Access to the World blindbabiesfoundation 1814 Franklin Street, Suite 300 Oakland, CA 94612 510.446.2229 phone 510.446.2262 fax www.blindbabies.org

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Vision Impairment Specialist – Early Intervention Program

Permanent Position—Available June 2013

Alameda County

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Vision Impairment Specialist (VIS) represents the AccessVIS Program of Blind Babies Foundation and is responsible for provision of specialized services to families of young children with vision impairments, birth through five years of age. The VIS provides expertise in natural environments; resource information and referral to community services, advocates on behalf of the client family, and partners with parents and caregivers to support and encourage their child's individual growth and development.

Direct Services

- 1. Provides home visits to families, supporting parent/child interactions through developmentally appropriate play activities, consistent with agency programs.
- 2. Works with families to develop strategies appropriate for a child who is blind or visually impaired.
- 3. Provides family with information about visual diagnosis and impact of vision loss on early development.
- 4. Conducts developmental and functional vision assessments using observation, parent interview and formal assessment strategies.
- 5. Helps parents advocate effectively for their child.

Related Family Services

- 1. Plans and implements occasional multi-family events, facilitating parent-to-parent support.
- 2. Assists in the development of new services and materials.
- 3. Refers families to community services.

Outreach Services

- 1. Actively collaborates with community-based providers of related services.
- 2. Consults with professional community on behalf of children and families (attend medical visits; IFSP, IEP sessions; program visits, etc.).
- 3. Provides workshops and trainings for parents and professionals.
- 4. Serves as a public representative of the agency in their geographic area.

Case Management Responsibilities

- 1. Completes and maintains client case files
- 2. Follows agency guidelines for participation in the National Registry of Early Childhood Vision Impairment Project (Babies Count).
- 3. Provides monthly accounting of client contract hours.

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Agency Responsibilities

- 1. Participates in monthly staff meetings, regional meetings, and in-service sessions.
- 2. Completes required fulfillment of contract responsibilities.
- 3. Provides information regarding program services to Development Department on request.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- B.A. or B.S. degree
- Professional preparation and/or three years experience in the education of children with vision impairments, Orientation and Mobility, infant or early childhood development, and/or social work
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills with children and adults
- Strong organizational skills
- Self starter
- Flexible schedule
- Ability to network with professionals
- Must have dependable means of transportation
- Willingness and ability to travel extensively within a limited geographic area
- Valid driver's license or ID; submission of DMV report and proof of auto insurance
- Willingness to be fingerprinted and submit to a background check
- Willingness to submit to pre-employment physical and other appropriate tests, as requested.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Teaching Credential in Vision Impairment, Orientation and Mobility, Early Childhood Special Education, and/or a Certificate in Early Childhood Education.
- Experience with young children with multiple impairments
- Second language fluency; Spanish preferred.
- Experience as a home teacher
- Child and Family Counseling background
- Experience working in multi-cultural situations
- Public speaking skills
- Infant Massage training
- Experience/training in Active Learning techniques

Additional information, including salary and FTE, available upon request

ADDRESS INQUIRIES AND RESUMES WITH LETTER OF INTEREST TO: Julie Bernas-Pierce, Program Director juliebp@blindbabies.org