

National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality
Position Title: Project Director

Organization

The National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality (NICHQ) is a dynamic nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of healthcare for children. A national organization with a strong reputation and track record of accomplishment, NICHQ is based in Boston, Massachusetts with additional contract staff located across the U.S. NICHQ is a fast-paced, collaborative environment with an ambitious mission.

Project Director

Project Directors (PD) bring expertise in healthcare and community health, and apply that knowledge to the design and successful execution of complex, innovative projects aligned with NICHQ's strategic and business goals. With a sophisticated understanding of quality improvement and healthcare systems, as well as familiarity with some or all of NICHQ funders (federal, state, and local public health systems, public and private foundations, public and private payors, providers.), PDs develop and ensure achievement of project aims on time and on budget while meeting or exceeding client and other key stakeholder expectations. Working with Quality Improvement Advisors, expert faculty members (subject matter experts), and project teams, PDs ensure NICHQ provides deep expertise in quality improvement as applied to improving children's healthcare. PDs contribute to the identification of change concepts, development, testing, implementation and dissemination of changes. This is a local, in office position.

Project Responsibilities:

- With Executive Team (CEO, COO, CFO, VP Programs), establish projects' long-term goals and annual objectives; align aims with other organizational projects and broader NICHQ mission
- Develop and execute overall project design. Ensure internal accountability and project success in meeting project aims and deliverables. Develop and manage project team, project plan, budget, contracts, staffing, and technical requirements
- Provide content expertise and coordinate development of key project materials (design and adapt segments as needed) with Improvement Advisor, faculty, and project team
- Working with Improvement Advisor, facilitate quality improvement coaching and technical assistance for external project teams
- Lead and/or participate in multi-stakeholder executive meetings and coordinate communication within project team and across Project Officers, Governance/Leadership Groups, and/or other key stakeholders; work closely with partners/stakeholders to define and refine project scope
- Work with faculty and Improvement Advisor to plan and lead faculty planning group calls and objectives, lead, teach, and train at Learning Sessions and action periods, Summarize progress and feedback to improve sessions and guide coaching calls
- Summarize and consolidate findings of data analyses, and project activities, submit reports for publication, and present project results, reports, and presentations internally and to clients and stakeholders and at public conferences as appropriate

Organizational Responsibilities

- With organizational leadership, develop and expand content areas
- Represent project and NICHQ at external meetings, network, develop and maintain funder relationships; build business as appropriate
- As member of the project leadership team, facilitate integration of project solutions, innovation, process, and learning into other NICHQ projects into the project design and implementation

- Project team mentorship; act as role model for project staff and facilitate capacity building

Focus Areas

Although Project Directors can expect to work on a broad variety of topics related to children's healthcare over time, some current needs for Project Directors at NICHQ include five major efforts; we request that your cover letter include areas of specific interest and any related specialized experience/knowledge you have:

- **Sickle Cell Disease:** A contract to serve as the National Coordinating Center (NCC) for the Sickle Cell Disease Demonstration Treatment Program (SCDTDP). The SCDTDP consists of 10 networks, each including a comprehensive sickle cell disease treatment program, one or more community health centers, and one or more community based organization. The NCC is responsible for supporting the activities of the sites to improve access, quality and coordination of care for persons (children and adults) with sickle cell disease. We will do so through creating a clinical registry, collecting other data and providing technical assistance predominantly by leading a quality improvement collaborative amongst the network sites. The PD for this project should have interest, knowledge and experience addressing health disparities and working in a culturally sensitive manner with diverse populations. In addition, some specialized skills we are looking for include research/OMB/project transition experience, relationship management, learning collaborative experience, individual support for sites, and working in high visibility projects with congressional mandates. This award is for a four-year contract.
- **Healthy Weight Collaborative:** NICHQ will lead a consortium of organizations to establish the Prevention Center for Healthy Weight. This Center, funded through the Affordable Care Act and operating through an 18-month cooperative agreement with the HHS Health Services Resources Administration, will plan, implement and manage nationwide Healthy Weight Collaborative. The Collaborative will guide and support the activities of trans-sectoral teams from at least 50 communities across the nation. These community teams will include at minimum community health centers and public health departments, as well as other groups and sectors. During the first six months of the project, the Center will develop a "change package" that will guide the later community work. During the second 12 months, the Center will lead an innovative implementation of a "Breakthrough Series" learning collaborative, adding distance learning and web based training to the traditional model. Some specialized skills we are looking for include Health Information Technology, website content development, health education/tool development, and advanced communication skills.
- **CHIPRA Medical Home:** An exciting a five year grant from CMS to create a child centered approach to service delivery. This project will be done in concert with MassHealth, the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMass), Children's Hospital Boston (CHB), and the Massachusetts Health Quality Partners (MHQP) to implement a medical home initiative for children that includes practice incentives as well as measurement and improvement, and develop a multi-stakeholder Statewide Coalition to lead improved integration and coordination of child health services, not only for vulnerable populations, but for all children in Massachusetts. The Project Director will direct and coordinate NICHQ's deliverables and collaborate with multiple partners and stakeholders.

- Autism: A nation-wide collaborative to improve care for children who have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) by assuring the delivery of high quality, comprehensive, coordinated care. This project is led by the Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) and the Autism Treatment Network(ATN). The content of the collaborative will be built around NICHQ’s Care Model for Child Health and the family centered medical home model. The goals in the first year of this collaborative are:
 1. Build capacity within the ATN sites to improve delivery of care to children with ASD
 2. Launch ATN sites on a trajectory so that all children with ASD in their communities have access to high quality, coordinated, comprehensive, family centered care
 3. Design a comprehensive measurement strategy to track progress in meeting the overall project aims with supplemental and custom measures for Neurology, GI, and Sleep Disorders
 4. Design spread strategy – all teams will develop an individual specific spread plan that includes community practices as well as other community resources (including, for example, Title V)

The PD may also be assigned to another project. NICHQ’s major efforts also include complex, multi-stakeholder, national projects on a variety of topics such as:

- Children and Youth with Special Healthcare needs (Newborn Hearing Screening, Epilepsy)
- Perinatal care
- Health Information technology

Qualifications

Required:

- A masters degree or higher in relevant field (e.g., management, nursing, education, public health)
- Training and experience in quality improvement processes and diffusion of innovation. This is a Senior level position and requires 5-10 years of experience developing and successfully implementing projects and experience mentoring or teaching and leading team-based projects
- Results oriented team player, creative, flexible, comfortable with higher management, system thinker
- Excellent presentation, facilitation, and communication skills, both oral and written, to interact with clients and to produce reports suitable for both an academic and a public sector audience;
- Management skills (strategy, supervision, priority setting, planning, finance)

Preferred

- Child health expertise strongly preferred.
- Experience working with the Model for Improvement, the Care Model (Chronic Care Model) and Breakthrough Series strongly preferred
- Clinical training (e.g., nursing, physician assistant) preferred.

NICHQ is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.

To Apply

Please send cover letter and resume to: nichqemployment@nichq.org

Subject: Project Director, [insert where you learned of position] NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE