EARLY CHILDHOOD SENIOR ASSOCIATE

ABOUT SCHOOL READINESS CONSULTING
Children are at the center of what we do. The team at School Readiness Consulting integrates our expertise in strategic thinking, best practice, and evaluation to transform early learning and affirm the right of all children to thrive. Our comprehensive approach integrates our commitment to social justice and our expertise across practice, strategy, and evaluation to build equitable systems for young children, birth through third grade.

SRC is looking for a Senior Associate with a commitment to equity, experience with stakeholder engagement, and expertise in qualitative research methodology.

POSITION OVERVIEW
The Senior Associate contributes to equity-centered qualitative research and stakeholder engagement within School Readiness Consulting’s (SRC) local and national portfolio. The Senior Associate manages projects and tasks that include qualitative research methods (such as interviews, focus groups, photovoice) as well as stakeholder engagement strategies (such as listening sessions, community advisory panels). In addition, the Senior Associate maintains strong relationships with SRC’s clients and partners and contributes to business development. The Senior Associate also contributes to SRC’s collegial and productive work climate and supports SRC operations. The Senior Associate reports to the Senior Director.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Supports projects as a project manager, task manager, and/or researcher (ensuring projects are designed and implemented with an equity lens, creating a research plan and project task structure to successfully implement projects, leading communication with clients and project stakeholders, overseeing successful execution of all aspects of the project and/or task, delegating project work, conducting analysis with a high degree of rigor, developing high-quality deliverables, and ensuring successful implementation and completion of projects)

- Provides expertise in stakeholder engagement and qualitative research methods (envisions strategies and brings demonstrated experience with best practices for partnering with communities and partner organizations, relationship and rapport-building, centering community voices and prioritizing these perspectives when developing evaluation/research protocols and processes, contributes to development of guidelines for stakeholder engagement, contributes to development of standard practices for qualitative data collection and analysis approaches, provides guidance to SRC team members and other project teams around stakeholder engagement and qualitative methods, reviews project plans and deliverables to ensure alignment with SRC’s stakeholder engagement guidelines, standard practices for qualitative methods, and commitment to equity in early learning)

- Contributes to relationship-building and development efforts (contributing to the research design for proposals, writing sections of proposals with minimal guidance, maintaining relationships
and long-term partnerships with clients, and representing the organization through conference presentations, meeting attendance, and other external opportunities)

- **Contributes positively to SRC's organizational culture** (contributing to a positive work environment, collaborating with colleagues, supporting the organization’s overall mission, and participating in team meetings, professional learning opportunities, retreats, and other organization-wide events)

**QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS**

- Master’s degree + in Developmental Psychology, Education, or related field, or equivalent education and experience
- At least 5 years of relevant experience, including analysis and task management experience on research or evaluation projects
- A demonstrated commitment to equity for all children evidenced in past projects and work samples
- Demonstrated experience engaging diverse stakeholders in research or consulting projects in equity-centered ways
- Expertise in qualitative research methodology
- Strong writing skills and the ability to develop project deliverables independently
- Ability to communicate research findings, verbally and in writing, to diverse audiences including funding agencies, practitioners, families, and other researchers
- Capacity to plan and manage research and consulting projects, including the flexibility/adaptability to pivot and thrive in the face of change and complexity
- Competence to make sound decisions on projects and respond to fast-paced work demands
- Working understanding of key players in the early childhood education landscape
- Creativity and a high degree of initiative to design and implement innovative solutions to complex challenges
- Ability to work collaboratively and pitch in as part of the team as needed

**COMPENSATION**

Compensation is commensurate with experience; a competitive benefits package is provided.

**TO APPLY**

Interested candidates should send resume, cover letter and writing sample, to jobs@schoolreadinessconsulting.com, indicating in the subject line the position title for which you are applying.

As an equal opportunity employer, SRC hires without consideration to race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, veteran status, disability, or any other category protected by applicable law.