Dear Community Partners,

**JFK Partners**, Colorado’s University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service (UCEDD) and Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program is offering **part-time 10-month Traineeships** in the positions of **Self-Advocacy, Family Member, Diversity**, and **Spiritual Care** to begin August 1, 2020 thru May 31, 2021.

UCEDD/LEND programs develop future leaders to meet the needs of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and/or other Developmental Disabilities (ASD/DD) through an interdisciplinary curriculum. Health care professionals in the areas of Audiology, Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics, OT, PT, SLP, Public Health, Social Work, Nursing, Nutrition at the graduate, doctoral and post-doctoral levels learn alongside non-clinical positions of Self-Advocacy, Family, Diversity and Spiritual Care. The purpose of UCEDD/LEND training programs is to improve the health and the health care delivery systems that serve individuals with disabilities across the life-span.

UCEDD/LEND training provides coursework in Leadership, Key Concepts in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and a Policy & Advocacy experience, with optional courses in Screening & Assessment and Interventions. Trainees engage in a **12-hours per week** program of academic coursework and scholarly project experiences to advance their knowledge and skills in the areas of leadership, cultural responsiveness, family-professional partnerships, advocacy, public policy, clinical knowledge, research, systems and other topics associated with improving healthcare for individuals with ASD/DD. Mentorship is provided by JFK Partners faculty in completing a year-long scholarly project selected by each trainee.

**Eligibility:**
- Applicants must be a Self-Advocate, Family Member of an individual with a Developmental Disability, or in a Spiritual Care position or training program.
- Applicants interested in the Diversity position must meet at least one of the following criteria: 1) be of underrepresented racial and ethnic backgrounds; 2) be from underserved rural or urban areas; 3) have a disability; or, 4) identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender. Only
candidates with US citizenship can be considered.

- Although this is a graduate education program and the health professionals participating are at the masters, doctoral, or post-doctoral level, Self-Advocacy trainees do not need a degree to participate. Higher education is preferred for Family, Diversity and Spiritual Care trainees.
- Applicants must be available for the in-person Leadership course from 2-5 PM daily August 3-7 and 10-14, 2020 at the Anschutz Medical Campus.
- Applicants must be available to take in-person daytime seminars on Tuesdays starting in September and have regular availability for other meetings or assignments at the Anschutz Medical Campus and in the community.
- Applicants must have the ability to participate in all aspects of the UCEDD/LEND curriculum (i.e. orientation, course sessions, mentorship meetings, and year-long scholarly project).

**Stipend:** Monthly stipends ($600/mo) are provided for each position. One position in each category (Self-Advocacy, Family, Diversity and Spiritual Care) is available.

**Application:**

1. Cover Letter Statement of Interest - Please include the answers to the following:
   - Describe why this Traineeship interests you and what you’d like to learn from the experience.
   - Describe past experiences related to being a leader or advocate working with or on behalf of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and/or other Developmental Disabilities (ASD/DD).
   - Describe any past experiences related to creating systems change on behalf of persons from diverse backgrounds who have ASD/DD and their families.
   - Describe how this advanced training fits with your future professional plans.

2. Current Resume

3. Two letters of reference from those familiar with your interests and work relevant to this training experience
Applications can be submitted to Christine.Cook@cuanschutz.edu or Mail to: Christine Cook, JFK Partners, 13121 E. 17th Ave., C234, Aurora, CO 80045.

**Deadline:** Wed., April 1, 2020

Please share in your networks. We appreciate your collaboration in finding our future leaders!

Thank you,

*Dina Johnson, MA and Renee Charlifue-Smith, MA, CCC-SLP*

Training Co-Directors

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