Background

The Community Alliance for Research and Engagement (CARE), through the Center of Disease Control’s Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant, is working with community partners to support breastfeeding in the City of New Haven. The goal of this work is to help increase breastfeeding rates and equitable support services in New Haven, and address systemic barriers to breastfeeding that disproportionately affect the Black/African American community.

Over the next several months, the breastfeeding initiative at CARE—in coordination with the New Haven Breastfeeding Task Force—will be conducting participatory data collection on barriers to breastfeeding in New Haven, and working with community partners and leaders to address those barriers. Activities of the breastfeeding initiative include: peer navigator support, pediatrician training, advocacy for public lactation spaces, rolling out a breastfeeding friendly business recognition program, and launching a city-wide campaign, among others. CARE is seeking a New Haven-based community health worker to support this breastfeeding work.

Specific Responsibilities

The Breastfeeding Community Health Worker will work with the CARE team to:
- Reach out to and partner with community leaders with a stake in breastfeeding, inviting participation in the initiatives of the New Haven Breastfeeding Task Force, as relevant.
- Conduct outreach for and help coordinate the Evaluation Advisory Board (a community advisory group to inform CARE’s evaluation and data collection efforts around breastfeeding).
- Help coordinate and conduct outreach among New Haven mothers and caregivers for a series of focus group discussions and interviews to learn more about barriers to breastfeeding in New Haven and inform the breastfeeding initiative.
- Assist with coordinating and scheduling meetings with a range of stakeholders to conduct a Community Readiness Assessment across New Haven.
- Assist the communications coordinator with the rollout of a city-wide campaign on breastfeeding.
- Help coordinate outreach and engagement activities by attending maternal and child health meeting, community health worker meetings, other relevant community or neighborhood meetings, and relevant events of partners, with an emphasis on breastfeeding in low-income neighborhoods.
- Track and report activities to project managers/directors for inclusion in funding reports.

Qualifications

- New Haven-specific knowledge/experience (experience in community outreach a plus)
- Interest in/knowledge of/experience with breastfeeding (Certified Lactation Counselor a plus)
- Applicants of color are especially encouraged to apply

Details:

This is a part-time, temporary position; 5-10 hours/week for approximately 5 months with possibility of renewal; $18/hour. CARE is committed to diversity and inclusion in its hiring processes, and plans to prioritize the hiring of applicants of color for this position. This position can be remotely (particularly in light of the current pandemic), and hours are flexible.

To apply, send a cover letter and resume to Amelia Reese Masterson: reesea3@southernct.edu