



Position Title: Infant and Toddler Mental Health Consultant

Department: Professional Development

The Child Care Council of Suffolk, Inc., in partnership with the Child Care Council of Nassau, manages the Long Island Infant and Toddler Resource Center as part of the statewide Infant and Toddler Network. With new funding from the NYS Office of Children and Family Services, the network is launching **the Infant and Toddler Mental Health Consultation (ITMH) program**. This model is based on several evidence-based programs and will bring a mental health lens to the work to strengthen the quality of early childhood education for Long Island's infants and toddlers.

Job Summary:

The Infant and Toddler Mental Health (ITMH) Consultant will be a member of the Child Care Council of Suffolk's Department of Professional Development and work as part of the team to promote healthy growth in young children by supporting quality early childhood opportunities. The ITMH Consultant will promote positive mental health and social and emotional development of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings. The ITMH Consultant will not be providing direct therapeutic services to children in this role; rather, the Consultant will focus on building the capabilities, skills and mental health competencies of the early care and education staff and caregivers.

Overall, the goal of the infant toddler mental health consultation service is to focus on promoting positive interactions between adults and the children by using a mental health knowledge base to inform decisions and strategies. The Consultant will provide an intensive and targeted approach that will bolster existing work to improve overall quality of early childhood education settings. By utilizing a problem-solving approach to increase the capacity of the infant and toddler caregivers, it is expected that the Consultant will help child care staff and caregivers adapt to a model of care that reduces challenging behaviors, increases pro-social behaviors, and reduces expulsions and suspensions in early care and education settings.

Program Specific Requirements:

- Provide on-site consultation to early childhood programs that reflects and respects the philosophy of early childhood mental health consultation practices, the assigned program, and that is culturally responsive to the child, the caregiver, and the early care and education setting.
- Promote positive mental health and social-emotional well-being by providing education on mental health issues; develop an understanding and respect for early childhood mental health within the early childhood setting and with caregivers.

- Model the best uses for developmental, social and emotional screening tools; support implementation within the program.
- In conjunction with the early childhood program, design and support implementation of program practices responsive to identified behavioral and mental health concerns of an individual child or group of children; support strategies to promote overall positive social-emotional development of infants and toddlers.
- Share resources for social-emotional learning in early care and education environments.
- Assist infant and toddler programs in building appropriate referral networks and processes for connecting with outside community-based services.
- Collaborate with early care and education program administration to develop inclusive policies and practices for working with all children, and to implement effective policies and practices that promote effective self-care strategies for staff.
- Participate in ongoing continuing education, which may include, but is not limited to the following topics: ITMH best/evidence-based practices, Adverse Childhood Experiences, Cultural Diversity & Humility, DC 0-5 Assessment, Early Childhood Mental Health Assessment and Strategies.
- Complete all required documentation timely and accurately.
- Attend all required supervision including but not limited to: model, data, clinical.
- Other duties as assigned and required by local CCR&R.

Technology & Data System:

- Participate in weekly data and evaluation support calls with outside partner to assure the consistent & accurate use of data collection systems.
- Data analysis for interpretation & planning for quality improvement.
- Maintain documentation specific to position.
- Maintain certification for all assessment tools.
- Maintain confidentiality of all client protected health information and adheres to all HIPAA related policies and procedures.

Community Engagement:

- Participate in external committees, task forces, community meetings, and visibility events as requested to promote the program, and to build a professional practice network on local, regional, and/or national levels.
- Participate in monthly ITMH Consultation calls to build an effective statewide practice.

Professional Conduct:

- Maintain confidentiality at all times regarding personnel matters, health and employment information, business practices, and client information.
- Engage in respectful and professional interactions with community members, clients, peers, and colleagues. Work in a manner that complements that of others according to

policies and rules of workplace practice.

- Contribute to the development of work place and professional relationships based on acceptance of cultural diversity.
- Demonstrate respect for cultural diversity in all communication and interactions with co-workers, colleagues, and clients.
- Travel throughout the County (region) will be required.
- Willingly conduct other duties as assigned.

Supervision: The ITMH Consultant will report to the Director of the Department of Professional Development who will assign and oversee the work of the Consultant. In addition, supervision on this project will be across three levels: model adherence, data input, and reflective/clinical/group supervision with a licensed professional. This will be supported by the Early Care & Learning Council, and project consultants. Performance evaluations will be conducted by the Director of Education at the Child Care Council of Suffolk quarterly for 12 months post hire and annually with quarterly check-ins thereafter.

Minimum Education and Experience Qualifications:

- Master's Degree in Psychology, Social Work, Mental Health Counseling, Behavioral Therapy or other related counseling/mental health degree. Licensed- or Licensed-eligible clinicians preferred.
- Three to Five years of experience working with children and/or families, and/or early childhood settings.
- Experience with adult learning, teaching, coaching and/or training.
- Working knowledge of infant and early childhood typical and atypical development, early childhood mental health, adverse childhood experiences, family systems.
- Awareness of issues leading to high rates of suspension and expulsion in early care and education settings.
- Demonstrated experience with, or attention to equity, inclusion, and cultural humility.
- Written and verbal communication skills, and ability to present and engage with diverse audiences, specifically racially, ethnically, and socioeconomically diverse communities.
- Ability to work independently within a flexible schedule, and demonstrate effective time management.
- A valid driver's license and reliable transportation is needed. This position requires travel throughout the County (region?) to provide consultation services on-site at various early childhood programs.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite.

Preferred Education and Experience Qualifications:

- Dual advanced degree in Mental Health discipline and Early Childhood Education.
- Demonstrated experience in an early childhood program, early intervention, or early

childhood mental health program, preferred.

- Working knowledge of evidenced-based curricula to promote early childhood mental health, DC 0-5, and formal and informal social-emotional (SE) assessment tools.
- NYSAIMH Infant Mental Health Endorsed or related competencies/experience or willingness to pursue endorsement.
- Bilingual (Spanish/English) a plus.

Salary will be commensurate with experience.

Send resume and cover letter to irojas@childcaresuffolk.org.



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