ABOUT LION’S PRIDE

Lion’s Pride’s Mission:

Lion’s Pride Mentoring Inc (Lion’s Pride) empowers youth leaders to guide ninth grade students to reach their fullest potential. We train high-performing upper-level students to mentor first-year students in achieving academic excellence and social-emotional aptitude. Ultimately, Lion’s Pride seeks to change Chicago's educational landscape by helping more students graduate from high school and attend the college of their choice.

Program Overview:

Lion’s Pride is a peer-to-peer mentoring program matching top-tier upperclassmen with academically or behaviorally struggling incoming freshmen. The mentor’s work moves the needle on indicators predictive of academic success, such as freshmen on-track status (as defined by the University of Chicago “The to and Through Project”), attendance, GPA, and social-emotional skills.

Our program team supports our school partners in training the incoming student mentors (“Bigs”), developing their leadership and mentoring skills through a curriculum we’ve been perfecting over the past five years. After the first month of school, the ninth grade mentees (“Littles”) are selected for the program based on a mix of academic and attendance data along with teacher recommendations. From there we engage Bigs in a matching process, pairing them with 1-2 Littles.

Although the structure varies by campus, Bigs and Littles typically meet twice a week under the supervision of the campus program manager.

The core of their time together focuses on:
● goal setting and action planning
● social emotional learning
● directed study hall
● team building and bonding

Lion’s Pride is heading into its fourth year as an organization and is currently positively impacting students at five high schools and is in the process of expanding to additional high schools. We’ve been a 501(c)(3) since September 2019. We operated as a one-off program at a single campus for one year, moving to a second campus before becoming a nonprofit organization and expanding to five schools. We see our growth as a proof point of our model and an exciting opportunity for the future.
THE CANDIDATE

As a young organization, we’re looking to expand the team of our fastly growing program. Lion’s Pride is seeking a Part-time Program Manager responsible for strengthening all programming and supporting fundraising related to a growing nonprofit. This may include, but is not limited to: overseeing program implementation, improvement and expansion, program related event planning and execution, as well as program communications and fundraising support.

An ideal candidate is extremely passionate and motivated by the idea of getting on the ground level of building a budding nonprofit, guiding its expansion, and ultimately positioning it for profound impact.

Roles and Responsibilities:

Lion’s Pride’s Part-time Program Manager will wear a variety of hats to help us achieve our goals. Though not exhaustive, the Part-time Program Manager’s main roles and responsibilities are as follows:

- Coach and support campus managers at assigned school sites
- Lead program sessions and workshops when needed
- Support current Program Manager in executing quarterly workshops with campus managers
- Coordinate career support for program participants and alumni
- Conduct biannual partnership conversations with school leaders
- Oversee program data entry and collection, ensuring integrity and accurate reporting
- Plan and execute campus-based program events
- Communicate progress to key stakeholders

We are seeking a candidate who has the following:

- A deep-rooted passion for Lion’s Pride’s mission, students, and work in Chicago
- A belief that all students, regardless of background and current ability, can succeed in high school, college, and life
- Strong attention to detail and impeccable organizational skills
- Experience with public speaking
- Excellent customer-service ethic and follow-through
- High level of initiative and personal responsibility with strong orientation for results
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office applications, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- Welcomes feedback and seeks to continuously improve
- Alignment with Lion’s Pride’s approach to high expectations and high support of students
- Experience in managing people, systems, and/or projects
Requirements:

- Experience working as a classroom instructor or in schools
- 3 to 5 years professional experience
- Bachelor’s degree
- Ability to attend some required evening and weekend meetings
- Driver’s license or ability to travel extensively throughout the city of Chicago with ease
- Eligibility to work in the United States on a full-time basis

What Pride Has To Offer:

Potential for Growth: supporting a growing nonprofit has vast potential for learning a range of diverse skills. The Lion’s Pride Part-time Program Manager would be supporting program related work for the organization and have the potential for long term employment as the number of school partnerships increases.

Opportunity: Lion’s Pride has been highly successful since its inception in 2017. We have tremendous potential to spread throughout the Chicago Public Schools district and beyond. The Part-time Program Manager would be an essential part of Lion’s Pride’s success and ability to reach a larger group of students and schools. As the program expands to other schools, so would the nonprofit, eventually taking on more employees and acquiring more assets.

Support: The Part-time Program Manager would be working with an accomplished team of educators, nonprofit leaders, a Board of Directors, and the Executive Director to support the vision, goals, and execution of Lion’s Pride.

Benefits:

- Coworking space access
- Hourly range of $22 - $25 per hour for up to 10 hours a week
- Healthcare stipend
- Professional development stipend

Please submit a cover letter and resume to Lion’s Pride Co-Founder and Executive Director Jasmine Gilstrap at jgilstrap@lionprideinc.org.