POSTDOCTORAL ASSOCIATE – Sustainable SEL Assessments Team

The Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, part of the Child Study Center at the Yale University School of Medicine, conducts research and teaches people of all ages how to develop their emotional intelligence. Our work focuses on (1) the development and impact of social and emotional skills among diverse populations, including education settings and organizations, and (2) the mechanisms by which social and emotional skills and training impact significant life outcomes.

We are looking for a Postdoctoral Associate to join the Sustainable SEL Assessments to work on a multi-year project, Fostering Students of Color and Their Educators to Thrive Through Sustainable SEL Assessment (Chan Zuckerberg Initiative; Pls Dr. Christina Cipriano and Jessica Hoffmann). The discourse of emotions in schools are situated within the politics and power of the education system, a system whose policies and practices have historically oppressed and marginalized Black students’ academic and social emotional development through the propagation of inequitable, inaccessible, and punitive exclusionary educational practices fueled by oppressive school-based assessment methodologies. The purpose of this project is to investigate how the Digital SEAD and School Climate Toolkit SEL assessments work practically in schools to support thriving learning environments for students of color and their educators. These assessments cover both adult and student emotional intelligence skills, and student social and emotional experiences at school. Along with our partner organizations - the Urban Assembly and Trajectory of Hope - the three-pronged mission of this project includes: (1) investigating how SEL assessment tools work together with native school data systems and practices for students of color and their educators; (2) demonstrate two models of SEL assessment utility alongside our community partners including cataloging and distributing recommendations for SEL assessment best practices for schools; and (3) finalize and make available a full suite of culturally responsive, rigorous, sustainable, and accessible SEL assessments and corresponding practices.

Skills and Qualifications

- Doctorate (PhD or EdD) in psychology, education, or a related field
- Specialization or demonstrated interest in the study of social emotional learning and equity.
- Excellent methodological and statistical skills, including working with qualitative and quantitative data, especially mixed-methods
- Demonstrated ability or potential to learn with school communities (educators, students, families), conduct focus groups, and maintain school relations
- Excellent communication skills for both practitioner and scholarly communities (e.g., writing and giving presentations)
- Strong project management skills
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively
- Scholars who identify as members of marginalized groups in academia are strongly encouraged to apply.

The Postdoctoral Associate position is a one-year appointment with an opportunity to renew to a maximum of four years contingent upon satisfactory performance and availability of funding. Compensation is determined by experience. This is not a remote opportunity. This position is located at the Child Study Center on the campus of Yale University in New Haven, CT.

The anticipated start date is July/August 2022. Please note that the university has a COVID vaccination and booster requirement for all students, staff & faculty which is described in the COVID-19 Vaccine Program. You are required to comply with the Vaccine Program prior to the first day of your Yale appointment. Should you not be eligible for the Booster at this time, you will be required to receive your booster within seven (7) days of your eligibility. Please see the Yale COVID-19 Vaccine Program for information on how to schedule a vaccination and/or how to Submit or Confirm your vaccination documentation. For up-to-date university information on COVID-19, please visit: https://covid19.yale.edu/.
To Apply
Please send a cover letter and CV to linda.torv@yale.edu with email subject “Postdoc Applicant: Sustainable SEL Assessments Team”. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Please have contact information available for three references upon request.

ABOUT THE YALE CENTER FOR EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE
Emotions drive learning, decision making, creativity, relationships, and health. The Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence uses the power of emotions to create a more effective and compassionate society. Helping children and adults develop emotional intelligence is central to the mission of the Center. To date, schools have been at the center of these efforts. RULER, the Center’s signature program, draws on leading pedagogical practices as well as advances in psychology and neuroscience, and it has been honed through years of classroom observation, interviews, and the most demanding evaluations. Creating awareness—both of self and others—about emotions and developing the skills of emotional intelligence can improve children’s prospects in life and contribute, in turn, to healthier, more compassionate families, workplaces, and communities. RULER does this by teaching adults and children the skills of emotional intelligence. Since 2005, more than 600 schools have implemented RULER, affecting the lives of over 500,000 students. Accordingly, we integrate emotional intelligence skill building, the basis of RULER, into their everyday practices and into classroom curricula across grade levels.

The Division of Research within the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence is at the forefront of translational emotion science, building and evaluating SEL tools and interventions with youth and educators to support whole-school community thriving. Our research advances SEL science, practice, and policy, through innovative tools, methodologies, and lines of inquiry that fosters inclusive and equitable conditions for teaching and learning, improves individual skill-building, advances SEL measurement and evaluation, and evolves the definition of the field. Learn more at www.ycei.org/research-overview.

Yale University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer. Yale values diversity among its students, staff, and faculty and strongly welcomes applications from women, persons with disabilities, protected veterans, and underrepresented ethnic and racial minorities.