



Director of Clinical Practice Initiatives

The Texas Center for Child and Family Studies (a 501c3 affiliate of the Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services, i.e. TCAFS) is seeking a Director of Clinical Practice Initiatives. This position will report directly to the TACFS Vice President of Policy and Innovation and will be responsible for helping further the mission of The Center:

Maintaining dedication and the highest integrity, The Center is focused on providing Texas child, youth, and family service agencies with the knowledge, skills, and ability they need to provide high-quality services in their communities. Staying on the forefront of innovation and best practices while also anticipating issues and areas of concern, The Center strives to accomplish our mission through trainings, consultations, education, and academic research. Informed by this work, the Center additionally undertakes targeted and strategic initiatives to address the most pressing issues facing the care and services for at-risk children, youth, and families in Texas.

The Director of Clinical Practice Initiatives will continue our work as the only non-partisan child welfare think tank in Texas that supports child welfare providers in improving their clinical practices across Texas. Our goal is to improve outcomes for children involved (or at risk of being involved) in the child welfare system by supporting the community organizations that provide services to those children.

The Director of Clinical Practice Initiatives' roles and responsibilities include:

- Work in conjunction with the Texas Institute of Child and Family Well Being (TXICFW) at the UT School of Social work in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the Texas Permanency Outcomes Project (TX POP)
 - The goal of TX POP is to breakdown the barriers between foster families and birth families to improve permanency and stability for children in care, preserve the continuity of family relationships and connections, and enhance the family's capacity to provide for their children's needs.
 - The Center and TXICFW received 5 years of funding from the federal Administration of Children Youth and Families for TX POP. In year 1, this position is responsible for working with the Project Director at UT to develop training materials and content. In Years 2-4, this position will be delivering technical assistance to agencies implementing the model and delivering trainings on TX POP foundational principles to others around the state. In year 5, this position will work with TXICFW on evaluating the success of TXPOP and determine how best to scale up the new practice model.
- Work with the VP of Policy and Innovation to formalize a technical assistance model to support child welfare organizations in the exploration and implementation of clinical practice approaches.
- Stay current on emerging industry trends and best practices. Deliver information on emerging trends to child welfare organizations in a way that they can utilize the information to improve their practices.



- Develop and deliver original content (presentations, white papers, analyses, trainings, etc.) on clinical practice topics relevant to TACFS members, partners and the larger child welfare community.
- Respond to requests for assistance that come from client organizations as appropriate or identify content expert/peer organization to help with request and facilitate sharing of information.
- Participate in business development activities to expand work conducted by the Center—writing grant proposals, developing network of practitioners and stakeholders, marketing the Center’s efforts, etc.
- Participate in relevant industry initiatives facilitated by other organizations (TACFS member agencies, non-member agencies, DFPS, HHSC, advocates, educational partners, mental health partners, academics, etc.) as needed.
- Supervise social work interns
- Other duties as assigned

The Director of Clinical Practice Initiatives should possess the following qualifications:

Required

- At least 5 years’ experience in practicing clinical social work with children, youth, and/or families
- Demonstrated understanding of, or experience working in, Texas child welfare
- Demonstrated ability to work independently, take direction as needed, and respond effectively to constructive feedback.
- Demonstrated ability to independently initiate and execute complex projects
- Ability to foster strong relationships within the child welfare community
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Willingness to travel as needed

Preferred

- Relevant Master’s degree or above
- Demonstrated experience in working with organizations or individuals in improving their social work practices
- Demonstrated experience with strengths-based, solution focused models of practice
- Demonstrated experience in effectively working with birth families and foster families, or in helping the two groups develop more positive relationships
- Demonstrated ability to lead change initiatives
- Spanish speaking
- Licensed Independent Social Worker with Supervision Designation



Compensation and benefits commensurate with experience. Please include a resume and cover letter (no more than 1 page). The Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services is an equal opportunity employer. TACFS does not discriminate based on race, religion, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, non-disqualifying physical or mental disability, national origin, veteran status or any other basis covered by appropriate law. All employment is decided based on qualifications, merit, and business need.

Please e-mail resume and cover letter to Jesse Booher at jbooher@tacfs.org