASD
- Work in close collaboration with ASD Nest colleagues across disciplines
- Use leadership skills to galvanize school teams to create optimal, inclusive environments

The candidate must have:

- MA/MS in special education or a related field, CCC-SLP
- Minimum five years’ experience providing speech therapy/social support to individuals with ASD, with specific experience supporting students in the area of pragmatic language
- Experience training staff working with children with ASD
- Commitment to implementing/learning about ASD Nest Program philosophy and strategies
- Strong leadership skills in addition to being highly organized, independent, creative, flexible, and reliable

Preferred Qualifications

Preference will be given to individuals with a strong background and interest in autism spectrum disorders, inclusion, and neurodiversity who have experience with consulting, supervising, and providing training/professional development.

Duties

The primary responsibilities of the Social Development Intervention (SDI) Consultant are to collaborate with the ASD Nest Support team to implement the ASD Nest model across schools across New York City and beyond to create inclusive school communities for
students with ASD. SDI is a social therapeutic intervention focusing on developing social engagement and social cognition, led by speech therapists in all ASD Nest schools.

The candidate is expected to accomplish the following specific duties:

1. Consult in Nest schools:
   - Provide full-day consultation in ASD Nest schools serving students with ASD from kindergarten through 12th grade. Consultation includes observations of SDI sessions; meeting with—and providing feedback to—therapists and administrators regarding appropriate student supports; and providing in-the-moment professional development
   - Attend Nest Team Meetings to coach speech therapists and assist with support of conducting collaborative, transdisciplinary discussions

2. Lead professional development
   - Develop and lead regular full-day seminars for Nest speech therapists as part of the ASD Nest Support Project professional development offerings
   - Lead workshops for educators and therapists working outside the ASD Nest Program

3. Collaborate with ASD Nest Support Project team
   - Participate in our continuous work developing the ASD Nest model, particularly Social Development Intervention
   - Facilitate regular meetings among members of the ASD Nest Support Project SDI consulting team
   - Plan and facilitate Support Team Meetings
   - Represent the SDI therapeutic approach and the SDI team on the core full-time team of the Support Project
   - Share in the administrative work of the team

Salary: Initial salary commensurate with qualifications and experience

About the ASD Nest Support Project: The goal of the ASD Nest Support Project is to advance the development and implementation of sound educational solutions for children with autism spectrum disorder. The Project provides training, professional development, and on-site consultation for teachers, therapists, and administrators working in ASD Nest program schools in the New York City Department of Education as well as in districts outside the city.

Our ASD Nest model is grounded in a commitment to true inclusion. It takes a developmental approach to student learning and social development and uses Positive Behavior Supports throughout the day.

How to Apply: Please submit electronically a letter of application, curriculum vitae/resume, and the contact information for three references.
Application: Applications will be reviewed as they are received and we will continue to accept applications until the position is filled. Please send all application materials and/or requests for information to:

Lauren Hough Williams  
Co-Project Director, ASD Nest Support Project  
Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools  
New York University  
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New York, NY 10003  
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Applications from women, minorities, and individuals from underserved or underrepresented groups with a experience in special education and inclusion are encouraged to apply. All qualified individuals will receive equal consideration without regard to economic status, race, ethnicity, color, religion, marital status, pregnancy, national origin or cultural background, political views, sex or sexual orientation, gender identification, age, disability, disabled veteran or Vietnam era veteran status.

Upon request, reasonable accommodation will be provided to individuals with protected disabilities to (a) complete the employment process and (b) perform essential job functions when this does not cause undue hardship.

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