

Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools®
Washington Building Leaders of Change (WA-BLOC)
Servant Leader Educator Position Description

Title: Servant Leader Educator

Organization: WA-BLOC

Nature and Scope

CDF's mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. The CDF Freedom Schools® program is a direct service initiative coordinated nationally by the Children's Defense Fund in partnership with local community organizations. It is an educational and cultural enrichment program that provides summer options for children and strengthens family and community involvement. The program serves children in grades kindergarten through twelfth for five to eight weeks. The activity based curriculum, which is aligned to the Common Core State Standards, integrates reading, conflict resolution, and social action, and is designed to promote social, cultural, and historical awareness.

College-age young adults and recent college graduates play a key role in the CDF Freedom Schools program in the position of Servant Leader Educator. Each CDF Freedom Schools Servant Leader Educator serves as the teacher for a maximum of 10 students. Servant Leader Educators have access to further leadership development and networking opportunities geared toward continued direct service and advocacy on behalf of children and families.

About WA-BLOC: Our mission is to empower youth of color through academic, creative, and place-based leadership. WA-BLOC builds this mission and vision through year-round programming that re-engages students in school, builds intergenerational place-based leaders of change, dismantles systemic racism, and disrupts the school to prison pipeline for black and brown youth in South Seattle.

Responsibilities

- Supervise students at all times.
- Set up, manage and break down classroom space according to standards developed by CDF.
- Facilitate daily Integrated Reading Curriculum (IRC) for 10-12 scholars and support afternoon enrichment activities .
- Tailor and facilitate any complimentary curriculum given by the Site Coordinator.
- Foster identify formation, positive community, belonging, and engagement for 10-12 scholars in classroom space.
- Collaborate with other staff to establish and maintain a supportive and structured environment for the students entrusted in their care.
- Attend all required trainings.
- Serve as Harambee leaders, afternoon activities facilitators, and field trip chaperones.

- Lead morning Harambee (Ki-Swahili word meaning “Let’s pull together”) with SLE team. Harambee is a high-energy time at the beginning of the day when scholars and staff come together to celebrate and affirm one another through guest speakers, cheers and chants, singing, and more.
- Facilitate communication and promote problem solving with scholars.
- Implement Restorative Justice practices in the classroom.
- Attend daily morning and afternoon team briefings.
- Communicate regularly with:
 - Families to promote parent engagement and develop plans to support scholars via weekly phone calls
 - Freedom Schools team in timely manner and respond to all phone/email messages within 24 hours
- Serve as a positive role model to scholars, staff, and families and maintain a supportive and structured environment for scholars entrusted in your care.
- Report any issues or concerns regarding students in program to Site Coordinator.

Qualifications

- Must be at least 20 years of age, have completed at least two years of college in education or related field, and have plans to complete a college degree
- Experience working with K-12 students within community and school systems
- Strong understanding of South Seattle community and local issues
- Ability to motivate others and work as part of an intergenerational team
- Strong appreciation and understanding of individual cultural history, privileges, intersectionality of identities, and the willingness to be open and respectful of all cultures
- Willingness to strive for excellence in all areas and ability to think critically and analytically
- Exhibit positive behavior and attitude by modeling a "growth mindset"; model a mature and professional demeanor; and possess excellent written and verbal skills