



## **Raise Your Hand for Illinois Public Education**

**Job Title:** Lead Parent/Caregiver Organizer (full-time)

**Location:** Chicago

**Timeline:** Application closes January 31st, start ASAP or by April 1st

### **Who We Are and What We Believe:**

Raise Your Hand for Illinois Public Education is a small, grassroots, citywide parent advocacy organization that organizes parents/caregivers around systemic issues in education. We strive for a Chicago that views parents/caregivers as change agents, decision makers, and experts. As an education justice organization, we believe that public education is a public good and all students deserve a well resourced education. In order to achieve this, we believe in collective movements that center those who have been most impacted by the injustice. Education justice is racial justice.

Our primary strategic aims are to 1) build parent power that is city-wide, representative of CPS, and focused on groups & communities that have been systematically overlooked and disinvested in, 2) create transparent, accountable systems for democratic voice and governance, and 3) provide evidence and community based systemic policy solutions grounded in equity.

### **Job Overview**

As a growing organization of 2 FTE and 3 PTE, we are looking for an experienced co-conspirator to design the future of organizing at Raise Your Hand. This position requires someone who will be tactical and strategic, fluent at building systems, and effective at training the next generation of parent leaders. The ideal candidate is someone who has experience intentionally developing members, leading campaigns, and has a desire to eventually lead and manage other staff. Reports directly to the Executive Director.

### **Who You Are - Qualifications:**

Required

- You trust in community wisdom, have love for the people we work with, and center those who have been most directly impacted by the issues. You bring a deep understanding of racial justice and the role of white supremacy and politics in education.
- You are an experienced organizer; you have led campaigns, managed dynamic stakeholders/organizational relationships, and absorbed & developed leaders in low income and Black and Brown communities.
- You are flexible and responsive. Programs will be on some nights and weekends, sometimes in response to changes and opportunities outside of our control.
- You bring strong organizational, problem solving and analytical skills to the table. You are able to bring a political and racial analysis to your writing and research (community/survey reports, briefs, talking points, content for a campaign).

- You are someone who wants ownership of their work. You are self motivated and a team player; able to move quickly. You must have a willingness to experiment, learn and reflect.
- You must be comfortable with tools such as social media and Google products as well as have a growth mindset to learn new relational organizing tools.

#### Preferred

- You are a parent or caregiver in public schools. You are familiar with Local School Councils, the issues in school funding and the general complexities of special education.
- You can see growing long term with Raise Your Hand.
- You are fluent in Spanish and are willing to translate/interpret as needed.
- You have a driver's license and access to a car.
- You have experience with EveryAction CRM, Canva, Streamyard, Zoom, Phone2Action and other relational organizing tools.

#### **What You Would Do - Responsibilities:**

##### Base Building & Leadership Development

- Ensure base building goals are met by identifying, recruiting and absorbing new members in communities on the South and West sides and/or those who are most directly impacted.
- Create a consistent, systematic and intentional system for membership recruitment and engagement; guided by clear goals on how to move members up the leadership ladder.
- Hold intentional and strategic leadership development opportunities (trainings, meetings, workshops) for members to build skills, analysis and confidence. These are spaces that are responsive to member needs, hold space for shared learning, and build parent/caregiver power.

##### Campaigns and Coalitions

- Work with the Executive Director on managing a new school funding coalition, PEER (ex. strategy, facilitation, coalition membership management). This includes statewide outreach.
- Design and execute PEER coalition campaigns.
- Lead current campaigns/issues: Local School Councils, Special Education, Remote Learning, and #PoliceFreeSchools.
- Work with a variety of coalitions on issues, campaigns and/or legislation.

##### Organization Strategy

- Co-design short & long term organizing strategy and growth.
- Engage in opportunities to professionally develop and take more leadership over time.
- Analyze and reflect on opportunities for the organization to grow, live more in its values and serve our communities.
- Create and improve systems/procedures that increase advocacy and organizing effectiveness.

#### **Compensation**

Salary: \$45,000 - \$50,000 annually, commensurate with experience

Benefits: 85% employee coverage of health/dental, flexible scheduling, 13 paid holidays, 15 vacation days and 12 sick days per year

Black and Brown Chicago Public School parents are strongly encouraged to apply.

#### **How to Apply:**

Please send your resume and cover letter to Jianan Shi, Executive Director, at [jobs@ilraiseyourhand.org](mailto:jobs@ilraiseyourhand.org). Please indicate: Parent Organizer Position in the subject line.