



Introducing the Children's Health Leadership Network

The Annie E. Casey Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and The Atlantic Philanthropies are proud to introduce a new leadership development program to strengthen the field of state-based advocates for children's health policy. With funding from these three foundations over the course of several classes, this program will build a powerful collective of nearly 100 advocates serving throughout the country in leadership capacities on behalf of the nation's children. This network of strong, adaptive and diverse leaders with experience in policy, advocacy and strategic communications will be uniquely positioned to inform policy and implementation that puts health and well-being of children and families first.

Selection for this first class of up to 15 leaders will take place in the fall of 2015, with seminars beginning in January 2016.

A FOCUS ON RESULTS

The Children's Health Leadership Network is a rigorous results-based leadership development program that equips leaders to move purposefully from vision to action to results. This approach, developed over the past 20 years by the Casey Foundation, stems from a conviction that results-driven leaders are vital to achieving measurable and lasting improvements for children and families. Results-based leadership development programs provide participants with customized leadership skills to help them execute strategies and manage the challenges that come along with efforts to make lasting and effective changes to the systems and services that impact children and families. By the end of the 16-month program, participants will be able to:

- **communicate a coherent results narrative** and show progress made on health policy work that leads to improved child well-being in meaningful and measurable ways;
- **confidently and competently engage others** to improve the systems and supports that positively impact the health and well-being of children and families;
- **leverage data, partnerships, personal power and organizational authority** to influence health policy decisions and advocacy agendas that support increased investments and better results for vulnerable children and families; and
- **execute on advocacy and policy strategies** that are drawn from greater knowledge about child health policy, best practices and effective advocacy methods.

EXECUTIVE SEMINARS AND COACHING

The program features a series of nine seminars over an 16-month period, supplemented by individual coaching and learning plans. Each seminar will be facilitated by experienced faculty in the areas of child health policy, child advocacy and results-based leadership. All travel costs to seminars and events are covered by the program.

The program will begin with a four-day Child Health Policy Institute that includes an introduction to results-based leadership principles and core competencies, a deep dive into child health policy and an overview of effective advocacy strategies needed to improve outcomes in meaningful and measurable ways. Subsequent seminars of 2 ½ days will cover the use of data for quality improvement, leveraging networks, measuring the success of strategies and more. Individual work assignments between formal sessions will provide the opportunity to apply new skills with the help of online tools and resources. Throughout the 16-month program, each participant will execute on a child health policy agenda with defined targets developed in alignment with current roles and responsibilities to achieve by the end of the program.

Affiliation with the program extends well beyond the 16-month curriculum. Participants become part of an advocacy alumni network that will remain connected through online networks and regular convenings, providing opportunities to share lessons and results, collaborate with peers and as network ambassadors strengthen the national profile of child health advocacy.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

The Children's Health Leadership Network seeks early- to mid-career professionals working in child health policy and advocacy. Selection for participation in the network is competitive and requires a written application and interview. Candidates must possess the following qualities:

- **at least three to five years' experience** in children's health or advocacy;
- **commitment** to reduce health inequities, improve child health outcomes and advance social change;
- **commitment** to personal growth and learning, peer learning and being part of a community of learning and network;
- **commitment** to attend all seminars, be present and engaged;
- **aptitude** to integrate policy and politics in a sophisticated way; and
- **position** of organizational influence and support of executive director or board chair.

IMPORTANT DATES

Application materials and other information are available on the Casey Foundation's website at www.aecf.org/leaders.

- Attend an informational webinar at 1:30 p.m. ET August 4, 2015
- Submit application materials by 5 p.m. ET September 21, 2015
- First network class announced November 2015

