



Position: Everyday Interactions Design Strategist | **Full-Time Salary Position**

Culture:

Trying Together is a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit that supports the work of early childhood by providing advocacy, community resources, and professional growth opportunities for the needs and rights of children, their families, and the adults who interact with them. A fast-paced organization, Trying Together looks for dedicated and passionate staff who bring positivity to their work and a solution-oriented sensibility.

Purpose:

Relationships from a strengths-based approach are fundamental to this position. The Everyday Interactions Design Strategist supports program administrators, classroom teachers, assistant teachers and home based child care providers to develop new skills and continuously improve their daily interactions to achieve higher program quality. The Everyday Interactions Design Strategist engages program administration and staff that work with children in a collaborative process that involves reflective communication, professional growth and goal setting to affirm the importance of human interactions in children's lives. The Everyday Interactions Design Strategist's approach begins by building on what professionals already do well and is based on the understanding that the "active ingredient" in a child's growth is the developmental relationship between the child and the adults that care for them.

Responsibilities:

- Recognize and build on the existing knowledge and skills of program staff through reflective practice, goal setting and planning.
- Based on the work of Fred Rogers and the Fred Rogers Center, facilitate learning communities for program leaders, assistant teachers, co-teachers and head teachers to help strengthen daily interactions with children and assure quality programming based on developmentally appropriate practice.
- Using a strengths-based and practice-based approach, ensure that the leadership team and staff sustain their learning.
- Provide feedback loops and support for the purpose of increasing program administration and teacher confidence and competence.
- Work with the early learning program's leadership team to provide professional development for program leaders and classroom teaching teams.

- Develop and support implementation of an individualized plan that identifies strengths, needs and goals for each program staff.
- Supports program leadership team and staff to develop programming that is both equitable and inclusive.
- Provide support and coordinate resources for program administration and staff on providing a better learning environment for a child exhibiting behaviors that put them at risk for suspension or expulsion.
- Follow the procedure for reporting suspected child abuse.
- Complete monthly monitoring reports or coaching logs for assigned visits and submit them according to timelines for the purpose of tracking and monitoring.
- Participate in initial and on-going professional development for the purpose of providing effective coach strategies as well as provide expertise on theory and practices that support leadership practices.
- Promote and support the vision, mission, and goals of Trying Together. To learn more, visit www.tryingtogether.org.

Additional Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Working knowledge of the Everyday Interactions Matter approach and philosophy.
- Knowledge of local, state and national systems for early care and education.
- Willing and able to engage in honest self-reflection about progress and her/his contribution to the process.
- Ability to work with a diversity of individuals within the same program.
- Ability to foster a program's capacity building and assume a strengths-based approach.
- Ability to establish credibility as a resource worthy of the program's respect and trust.
- Ability to facilitate a program's own problem-solving process.
- Ability to maintain a project timeline and monitor progress toward goals.
- Must be able to work independently and as a team member.
- Must be able to interact with others in a positive and professional manner.
- Acceptance of diversity and ability to work comfortably in a variety of settings.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality.
- Good judgment and decision-making abilities.
- Must demonstrate enthusiasm and flexibility.
- Must clear full background check.



Qualifications:

- Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education, Organizational Leadership or related field required.
- Two years early childhood classroom experience and two years at an administrative level in an early care and education setting.
- Experience working with adult learners and knowledge of adult learning principles.
- Pennsylvania certified (PQAS) instructor.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Intermediate to advanced computer skills, Internet and email.
- Must have a valid PA Driver's License and proof of insurance.
- Completion of mandated reporter training.

Required Clearances:

- Clean Act 33 Child Abuse Clearance.
- Clean Act 34 PA State Police Clearance.
- Clean Act 73 Federal Criminal History Clearance.
- Valid Driver's License and proof of insurance.
- National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR) verification

Physical Requirements:

- Ability to lift 10-20 pounds.

Benefits:

- Competitive compensation and benefits package.
- Appreciative inquiry and strengths-based review process.

Interested Applicants:

Submit cover letter and resume with a minimum of three work-related references to jobs@tryingtogether.org. Phone calls will not be accepted. Posting will remain open until filled.