

## State Director-The Wisconsin Partnership

Milwaukee Succeeds is a broad-based, community collaboration focused on improving educational outcomes for every child, in every school, from cradle-to-career.

The Wisconsin Partnership is a statewide coalition of four cradle-to-career partnerships including Achieve Brown County, Building Our Future in Kenosha County, Higher Expectations for Racine County, and Milwaukee Succeeds. Collectively, this coalition aligns their local partnerships to a shared policy agenda focused on data-driven, community-led policy change.

### Purpose & Objectives

**You can make a difference, as we are seeking a State Director!** The State Director - The Wisconsin Partnership is responsible for leading both The Wisconsin Partnership and the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's education policy portfolio. This position interfaces with state, local, and federal public officials and grassroots organizations that advocate for systems-level changes to education systems from cradle-to-career.

This role collaborates across the four communities of the Wisconsin Partnership to set a shared vision, goals, and strategies; manage coalition finances, programs, and projects; draft and steward the policy advocacy and implementation processes; develop and implement the coalition's strategic plan; and engage with other advocates and stakeholders in communities from across Wisconsin.

### Essential Duties & Responsibilities

- Lead the Wisconsin Partnership including implementing and managing its strategic planning, project management, and budgets.
- Lead Wisconsin Partnership advocacy efforts and manage relationships with policymakers, stakeholders, and lobbying firms.
- Build the capacity of each member community within the Wisconsin Partnership to leverage policy advocacy as a tool for systems-change.
- Convene and coordinate staff across four communities to advance coalition goals, including on community engagement, data, and communications.
- Collaborate on policy research, data analysis, and the creation of communication and advocacy materials.
- Cultivate relationships with current funder (Strive Together) to align efforts with national best practices within the Strive Together National Network as well as long-term funding opportunities from Strive Together.
- Collaborate with colleagues to build a long-term resource development plan for the WI Partnership.

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- Represent the Partnership and GMF in local, state, and national policy arenas.
- Support the development of the Policy and Research Department, including staffing, budgeting, and policy agenda alignment.
- Collaborate with the Vice President of Policy and Research on GMF's education policy agenda and ensure integration with broader systems-change efforts across the foundation and community.
- Monitor and communicate education policy trends and implications for GMF and Wisconsin Partnership work.

### Job Specifications

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to carry out each essential duty in a satisfactory manner. The job specifications listed below are representative of the education and experience as well as the knowledge, skill and/or ability (KSAs) required. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

### *Education & Experience*

- Bachelor's degree strongly preferred with at least 10 years of relevant work experience in the field of public policy, community engagement, education, nonprofit, government, and/or civic leadership.
- Demonstrated experience in coalition building and partner engagement required.
- Demonstrated experience working with policymakers and civic leaders required.
- Demonstrated project management required.
- Experience in financial management, communications, data analysis and use, continuous improvement, and resource development preferred.

### *Knowledge, Skills & Abilities*

- Proven ability to build partnerships, facilitate coalitions, and lead cross-sector strategic planning to advance shared goals
- Deep knowledge of Wisconsin public policy and best practices in Early Care and Education (ECE) and K-12, including early literacy, childcare access, quality, and public funding.
- Ability to build relationships with local and national stakeholders, and the ability to represent priorities with policymakers, funders, and civic leaders.
- Commitment to racial equity as a core value, with the skills to use policy, data, and partnerships to advance justice.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, with the ability to effectively engage diverse audiences and proactively communicate key developments

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- Comfort using quantitative and qualitative data to guide strategy and support teams and partners in making informed decisions.
- Demonstrated success in managing budgets, developing sustainability plans, and cultivating support from institutional and individual donors.
- Skilled in managing contracts, subgrants, and internal systems; detail-oriented with strong organizational and project management capabilities.
- Experience managing productive teams and contributing to a healthy, inclusive, and equitable organizational culture.
- Ability to lead through complexity, resolve conflicts, and make strategic decisions in dynamic environments.

**Salary:** \$113,500

**Application Instructions:** Please click on the link below:

[https://recruiting.myapps.paychex.com/appone/MainInfoReq.asp?R\\_ID=6841897](https://recruiting.myapps.paychex.com/appone/MainInfoReq.asp?R_ID=6841897)

*The Greater Milwaukee Foundation is an equal opportunity employer and encourages people of diverse backgrounds to apply. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.*