

POSITION DESCRIPTION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN

Background

The Global Alliance for Children (“GAC”) is a public-private partnership that was established in August 2013 as a direct outcome of a February 2013 meeting at the Rockefeller Foundation’s Bellagio Center of fifteen multilateral, bilateral and private organizations engaged in international development work. The Global Alliance seeks to mobilize public and private knowledge, commitment and resources at the global and country levels to support country-driven strategies and accountability around three core outcomes that will demonstrate significant, measurable and sustainable results for children in adversity, beginning in a select number of countries. The three objectives are to (i) build strong beginnings for children to increase the number meeting their developmental milestones; (ii) put family care first and reduce the number of children living outside of family care; and (iii) protect children from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect.

The GAC has established a governing Leaders’ Council and a Secretariat, and is an unincorporated organization that has engaged the New Venture Fund (newventurefund.org) to serve as its fiscal agent. The Leaders’ Council is determining a limited number of countries for direct engagement, and has already launched dialogues with public and private stakeholders in Cambodia Rwanda and Uganda. The country level work includes articulating specific targets within national development programs, and supporting the mobilization and coordination of resources to develop/strengthen and implement the programs needed to achieve those targets. At the global level, the GAC will provide technical support to the national level efforts, will advocate for the mission of the alliance with global, regional and national actors, and will produce an annual report on the status of children in adversity and progress in those countries that have launched programming –aligned with the three objectives. Funding has been provided to support the idea development phase of the GAC in 2013, and several funders have indicated strong interest in supporting the GAC Secretariat as well as potential funding toward GAC-aligned efforts within target countries over the next several years.

The Leaders’ Council is now seeking an Executive Director to develop the new organization, and to support its work in a limited but growing number of interested countries. This will be a high profile position that will require recognized expertise in issues related to children in adversity, management skills, a dynamic and entrepreneurial outlook, and the ability to work with a wide array of diverse constituencies.

Accountability

The Executive Director is accountable to the Leaders’ Council. Alliance staff will be accountable to the Executive Director.

Responsibilities

The Executive Director will serve as the chief executive of the Alliance. S/he will spearhead the further development of the Alliance’s internal and external goals that reflect the organization’s vision, mission and business plan.

The position responsibilities are as follows:

- Implement the policy directives of the Leaders’ Council;

- In consultation with the Leaders' Council, develop and execute a staffing plan and related job descriptions to support the Alliance's work on policy, advocacy, surveillance and monitoring and evaluation, as well as administrative support;
- Manage the Alliance's working relationship with its fiscal agent, currently the New Venture Fund,
- Develop a work plan for the Alliance for review and approval by the Leaders' Council;
- Provide vision and leadership on the strategic day to day activities of the Alliance;
- Serve as the primary spokesperson for the Alliance, and represent the organization with external organizations including public presentations;
- Supervise all staff and external consultants and manage hiring/retention/release, evaluation, compensation, motivation and training;
- Ensure that the Alliance is fiscally sound, develop and execute the Alliance's global budget, and monitor national budgets
- Develop and supervise Alliance technical assistance, advocacy and progress monitoring programming and projects;
- Ensure that the Alliance's programmatic activities are supported by appropriate facilities, technology (including website), and communications;
- Support the meetings and work of the Leaders' Council and its committees/task forces, and guide the expansion and development of the Leaders' Council as appropriate;
- Promote the Leaders' Council's engagement in critical thinking, strategic planning, resource/financial development, and support for overall organizational capacity;
- Develop and implement evaluations of program and project goals and objectives;
- Supervise preparation of an Annual Report; and
- Increase the diversity of Alliance's funding sources, develop and oversee the Alliance's funding strategy, and ensure that funders' requirements are met.

Location

The position will be based at the Alliance's headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will have:

- Recognized global expertise in one or more of the Alliance's three core objective areas, demonstrated by at least fifteen years of high level technical/operational work, publications and/or presentations in those areas;
- Significant and proven leadership skills, developed through at least several years in senior management positions;
- Excellent organizational development (startup a plus), interpersonal, communication, and personnel management skills;
- Extensive experience working internationally and in diverse environments, multi-cultural sensitivity (languages a plus);
- Experience working with boards of directors or their equivalents and developing same;
- Ability to build collaborative ventures with diverse constituents, including governments/ministries and members of both the public and private sectors;
- Reputation for being visionary, trustworthy, and diplomatic;
- Experience managing a complex budget;
- Success at fund development, including knowledge of and success in attracting foundation and corporate grants; ability to identify, steward and solicit donors;
- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral;
- Strong presentation skills;
- Ability to raise the visibility of the organization and its mission;
- Experience working with bilateral aid agencies;
- Excellent analytical skills; and
- The ability to foster a healthy organizational culture and to encourage teamwork.

Contact

Please send a resume or c.v, cover letter (with salary requirements) by October 30, 2013 and three references, all in complete confidence, to: nvfreuiting@newventurefund.org