

Health Policy Analyst/Associate



Job Description for Position

Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) is the independent voice for children in New Jersey and a nationally recognized research and advocacy non-profit organization that works to advance policies that help children and families. ACNJ's work has improved the lives of thousands of New Jersey children in the areas of access to early childhood learning, health care and hunger, child protection, school attendance, and other important issues concerning the well-being of New Jersey children, especially our most vulnerable.

ACNJ is currently seeking a Health Policy Analyst/Associate to work with ACNJ's Vice President and ACNJ's early learning team to inform and implement ACNJ's Health Policy Agenda. ACNJ's current health related work is primarily focused on improving health outcomes for young children, as well as maternal health care. Our current work includes a wide range of topics in health care service delivery and financing, quality measures, and health systems change. Topics include, but not limited to prenatal care, developmental screening, early intervention services, infant and toddler mental health, childhood lead poisoning, oral health care, adverse childhood experiences, and access related issues.

Under the direction of the ACNJ's Vice President, the Health Policy Analyst/Associate will help inform and execute ACNJ's health agenda and support ACNJ's early learning agenda. The Analyst/Associate will also support the President & CEO and Vice President in their duties, related to writing talking points, policy research including legislative research and cultivating relationship with scholarly, practitioner, and/or policy experts in order to inform ACNJ's Health Policy Agenda.

Responsibilities include:

- Analyzing New Jersey state and federal legislative and regulatory proposals related to children's health.
- Advising ACNJ and its partners on matters concerning Medicaid and/or coverage through NJ FamilyCare Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).
- Gathering and analyzing relevant data from the NJ Department of Health, NJ Department of Human Services and relevant federal departments to inform ACNJ's Health Agenda.
- Writing informative policy briefs and updates to educate policy makers, ACNJ's partners and network.
- Assessing the quality of healthcare provided to children through NJ FamilyCare.
- Conducting analysis on data related to impact of COVID-19 on NJ children and families.
- Participate in community activities and/or events that will inform ACNJ's strategic direction to assess social determinants of health statewide.

Skills and Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree in good academic standing from an accredited college or university or equivalent combination of education and professional experience. Master's Degree in Public Policy, Statistics, or Public Health or Public Administration is preferred.
- Strong analytic skills, including knowledge of quantitative and/or qualitative analytic research methods. Demonstrated ability to efficiently operate computers and utilize quantitative statistical software (e.g. SPSS, Stata).
- Excellent attention to detail and accuracy.
- Strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills; ability to write clear and concise policy briefs and memos and presentation materials which are accessible for non-technical audiences and the general public.
- Ability to complete tasks on deadline without compromising quality.
- Ability to support projects with an operational focus and balance competing priorities.
- Interpersonal skills and ability to maintain cooperative relationships and ongoing communications with persons of diverse social, educational, and cultural backgrounds.
- Sincere commitment to the mission, goals, and values of ACNJ.

Experience working with a state or federal government Medicaid agency, foundation or policy research organization addressing children's health issues, or health care program is highly desirable. Candidates with post-graduate, relevant professional experience in priority policy areas, such as Medicaid, are encouraged to apply.

Salary and Benefits:

ACNJ offers a stimulating, team-oriented work environment that is committed to a diverse culture of inclusion. The salary for this position will be in the \$60,000 - \$65,000 range, depending on the candidate's work experience and track record. ACNJ provides a generous benefits package.

To Apply:

Please email your resume and cover letter, and a writing sample that demonstrates analytic and research skills and reflects independent analysis to Mary Coogan via email to mcoogan@acnj.org, or mail to:

Mary Coogan
Advocates for Children of New Jersey
35 Halsey Street, 2nd Floor
Newark, New Jersey 07102

ACNJ is an Equal Opportunity Employer and do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, status as a veteran, and basis of disability or any other federal, state or local protected class.