The Texas Alliance for Child and Family Services – Director of Outreach

Background: The Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services (TACFS) is Texas' leading network of mission-driven organizations that have embraced the call to serve vulnerable children, youth and families in their communities. TACFS members across Texas work to prevent and address child trauma through services including: prevention and early intervention, family preservation, residential/foster care services, adoption, post-adoption, youth runaway and transition services, mental health, education, substance abuse and other programs designed to promote safety and reduce risk for children, youth and families.

Our mission is to strengthen and continuously improve the services, practices, and care for at-risk children, youth and families. We achieve this mission through research and education, collaboration, and advocacy.

The TACFS team is mission driven, highly motivated, energetic, and supportive of new and different ways of meeting the needs of the organization and our vast and diverse network of member organizations. The organization has been around since 1976, but we are continuously evolving and changing in response to the dynamic nature of the work we do. Our overall strategic aim is to support our members so they can do what they do best…care for children and families.

Reporting: Our Director of Outreach will report to the Executive Director (ED) and will work collaboratively with other TACFS staff and the TACFS Board and membership.

Responsibilities: Our Director of Outreach is responsible for interfacing between TACFS staff, our members, the legislature, and other external partners and stakeholders. The ideal candidate is a self-starter who is comfortable navigating a mission-driven, multi-faceted, team-oriented environment. Job duties include but are not limited to:

- Establishing and coordinating implementation of a successful outreach and communications strategy that supports TACFS priorities and goals, member priorities, and overall advocacy efforts.
- Developing and maintaining a communication and outreach strategy that is effective in promoting TACFS and our priorities, supports policies and legislation that improve TACFS member's ability to serve children youth and families and increases the visibility of our members and key partners at the local, state and national level.
- Developing and maintaining legislative and other external relationships
- Tracking state and federal legislation and facilitating progression of TACFS legislative priorities
- Staying "in the know" on the national, state, and local policies/news relevant to the child welfare community

- Creating communication pieces for members, stakeholders, the media, public, etc.
- Represent TACFS at conferences and other meetings as directed by ED
- Developing communications related to TACFS members and membership
- Generate ideas and be willing to stretch your knowledge, skills and abilities
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications:
- Committed to the mission of the organization
- Bachelor's degree
- At least 4 years' experience with the Texas Legislature, state agency, state association or nonprofit in the field of external relations, communications, media relations and/or outreach and advocacy services (comparable experience in another field/industry may be considered) with demonstrated success
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Highly organized, self-motivated, creative and demonstrated value in integrity
- Able to successfully work independently and but also a team player who enjoys working collaboratively with TACFS staff, member agency staff and other partners
- Detail-oriented with strong project management skills
- Goal oriented and a "quick study" who quickly adapts and adjusts as needed

This is a full-time position, based in Austin, TX with a flexible, accomodating work environment. Compensation will be commensurate with experience. Some travel will be required.

To apply, please send resumé and letter of interest to kolse@tacfs.org.