



South Coast Early Childhood Education & Parent Engagement Program Seeks Planning Consultant

Statement of Purpose: Puente de la Costa Sur (Puente) seeks an experienced, bilingual and bicultural, Early Childhood Education (ECE) professional to develop a community partnership and implementation plan that coordinates evidence-based family engagement services for families of young children in San Mateo County's South Coast communities of Pescadero, Loma Mar, San Gregorio and La Honda. Puente has been funded to create this plan by the Heising-Simons Foundation.

The consultant will work with Puente and its longstanding partner, the La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District (LHPUSD), to develop a community partnership and implementation plan that will chart a path toward achieving the overall objective of the grant: to improve educational outcomes for low income immigrant children, ages 0-5.

Deliverables:

1. The consultant will coordinate all planning efforts and research as follows:
 - Assist team at the John Gardner Center at Stanford University with their South Coast needs assessment process, which will yield data vital to the project.
 - Work with Puente outreach staff to identify and engage families with young children and community caregivers who are the primary providers of care to children not yet in preschool.
 - Provide support, guidance and leadership to the Puente-LHPUSD team in identifying the most appropriate and effective ways to strengthen family engagement in early literacy and numeracy education.
 - Meet with the ECE-PEP working group (teachers and district staff, Puente staff, parents, care givers, faculty pro bono consultants) to explore a range of evidence-based models that may constitute a good fit for the South Coast.
 - Explore early learning expansion using an ecological model, assessing the effectiveness of existing services that affect family engagement and identifying areas that need strengthening.
 - Provide data and support necessary to the Puente-LHPUSD team to assist in drafting the next phase implementation grant proposal to the Heising-Simons Foundation.
2. A final written plan will be due by April 30, 2014, with other specific program deliverables due throughout the tenure of the consultancy (see below "reporting requirements").

Consultant Requirements:

- Familiar with a range of evidence-based models for family engagement, including home-based and center-based approaches;
- bilingual (fluent written/spoken Spanish/English), bi-cultural (Hispanic/Latino/Anglo) to be able to communicate effectively in the rural immigrant community;

- willing to come to the South Coast 2-3 times a week, during work days and evenings, and some weekends to gather necessary data;
- have demonstrable knowledge of early childhood development, mental health and early care and education;
- able to engage, build relationships, and collaborate with families and caregivers;
- have observation, screening, and data collection skills, a valid driver's license and reliable transportation;
- have demonstrated experience with developing community partnerships and writing implementation plans;
- strong written and verbal skills;
- proficient with Microsoft Office suite and experience with database systems;
- B.A. degree or higher and significant experience in ECE, child development, human services or related field.

The grant period and term of consultancy is October 2013-April 2014.

About Puente de la Costa Sur and ECE-PEP: Puente was founded in 1998. Embedded deeply in its community, Puente is seen as a safe and trusted organization. Puente provides economic security, education, youth leadership, physical wellness and health and behavioral health services directly to more than 1/3 of the region's residents. Having created an intricate network of public and private services that has led to greater self-sufficiency for the region's residents, Puente has demonstrated that it is able to respond to immediate and emerging needs with flexibility and on-the-spot action. In this instance, Puente and its LHPUSD partner concur that improving the quality and reach of parent engagement and early childhood intervention is the single most important initiative that we can undertake in order to effect systemic change for low income immigrant families.

About the community: The South Coast of San Mateo County is the most rural region in the greater Bay Area, covering about 160 mostly undeveloped square miles. The nearest shopping is in Half Moon Bay, 18 miles distant where most people do not have cars and public transportation is poor. Santa Cruz and mid-Peninsula cities are 30-35 miles distant, San Francisco 50 miles.

The area holds 40% of the county's land mass but only 1% of its people: about 5,000 largely-marginalized, low-income individuals, most monolingual Mexican farm and nursery workers and their families, as well as low income Anglos. Nearly 40% of the area's population earns less than \$15,000 annually, and many live in crowded, shared housing.

According to the most recent census data from LHPUSD, of the 177 children under the age of 5, the district is serving 62, ages 3-5, in preschool. Many Latino children, ages 0-3, are home with their parents or in daycare with untrained in-home providers. The demographics of the Pescadero Elementary School (PES) demonstrate the scope of need: 80.3% Latino, 82.8% economically disadvantaged, 71.3% English Language Learners, 27% proficient or advanced in English on STAR tests. Of the parents of current students at PES, 64% have not graduated from high school.

Duration and compensation of consultancy: up to \$28,800 over grant period (October 2013-April 2014).

Reporting Requirements:

1. Progress reports (Bi-monthly)
2. Final Report (1st draft) – March 1, 2014
3. Final report (2nd draft) – March 20, 2014

4. Final report (final draft) – April 30, 2014

To Apply:

Please submit a resume and cover letter, sample implementation plan, along with three references, to Suzanne Abel, Academic Director at: sabel@mypuente.org or PUENTE, PO Box 554, Pescadero, CA 94060 by October 31, 2013. Phone: 650-879-1691 ext. 149.

Top candidates will be invited to Pescadero for an interview.