



PAACT: Promise All Atlanta Children Thrive, Director GEEARS Atlanta, GA

Background:

GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students is leading a concerted effort to help improve early learning opportunities for children across Atlanta. In 2017, GEEARS formed the Atlanta Early Education Leadership Council. The Council was chaired by GEEARS Board Chair Stephanie Blank and was comprised of elected leadership of the City of Atlanta, including the Mayor, City Council President, Atlanta Public Schools Superintendent and School Board Chair, along with key philanthropic, business, and education leaders.

The Council set out to develop a plan to coordinate the resources and services available to children and families in order to minimize duplication of service, ensure that all children have access to high-quality settings from birth to third grade regardless of neighborhood, income or other characteristics, and maximize current and future resources available to Atlanta. This work led to a vision:

Families in the City of Atlanta have what they need to ensure that all children starting at birth are healthy, learning, and developing so that they enter school ready for success, thrive once in school, and are prepared to reach their full potential as citizens of our city.

The Council calls the recommendations the **PAACT: Promise All Atlanta Children Thrive**.

The full PAACT report can be found here: <http://geears.org/wp-content/uploads/FINAL-PAACT-Report.pdf>

As we move toward implementing the recommendations, GEEARS will serve as the backbone organization for a collaborative effort involving multiple community and implementation partners. GEEARS has committed to provide governance, reporting support, fiscal oversight, and data management, and to lead fundraising and communications efforts for PAACT. We are now seeking a PAACT Director who will work with the Executive Director and other staff members at GEEARS to lead these efforts.

Position Summary

GEEARS is seeking a strategic and visionary leader to serve as the PAACT Director. The Director will be responsible for building strong backbone functions including developing a PAACT board, strengthening partnerships with implementation partners, community stakeholders and public officials, raising private and public funds to help implement the recommendations, and identifying best practices for implementation.



The ideal candidate will bring a deep passion for young children and families and a proven ability to serve as a credible voice. S/he will be a proven strategist, fundraiser, program leader, and team builder. Finally, the ideal candidate must bring experience developing strong relationships with diverse audiences, including government and community partners, to build a healthy and informed coalition supporting the children and families of Atlanta.

Responsibilities

Major responsibilities include:

- **Strategic Leadership:** Lead the implementation of the PAACT recommendations, collaborating with the GEEARS Executive Director, PAACT Board and partners to successfully achieve PAACT's vision
- **Fundraising:** Work in partnership with GEEARS staff and implementation partners to raise necessary funding from private and public sources
- **Relationship Management:** Build and maintain diverse, multi-faceted relationships with key stakeholders, including funders, nonprofit and community partners, business leaders, federal, state, and local elected officials, government agencies, and families, to advance the mission of PAACT
- **Thought Leadership, Advocacy and Public Policy:** Anticipate and stay informed of emerging trends, policies, and developments in the field of quality child care, early childhood education, healthy development, and family support; Serve as a spokesperson for PAACT and a passionate advocate at the local, state, and national level for effective policies to support children, parents, child care providers, advocates, and community leaders
- **Operations and Financial Management:** Oversee the successful execution of PAACT's day-to-day operations, including effective strategic financial decision-making and management, reporting, and compliance
- **Partner Engagement:** Cultivate a strong and transparent working relationship with the PAACT board and implementation partners and ensure open communication about the measurement of financial, programmatic, and impact performance against stated milestones and goals

Desired Qualifications

- Passion for PAACT's mission and commitment to improving outcomes for underserved children and families across the City of Atlanta
- Deep understanding and commitment to addressing issues of equity and bias, particularly for children
- Ability to serve as a credible advocate for children and families, with the capacity to build support for the PAACT vision as well as represent PAACT's interests before a diverse range of audiences



- Demonstrated aptitude for cultivating and stewarding funding relationships
- Exceptional presentation, communication, and listening skills, including the ability to drive consensus on complex issues and the capacity to work collaboratively with key stakeholders
- Unwavering commitment to quality programs and data-driven program evaluation
- Positive, engaging, flexible, and entrepreneurial leadership style
- High level of integrity, ethics, and sound judgment
- Knowledge of early childhood education and care and the nonprofit and political landscape in Georgia preferred
- Bachelor's degree required; advanced degree in a relevant field preferred

This is a full-time position reporting to the Executive Director. Salary range is dependent on education and experience. GEEARS provides benefits including health insurance, dental and vision care, life and disability insurance, parking, and vacation leave and holiday schedules.

Application: To apply, send resume, cover letter, and a list of three references to csimpson-houston@gears.org with "PAACT Director" in the subject line. No phone calls please. **Applications will be reviewed as they arrive and accepted until the position is filled.**