Senior Health Policy Advocate

Position summary

Common Good Iowa seeks a full-time senior health policy advocate to lead the organization’s work advancing the health of Iowa children and their families. The person in this position will exhibit concrete skills and a deep understanding of how to move a policy agenda that centers racial and economic equity, promote effective policy, develop and strengthen relationships with lawmakers, administrative officials and other advocates and identify strategies to maximize access to and quality of care within the state’s Medicaid and CHIP programs.

Common Good Iowa is committed to building a diverse staff and strongly encourages applications from candidates of color, multilingual individuals, LGBTQ+ people and people with disabilities.

CGI offers a hybrid work model in which staff members may work remotely a portion of each week. This position requires a regular presence in Des Moines, including at the state Capitol during the legislative session. Occasional in-state and out-of-state travel is required.

About the organization

Common Good Iowa is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization founded in 2020 from the merger of the two long-standing Iowa organizations, the Child and Family Policy Center and Iowa Policy Project. Common Good Iowa has offices in Des Moines and Iowa City. Our team of advocates and analysts leverage reliable data and collaborative relationships to craft people-centered policy solutions for our state’s most pressing issues. Our vision is a just, equitable Iowa with strong public structures, where children and families are healthy and secure, workers thrive, and clean air and water mean a healthy future for all.

Equal opportunity

Common Good Iowa is an equal opportunity employer and takes affirmative action to ensure discrimination does not occur based on race, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth or related conditions), religion, color, creed, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, national origin, ancestry, or age, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Position responsibilities

- Lead Common Good Iowa’s health policy advocacy work, including working with senior staff to define the organization’s health policy agenda.
• Analyze policy proposals and craft policy recommendations to expand coverage and improve the health of children and their families, especially those situated the furthest from opportunity.
• Facilitate the statewide Medicaid Matters Coalition and serve as an active participant in other coalitions and partnerships related to child and family health.
• Work with national partners to understand and communicate implications of federal policy in Iowa and collect examples of effective policies and advocacy strategies from other states.
• Engage in administrative and legislative lobbying, working closely with other members of Common Good Iowa’s lobbying team.
• Coordinate CGI’s health and nutrition team and support program evaluation efforts.
• Produce fact sheets, talking points, action alerts and other materials on health policy topics in cooperation with communication staff.
• Support Common Good Iowa’s financial health by managing writing and work of health-focused grants and occasionally participating in fundraising events.

Minimum qualifications
• A commitment to health equity and social justice.
• 5 to 10 years’ experience in policy advocacy and analysis related to health.
• A master’s degree in public health, public policy or similar field is preferred. A bachelor’s degree and significant experience in health policy and advocacy will be considered.
• Strong written and oral communication skills, including the ability to explain complex issues clearly.

Desirable qualifications
• Knowledge of Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki) policy and/or operations.
• Experience in program evaluation methods, including data analysis, survey research and focus groups facilitation.

Compensation
Starting compensation for this full-time position is $60,000 to $68,000 annually, depending on experience. Common Good Iowa offers excellent benefits, including health, dental and vision insurance; life and short- and long-term disability insurance; retirement contributions; and generous paid vacation, sick leave and holidays.

To apply
To apply, send a resume and cover letter by email to executive director Anne Discher at adischer@commongoodiowa.org. Attachments should be in PDF or Microsoft Word formats. The cover letter should describe your interest in the position and how your experience and vision meet the qualifications and responsibilities outlined here. Candidates may be asked to provide writing samples.