

Sisseton Wahpeton Head Start
Dakotah Culture & Language Teacher
Job Description

Job Title: Dakotah Culture & Language Teacher (Head Start 0-5)

Content Area: Education and Early Childhood Development

Supervision: Under the immediate supervision of the Education Manager, in absence of Education Manager under supervision of the Head Start Director.

Standard Employment: 8 hour shifts – 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
No school early May thru late August

General Description: 1302.36 Tribal Language preservation and revitalization. The Program will preserve, revitalize, restore and maintain the Dakota language for our children. Dakotah language and culture is an integral part of the curriculum; therefore, it is the responsibility of the teacher to plan language & cultural activities that will assist the child in developing a positive self-image and gaining knowledge of our heritage.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Provide culturally relevant leadership to staff and students;
 - Create and implement developmentally appropriate Cultural activity to support the curricula.
 - Conduct small group cultural activities for students with the assistance of teaching staff and family advocates.
 - Schedule, plan agenda and participate in cultural training/activities for staff 2 days every week and during pre-service training.
 - Serve as cultural liaison and consultant for teachers, family partners and community.
 - Facilitate the creation and implementation of assessments pertaining to language competencies.
2. Consult with Family Program and Educational service staff regarding cultural activities and language.
 - Ensure that needs of staff and students are identified and addressed.
 - Function as part of a team to ensure that activities for family night and other community activities are culturally relevant.
 - Assist in developing culturally relevant ceremonies for students, staff and families.

- Provide culture and language information for newsletters, to receptionist and have receptionist help you.
3. Provide direct services to parents through weekly activities to develop strong families through culturally appropriate activities.
 - Work with the Director, Education Manager, Family Services in implementation of appropriate cultural activities.
 - Develop and implement Parent support through activities that allow time for parents to come together to share time as well as learning traditional art, crafts, storytelling and dance.
 - Develop and implement opportunities to share traditional values with parents that strengthen family ties and model togetherness and responsibility in a fun, engaging manner.
 - Partner with Family Services on developing their story and addressing generational issues (ACES) Adverse Childhood Experiences.
 - Teach gathering and stewardship through preservation of traditional values.

Resource Development/Professionalism:

1. Participate in learning experiences for personal growth and professional development and implement appropriate practices in the classroom.
2. Actively participate in all aspects of planning regarding education and early childhood development training needs for the program.
3. Maintain accurate child records and update them as required. Or Submit all required forms and reports to Education Manager.
4. Knowledge of laws regarding the abuse and neglect of children and report suspected mistreatment in accordance with state law and Head Start policy.
5. Attend and actively participate in weekly teacher meetings to discuss concerns, other issues and make recommendations on correcting concerns or making improvements to the program.

Qualifications:

HS programs are established for the purpose of serving our community. Employees should have a thorough understanding of the culture and needs of our parents/caregivers. Such knowledge is critical in order to ensure the achievement of the vision of HS: We will provide them with education, emotional, spiritual, cultural, social, nutritional, and self-esteem activities.

1. Bachelor's Degree in Education preferred, or equivalent combination of education and experience.
2. Two (2) years' experience in education curriculum development and delivery specifically in Dakota culture and early childhood or elementary education.
3. The ability to teach a basic level of Dakotah language to young children and adults.
4. Coordinate and facilitate additional cultural programming, including dance.

Job Requirements:

1. Must be willing to speak and promote Dakota language and Dakota culture in the classrooms or anywhere.
2. Attend weekly staff meetings, Dakota language classes, in-service training and other career development activities both locally and out-of-area.
3. Must sign a background check permission form upon submission of application to permit background check at the state and federal level that indicates no convictions of child abuse/child neglect or any violent crimes.
4. Must complete CPR and First Aid training within 90-days of hire.
5. Must live and promote alcohol and drug free lifestyle.
6. Must have pre-employment drug test, physical and TB test.
7. Must submit to random drug test.
8. Submit three letters of reference with application for employment.
9. Must sign a Confidentiality Statement upon hire and adhere to policy.
10. Indian preference applies.

Signature below acknowledges that I have received and read a copy of my description.

Employee Signature

Date

Supervisor Signature

Date

Approved Crystal R. Heminger Date 10-20-17

Revised and Approved by Policy Council: