Senior Research Scientist II, Hispanic Institute

Remote

Recruitment Profile

October 2022
Client Overview:

Child Trends is the nation’s leading nonpartisan research organization focused exclusively on improving the lives of children and youth, especially those who are most vulnerable.

The Child Trends Hispanic Institute provides timely and insightful research-based information and guidance to improve outcomes for Latinx/o/e children. A fast-growing and diverse segment of the U.S. population, Latinx people now represent 16 percent of our nation’s population and 25 percent of children.

We provide policymakers, practitioners, the media, corporate leaders, and private philanthropy with knowledge about Latinx children, youth, and families in the U.S. to help inform decision-making. We do this by providing statistical portraits of Hispanic children and youth, expanding the evidence base by developing and conducting evaluations of programs aimed at Latinx, and building the data infrastructure on Hispanic children and youth.

We imagine a better world for children and youth, and we are committed to lending our expertise, experience, and ingenuity to further this vision.
Job Title: Senior Research Scientist II

Company Location: Remote

Reports To: Lina Guzman – Chief Strategy Officer, Director of Hispanic Institute

Position Summary:

The Hispanic Institute is currently seeking a Senior Research Scientist II for Child Trends Hispanic Institute. The Hispanic Institute provides timely and insightful research-based information and guidance to improve outcomes for and the well-being of Latinx/o/e children and families. We apply a strengths-based, child development approach to our work and recognize the diversity of the Latinx/o/e child population as well as the importance of intersectionality in understanding the experiences of Latinx/o/e children.

The ideal candidate is a leader with deep substantive knowledge of Hispanic/Latinx/o/e children and families, particularly on the ways in which the structural and policy context shapes the economic conditions of Hispanic families, their level of access to social services, and their overall well-being. This position will serve as Deputy Director of the National Research Center on Hispanic Children and Families, which seeks to provide research-based information to help inform programs and policies to better support low-income Hispanic/Latinx children and families.

This position presents an opportunity for someone with expertise in Latinx/o/e children and families to become a leader in an organization nationally known to impact policymakers and practitioners through our rigorous, applied research and for its work on Latinx children. We are looking for a colleague with a track record of successful fundraising experience; exceptional leadership skills; strong quantitative and/or qualitative analytic experience; and the proven ability to effectively execute and complete projects. This position requires exceptional writing and communications skills, the ability to work well in a fast-paced environment, and the ability to balance priorities across multiple projects.

We offer you not only a national platform but also a workplace that uses teamwork to concentrate your time on your strengths. We offer enormous growth, flexibility, and have consistently won great-place-to-work awards because we know that when you achieve your mission, we achieve ours.

We bring a strong commitment to racial and ethnic equity to our work and a recognition that systemic discrimination has negatively impacted the well-being of Latinx/o/e families. As researchers, we aim to promote equity by centering the lived experiences of Latinx/o/e families in our research. We also commit to ensuring that we are contributing to Child Trends’ work culture in an equitable way. We strongly encourage individuals from populations that are historically underrepresented in research and academic fields (e.g., first-generation college students, first-generation immigrants, people of color) to apply.
Specific Responsibilities:

- Develops a line of inquiry and work that seeks to apply the tools of research, analysis, evaluation, or technical assistance to improve the lives of Latinx/o/e children, youth, and families.
- Serve as Deputy Director of the National Research Center on Hispanic Children and Families. This includes:
  - Be part of the Center’s leadership team.
  - Responsible for the oversight of the Center’s daily activities, including communication with all partners, developing and maintaining policies and procedures, adherence to high quality assurance standards, oversee editorial and meeting calendar, and working with the Director to develop and carry out the overall goals and vision of the Center.
  - Oversee pipeline of publications including providing substantive reviews, editing to increase accessibility, and ensuring high quality standards and timelines are followed.
  - Carry-out research studies focused on Latinx/o/e children and families’ economic wellbeing, family life, and access to government programs.

- Produces products (e.g., briefs, white papers, data points, etc.) that influence policymakers, practitioners, or target audiences.
- Serves as a thought leader in the broader field, presenting research findings and insights to stakeholders, including testifying before legislative bodies, providing briefings and other assistance to policymakers and other public officials, and engaging with other thought leaders and influencers.
- Works closely with Child Trends’ communications and policy staff to disseminate research findings to the policy and programmatic communities, the media, and other researchers.
- Serves as principal investigator or project director for one or more projects.
- Fundraise to support the line of work and related staffing.
- Selects appropriate analytic techniques and develop statistical analysis plans for projects.
- Serves as a mentor for research staff.

Key Selection Criteria:

- Ph.D. in Public Policy, Sociology, Demography, or Economics are strongly preferred.
  - 7+ years of post-Doctoral experience in the field of public policy, sociology, demography, or economics required.
- Demonstrated thought leadership within the field; individual must have made a significant contribution through her or his research to the field, policy, or program practices.
- Substantial experience conducting research on Latinx/o/e children and families required.
- Expertise in the economic well-being of Latinx/o/e families and with government safety net programs is strongly preferred.
- Clear understanding of the intersectionality of the Latinx/o/e experience in the United States and how historic and ongoing systemic inequality has led to disparities in access to safety net program and to the prevalence of child poverty and low income among
Latinx/o/e children and communities including those from immigrant families in the United States.

- Progressive independence and demonstrated experience in fundraising strongly preferred.
- Strong quantitative and/or qualitative analytic experience.

**Personal Characteristics Desired:**
- Experience working directly with communities to elevate community voices is a plus.
- Proven skills at management of a research team or partnering with managers (consistent on-time, within budget work).
- Ability to handle more than one assignment at a time; ability to prioritize, anticipate and communicate effectively.
- Effective public speaker and presenter.
- Demonstrated communications achievements (e.g., notable research papers, effective white papers).
- Highly efficient writer; proven scholarship.
- Spanish language skills are desirable but not required.

**Stanton Chase - Please Contact:**

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