

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND FAMILY ISSUES (COFI) JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER

COFI seeks an experienced organizer interested in learning the *Family Focused Organizing* community organizing model and working with low-income parent leaders in Chicago's African-American and Latino communities – both at the local and citywide levels. COFI's mission is to strengthen the power and voice of low-income and working families at all levels of civic life – from local institutions and communities to the city and state policy arenas. COFI accomplishes its mission through a unique women-centered model of leadership development and community organizing called *Family Focused Organizing*, which emphasizes the interconnection between personal struggles and broader community issues and builds capacity for leaders to address these issues at both a personal level and through public action.

Current issue campaigns led by COFI's citywide parent leader organization (POWER-PAC) include the *Elementary Justice Campaign* that seeks to end punitive school discipline policies and the criminalization of youth of color; the *Recess for All!* campaign to restore recess in Chicago's public elementary schools, the *Early Learning Campaign* to eliminate barriers to access to quality preschool for low-income parents, and emerging campaigns around women and children's health issues.

### COMMUNITY ORGANIZER RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Community Organizer responsibilities include:

- Leadership development and strategic planning with low-income parent leaders both locally and at the citywide level.
- Research, issue development, media and coordination of both local and citywide organizing and public policy campaigns.
- Work with COFI staff team to implement COFI trainings and other organizational activities.

### REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum 2 years community, electoral, or labor organizing experience.
- Strong organizing skills and a commitment to learn COFI's *Family Focused Organizing* model.
- Demonstrated ability to develop and challenge community leaders and build campaigns that connect local issues with broader public policy issues.
- Strong research, policy analysis, and media skills. Excellent written/verbal communication skills.
- Strong facilitation, project leadership, and organizational skills; fundraising experience desirable.
- Knowledge, understanding of and commitment to the empowerment of low-income families (particularly women) and experience working with diverse communities.
- Spanish /English bilingual preferred.

### OTHER:

- Salary is highly competitive and commensurate with experience; excellent benefits package.
- Family friendly work environment with flexible hours and family-supportive benefits.
- Women organizers and organizers of color are strongly encouraged to apply.

Interested applicants please email cover letter, resume and completed COFI application form to [applications@cofionline.org](mailto:applications@cofionline.org); or mail to Ellen Schumer, COFI, 954 W. Washington, Box 42, Chicago, Illinois 60607; or fax to 312/226-5144. No phone calls please. Application form and more information about COFI are available at [www.cofionline.org](http://www.cofionline.org).