

Mat-Su Health Foundation

Director of Research & Evaluation

Position Summary

The Director of Research & Evaluation supports the organization's mission, vision and values by exhibiting the following behaviors: excellent communication skills, leadership, honesty, integrity, innovation, flexibility, respect, and commitment to our community, collaboration, critical thinking, accountability and ownership. The Director analyzes and structures knowledge to generate insights and draw conclusions that allow the Foundation to refine its strategic grant making. Reporting to the Vice President of Programs, the Director represents the Foundation within the data and evaluation field and handles tasks related to research and evaluation, as well as other responsibilities as assigned.

Responsibilities

- Assists in developing and maintaining a theory of change, research agenda, and evaluation framework to generate an evidence base for the most effective ways to meet the foundation's long-term goals
- Builds on the Foundation's long tradition of evaluation to better understand the impact of our strategies and funding
- Leads the development and monitoring of Foundation performance indicators and impact measures for major programs, initiatives, and grants; works with program staff and grantees as necessary
- May conduct individual research related to the Foundation's priorities. Contributes strategic recommendations supporting desired community health outcomes with data analysis and projections.
- Disseminates lessons from previous and current grantmaking to other staff, grantees and the field
- Establishes the Foundation as a leader in the State of Alaska for data-driven impact at the community level
- Integrates evaluation with all the Foundation's knowledge, learning, and communication processes and systems
- Researches and stays current with evaluation trends and best practices in the field
- Collaborates with the Communications Department to disseminate findings from research, evaluation and policy investments and to maintain the online data repository Mat-Su Health Stats
- Provides data to support MSHF public policy and advocacy efforts
- Shares our learning across the Foundation and external audiences
- Takes care of special projects as assigned

Position Qualifications

- PhD in research, measurement and evaluation or related field preferred
- Master of Public Health or equivalent with relevant work experience required
- Five or more years of extensive experience plus proven leadership and recognition in the field
- Knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research, evaluation, and performance management methods; experience with community-based participatory research preferred
- Knowledge of federal, state, and local datasets and surveys
- Demonstrated personal and professional commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Strong systems-level perspective that reflects an understanding of public health, healthcare, and social services systems that are designed to address health, wellbeing, and equity

- Successful experience fostering an inclusive environment and working as part of a multidisciplinary team
- Experience preparing and reviewing Requests for Proposals
- Experience with selection, oversight and compliance with research and evaluation contracts
- Demonstrated entrepreneurial/self-motivated conduct with excellent project management and organizational skills
- Ability to represent the Foundation and its mission with integrity and passion, while remaining objective in role
- Ability to synthesize data and research to educate MSHF Board and staff, grantees, and external partners

Competencies

- Strategic thinker
- Inclusive collaborator
- Strong interpersonal skills, characterized by a facilitative style
- Excellent research and analysis skills
- Excellent written and oral presentation skills
- Solid familiarity with knowledge management tools and technologies; interest and faculty in learning new technologies
- Computer literacy in Microsoft Office

The Foundation

Valley Hospital Association (VHA), d/b/a Mat-Su Health Foundation (MSHF) is a 501(c)3 that was formed in 1948 to build and operate Valley Hospital in Palmer. In 2003, VHA entered into an LLC partnership with Triad Hospitals, Inc. in order to construct the new Mat-Su Regional Medical Center (MSRMC). MSHF retains 35% ownership of the hospital, shares 50/50 governance of the state-of-the-art facility, and invests its share of the net revenues into charitable works. The MSHF's mission is to improve the health and wellness of Alaskans living in the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) Borough. MSHF provides grants, scholarships and technical assistance to nonprofit, tribal and governmental organizations offering services and practical solutions to significant chronic, health-related problems impacting Mat-Su citizens.