

Now Hiring: Rise Editorial Director

Rise, a New York City nonprofit that trains parents as writers, speakers and advocates in child welfare reform, seeks an editorial director to edit Rise publications, build the writing skills of parent leaders, and contribute to the quality of written communication across the organization.

About Rise: Parents whose children are in foster care or are facing a child welfare investigation need information and peer support, and child welfare professionals need parent input to develop policies and practices that strengthen families and communities. Rise publishes an online magazine and other resources to support parents, trains parents to make sophisticated presentations to frontline staff and policymakers, and partners with child welfare organizations to bring parents' priorities for change into policy and practice. We are a small team with an outsize impact. Our staff are self-directed, hands on and passionate. To learn more about Rise, go to: www.risemagazine.org

Rise's writing process is the foundation of our work to bring parents' knowledge and experiences into the child welfare system. Through writing and publishing personal essays, parents have the opportunity to reflect on their experiences and share their stories to help others. More than a process of articulating stories they already have in mind, the writing process is a chance for parents to feel safe and supported as they consider who they are, how they got where they are, where they want to go, and how they can get there. It's also a chance for parents to craft messages that will inform other parents, frontline staff, policymakers and the public.

Job Description: The Editorial Director role includes:

- Run writing workshops—at Rise and partner agencies—which includes: recruiting parent contributors, creating a communal environment, and supporting each writer through a 16-week process of developing a publication-quality personal essay;
- Cultivate parent writers as ongoing contributors at Rise and developing a team that becomes increasingly capable of conceiving of coverage, reporting and editing stories and packages;
- Collaborate with other program directors and parent leaders so that parent participants in our Rise & Shine Leadership Program, which includes writing elements, develop as leaders;
- Edit and produce Rise's array of publications including our online magazine, Insights publication, TIPS handouts and e-newsletter;
- Manage multiple reader engagement platforms—our website, e-newsletter, Facebook and Twitter, at minimum—to build readership of new and existing content (while phasing out our print focus) so that parents and professionals are able to access key information and tools to succeed;
- Build relationships to publish Rise content in other media outlets to reach new audiences;
- Contribute editing as needed to Rise projects such as speech-writing and fundraising.

Qualifications

Journalism skills including content planning, interviewing, editing to length, and social media strategy are critical to success in this role. In addition, depth of knowledge of psychology and attention to the role of language and narrative in recovery from trauma must be acquired to do this job well. Rise will provide opportunities for a self-directed learner to gain skills.

The ideal job candidate will have:

- Experience reporting, writing and editing for publication;
- Interpersonal skills to work sensitively with parents writing on painful topics and to work collaboratively in an organization that prizes parent leadership;
- Supervision skills to build and manage a diverse team of contributors;
- Technology skills to strengthen Rise's readership through the website and social media;
- The precision required to oversee an ethical, accurate publication on a charged topic;
- Knowledge of the child welfare system, or at minimum a track record of engagement with connected social justice issues, as well as curiosity and passion to make a difference for fragile families and in the child welfare system;
- Knowledge or interest in developing knowledge about narrative as a therapeutic tool;

- Capacity to work independently, seek help, and tolerate a steep learning curve while working on teams in a collaborative, creative environment;
- Bachelor's degree and minimum 3 years of professional experience.

Compensation: Salary is competitive for a small nonprofit, and based on experience and qualifications. Rise is a partner project of the Fund for the City of New York, which offers excellent benefits.

To Apply: Please email a cover letter, resume and two writing samples to info@risemagazine.org. Please do not apply without taking a close look at Rise's website. Candidates will be contacted for interviews on a rolling basis. We are unable to respond to all applications. If you are selected for an interview, you will be contacted within three weeks.

Rise values a diverse workforce and inclusive culture. We strongly encourage applications from women and people of color as well as people with prior contact with the child welfare system.