ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship

Position Title: Community Programs Researcher  
Organization: Center for Court Innovation  
Location: New York, NY  
Stipend: $62,500 in the first year, $65,000 in the second year, plus health insurance and professional development funding  
Start Date: September 2022

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The Center for Court Innovation (The Center) works to achieve justice and equity; create safe, healthy, and thriving communities; and ultimately transform justice systems. The Community Development and Crime Prevention department (CDCP) at The Center leads a range of neighborhood-based public safety initiatives in New York City, including the Brownsville Community Justice Center, the Harlem Community Justice Center, the Queens Community Justice Center, Neighbors in Action, S.O.S. Save Our Streets (South Bronx, Crown Heights, and Bedford-Stuyvesant), Legal Hand, and the Neighborhood Safety Initiatives. Learn more at https://www.courtinnovation.org/.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

In a time of growing calls to invest in non-policing approaches to community safety, the Community Programs Researcher will work with CCI’s Community Development and Crime Prevention (CDCP) department. This department works directly with various New York City Communities to activate human-centered networks to solve neighborhood-based problems, improve the lived environment in communities that have been divested from, offer significant opportunities for economic mobility for residents, and provide opportunities for healing and restoration from trauma. Our ultimate goals are to create thriving neighborhoods by establishing pathways out of poverty, establish safe and vibrant public spaces, solve neighborhood-level issues through deep engagement with resident stakeholders, and heal trauma.

Community Programs Researcher will join ongoing efforts in The Center’s neighborhood-based projects to best understand, assess, and document community-led public safety strategies. This work will include the development and implementation of tracking tools, using data to improve program services, and storytelling about CCI’s impact. The fellow will be supervised by Jillian Shagan, Director of Community Health and Safety Strategies who has over 20 years of experience working at the Center. The fellowship tenure is 24 consecutive months, with an expected time commitment of approximately 37.5 hours per week.

Responsibilities and tasks:

- Assist CDCP community safety projects in developing and implementing tools for data collection to better track, understand, and narrate their work.
- Use data collection to help CDCP community safety projects provide the most effective services possible while telling a consistent story of individual and community change. This may include immersion in specific projects depending on need.
- In partnership with CDCP and the Center’s research department, document the efficacy of community development and crime prevention work.
- Create a protocol or protocols for utilizing program data to instruct projects on the strengths and challenges of current practices and identify needed adjustments.

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• Develop processes to demonstrate the importance of specific practices to a diverse set of stakeholders.

Qualifications:

• PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. Read more about eligible fields in our FAQ;
• Familiarity and interest in criminal justice and public safety issues; familiarity with related fields such as urban planning, community development, community organizing, or public health;
• The ability to utilize both qualitative and quantitative research methods is a plus. Training on qualitative research methods (e.g. focus group moderation) will be offered as necessary;
• Comfortable working in a collaborative community organization environment that is committed to equity;
• Able to work independently as needed;
• Excellent communication skills;
• Project management aptitude;
• Alignment with CCI’s organizational values, which include integrity, impact, equity, and collaboration. See https://www.courtinnovation.org/core-values for more information.

APPLICATIONS

• Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: https://www.acls.org/competitions/acls-leading-edge-fellowships/
• All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
• Application deadline: March 28, 2022, 9pm EDT

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