Social Venture Partners Encore Fellowship Opportunity with Value Schools

You are a seasoned professional with a minimum of 20+ years of experience, who is retired or in transition. You want to continue to work and want to do something with meaning. You are ready for a second act for the greater good.

Encore Fellowships are structured programs that place highly-skilled, experienced professionals into social-purpose organizations, where they help nonprofits build capacity, and ultimately, have a greater impact on their communities. Fellows commit to 1,000 hours of work over 6 to 12 months. They are paid a stipend of $25,000 and are integrated into the nonprofit’s leadership team.

About Value Schools

Value Schools (www.valueschools.com) is a nonprofit organization founded to establish and support high quality, values-based elementary and secondary charter schools for populations of students who have been historically underserved by the public school system. In 2015, they will open their fourth school and serve over 1,200 students. Value Schools provides a rigorous yet supportive educational environment. Guided by the Common Core State Standards, student needs direct the instructional process, not a particular curriculum or methodology. Change occurs in response to outcomes, with input from stakeholders along the way. The focus of the programming is on what works. The principals have the authority to plan and evaluate programs, as well as to hire, manage and terminate personnel. Building strong parent/student/staff communities is essential; principals are encouraged to develop leadership at every level within their schools.

Underperforming public schools, especially those serving the urban poor, are providing the impetus for the charter school movement. Charter schools, including Value Schools, are demonstrating that minority students from economically challenged backgrounds can set high academic goals and achieve them, given the right kind of supportive and challenging learning environment. Values Schools serves a warm and welcoming community that is grateful for the opportunities that point their students toward college.

Value Schools seeks a Program Development Fellow to help them expand services to students and their families.

Program Development Fellow: Primary Role and Responsibilities

As Value Schools grows their programming and support services to address student needs, they are seeking assistance from an Encore Fellow who can identify and prioritize critical common needs across their schools, research and access community resources, develop programs and/or partnerships that will address these needs, and establish operating procedures. It is important that procedures are codified and community connections are solidified so the new programming becomes an ongoing part of the schools’ learning opportunities once the Fellow’s engagement is finished.
Working with the Value Schools’ CEO and stakeholders, the Fellow will:

- Identify realistic program goals for the school year (e.g., career day presenters, on-campus volunteer program, wrap-around social services, mentorship opportunities)
- Research, benchmark and recommend program options and/or service providers
- Connect appropriate people and resources to their need(s)
- Codify each new program, its purpose and scope, contacts and leads, and best practices
- Develop an ongoing process for program sustainability
- Develop metrics to measure ongoing effectiveness of the programs and identify any problems and pitfalls to avoid in further implementation

Program Development Fellow: Key Skills Requirements

The Encore Fellow will work with community resources outside the school as well as the board to maximize support programming at the schools. Key skills requirements include:

- Significant experience in program management especially in the planning and deployment of new programs
- Strong ability to gather and analyze information, and synthesize into relevant recommendations
- Substantial experience in partner development, constituent outreach and networking
- Significant experience in evaluating and developing organization policies, systems, structures, and staff development
- Excellent communication skills – especially writing, reporting, and the ability to engage and coach people from all levels in the organization
- A creative mindset and ability to generate new ideas
- A positive attitude and one of personal engagement

If you are interested in this role or know someone who fits these requirements, please contact Judy Bamberger, SVP Encore Fellows Program Manager, at 818.807.3516 or by email at encore@svpla.org. For more information about the SVP Los Angeles Encore Fellows program visit: http://www.socialventurepartners.org/los-angeles/encore-fellows/