

Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network

*Serving Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland & Westchester Counties
A Program of the Children's Health and Research Foundation, Inc.*

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POSITION DESCRIPTION HEALTHY FAMILIES ROCKLAND COUNTY (HFRC) FAMILY SUPPORT SPECIALIST (2 Full-time positions available February 2019; 3 available May 2019)

Working together with its partners The Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network (LHVPN) advocates for and educates consumers and professionals about maternal, child and family health. LHVPN also mobilizes the community, to eliminate disparities, and improve the health of women, children and families in New York's Lower Hudson Valley, which includes Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland & Westchester counties.

Reports to: Healthy Families Rockland County Program Supervisor

Position Summary

The Healthy Families Rockland County Family Support Specialist (FSS) supports expectant and new parents to get off to a great start on their parenting journey. This is achieved by engaging high-risk families through regular home visits, conducting regular assessments, providing support to promote positive parent-child interaction and family/child health & development; and assisting families with goal planning to enhance family functioning, while making referrals, advocacy, follow-up and overall service coordination with other providers. The position also requires working with a team to coordinate program activities to address family isolation.

Healthy Families Rockland County (HFRC) is a comprehensive prevention home visiting program that supports positive parent-child bonding, promotes child and family health and development and enhances family resilience respectful of cultural and community diversity.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Initiating and maintaining regular contact with families, primarily in their homes.
- Establishing a trusting relationship with families.
- Providing prenatal and other health education.
- Assisting to strengthen parent-child relationships.
- Assisting parents to improve their skills to optimize the home environment for the child's well-being and safety.
- Assisting in making and attending health and human service appointments, including activities related to employment and educational goals.
- Maintains close professional relationship and liaisons within target area. Builds, encourages and supports partnerships and collaborations among all key stakeholders within target area including but not limited to: medical providers, community organizations, schools, local businesses and government agencies.
- Performs other duties as requested.

Serving the community for more than 10 years

*LHVPN was originally organized in 2004 by the Maria Fareri Children's Hospital Regional Perinatal Center with March of Dimes funding.
LHVPN is currently a program of the Children's Health and Research Foundation, Inc. a non-profit 501c3 organization.*



Skills and Qualifications

High School diploma/GED with experience working with, or assisting, high/at-risk children and families in a community setting. Some experience working with or providing services to children and families.

- Ability to identify family strengths and foster self-sufficiency and independence in families.
- Strong listening skills.
- Ability to establish trusting relationships and work effectively with mothers, fathers, and extended family.
- Knowledge of maternal-infant health and infant and child development.
- Successful parenting and/or child care experience.
- Belief that children need to be nurtured.
- Knowledge of community resources.
- Emotionally mature and capable of exercising judgment.
- Ability to handle stressful situations.
- Respect for and sensitivity to the needs and rights of others, including those with differing cultural, racial, sexual, or ethnic identities.
- Recognizes the value of supervision.
- Ability to work in a team environment.
- Good written communication and computer skills, knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite (e.g., Word) at a functional level.
- Bilingual English (Spanish or Haitian Creole or Yiddish) a plus.

Other Conditions of Employment

- A valid driver's license and reliable personal transportation is highly desirable to fulfill job requirements.
- Must have schedule flexibility to include occasional early morning, evening, and weekend meetings/activities.
- Ability to meet the following physical requirements with or without reasonable accommodation:
 - Walk, bend, kneel, and reach;
 - Lift 20 – 30 pounds;
 - Conduct both outdoor and indoor activities, in both warm and cold temperatures.

Salary and Benefits

CHRF, Inc./LHVPN offers a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package.

All qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or marital status.

To Apply

Please submit your resume, cover letter and salary requirement by **January 31, 2019** for February positions to: Cheryl Hunter-Grant, Executive Director, Hunter-GrantC@lhvpn.net indicating ***“HFRC Family Support Specialist – your name”*** in the subject line.