



## CALIFORNIA SCHOOL HEALTH CENTERS ASSOCIATION

The California School Health Centers Association (CSHC) is seeking a Project Director for School Mental Health to lead our work to advance access to quality school-based mental health services.

### **ORGANIZATION.**

CSHC is the leading voice in California for the movement to put health care where kids are—in school. We advocate for policies to support the sustainability of the existing 200 school-based health centers (SBHCs) in California and for the expansion of school health services to more communities with poor access to care and disparities in health and educational outcomes.

We are a vibrant organization and have established a strong statewide presence with consistent growth over the past ten years. Our three areas of work include:

1. Advocating for public policies that enable SBHCs to become a sustainable part of the health care and educational systems.
2. Expanding and improving programs and practices among SBHCs and other school health service models.
3. Raising support and awareness of SBHCs through strategic communications.

For more information on our work, please visit our website at [www.schoolhealthcenters.org](http://www.schoolhealthcenters.org).

We offer a friendly and productive work environment with high standards. We value creativity, inclusivity in our planning processes, and independent decision-making. We are committed to maintaining a staff that reflects the diversity of California's population.

This is an excellent opportunity for a motivated individual to participate in shaping the growth and future direction of our organization.

### **POSITION.**

For more than a decade, CSHC has been a leader in advancing school-based health care, with a particular focus on SBHCs, which are comprehensive pediatric or adolescent clinics located on school campuses. While we continue to believe strongly in the SBHC model, we recognize that it is not feasible for every school to have an SBHC and that there are other ways to deliver health services on school campuses. In particular, we know there is a high need for expanded mental health services.

As a result, we are seeking a Project Director for School Mental Health (PD-SMH). Unmet student mental health needs remain common in California, and these unmet needs are widely acknowledged to impact classroom attendance, behavior, learning, and broader school climate. However, there are great disparities in the degree to which students are able to access the mental health care they need. With the recent change in California's school funding formula, low-income districts will have additional resources that could be used for health and mental health services.

The PD-SMH is a full-time position based in Oakland. The PD-SMH will be responsible for leading CSHC's work to ensure that a growing number of California students, particularly those in our most disadvantaged communities, have access to the mental health services they need to succeed in school and in life. The PD-SMH will be responsible for helping to shape the specific goals and activities of his/her position, but likely focus areas will include:

- Working with CSHC's communications team to conduct outreach to school district personnel to offer CSHC's tools and expertise in the area of school mental health.
- Educating school districts and community mental health providers about options for expanding school mental health programs through consultation, trainings, and the development of written materials and tools.
- Increasing school district capacity on mental health financing and sustainability.
- Participating in the development of CSHC's annual conference, with a focus on mental health content.
- Working with CSHC's policy team to advance school mental health policy at the local, state, and federal levels.
- Seeking funding opportunities to sustain CSHC's work on school mental health.

Salary dependent on experience, with a competitive benefit package.

## **QUALIFICATIONS.**

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skills, and/or abilities required:

- Strong understanding of common student mental health needs and how school-based health services can contribute to an overall approach to meeting those needs, as well as of the funding streams that can pay for those services to be delivered in school settings.
- A minimum of five years of experience in the school mental health field, including at least three years of experience in school mental health administration and financing.
- Familiarity with current youth-oriented mental health practices, including trauma-informed care and restorative justice.
- Experience providing trainings and/or developing educational materials.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Excellent analytical and organizational skills.
- Ability to travel, including overnights, and to work evening or weekend hours as needed.
- Master's degree preferred.

## **APPLICATION.**

Interested candidates are invited to submit the following to [jobs@schoolhealthcenters.org](mailto:jobs@schoolhealthcenters.org). Please use the subject heading: Mental Health.

1. Resume
2. Cover letter. Please clearly describe your experience in administration and financing of school mental health programs.

We will begin reviewing applications August 4<sup>th</sup>. The position will be open until filled.