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National Director, Research

Description

The National Director of Research works with the Hydrocephalus Association's Research Committee (RC), Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), senior leadership team, and strategic advisors to design and execute a strategic research plan that fulfills the Hydrocephalus Association's mission. The mission of the Hydrocephalus Association is to find a cure for hydrocephalus and improve the lives of those impacted by the condition.

The National Director of Research plays a key leadership role in defining the organization's research priorities, building and cultivating alliances with stakeholders, including academic, industry, nonprofit and governmental entities, and managing the Hydrocephalus Association's growing grant portfolio. The National Director of Research reports to the President and CEO.

Essential Job Responsibilities:

- Partner with Research Committee (RC), Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), and senior staff to develop strategic scientific direction and goals; and drive the execution of research program objectives.
- Maintain a current understanding of needs and specific gaps in hydrocephalus research and partner with key stakeholders to develop solutions for overcoming these challenges.
- Manage the Hydrocephalus Association research grant portfolio and grant cycles (pre- through post-award).
- Manage the Hydrocephalus Association Network for Discovery Science (HANDS) and the Hydrocephalus Association Patient-Powered Interactive Engagement Registry (HAPPIER).
- Support the work of and collaborate with the Hydrocephalus Clinical Research Network (HCRN), Adult HCRN (AHCRN), and other clinical, translational, and basic scientists.
- Lead the development and execution of an annual research workshop.
- Develop strategic partnerships with industry including pharma, biotech and other partners to further collaborations and scientific investments that support Hydrocephalus Association's strategic growth plans.
- Serve as a member of Hydrocephalus Association's senior leadership team partnering closely with colleagues to develop and assess organizational strategic plans and initiatives.
- Support Hydrocephalus Association's development efforts by meeting with existing and prospective supporters to showcase scientific insights and perspectives to further engage and cultivate funders.
- Partner with communications staff to showcase past, present, and future impact of the Hydrocephalus Association's research investments in lay terms that will resonate with key stakeholders.
- Develop, manage, track, and oversee department budget.
- Serve as a spokesperson for the Hydrocephalus Association within the hydrocephalus community and at scientific conferences.

Qualifications:

- PhD or equivalent advanced degree in science, medicine, or related field.
- Minimum of two years' experience in science-related work away from the laboratory preferred.
- Experience in the research arena, including conducting survey-based research, preparing presentations, writing peer-reviewed papers, and reviewing scientific work.
- Knowledge and understanding of the scientific peer review process, the mechanics of scientific grant-making, and the culture of academic medical and research centers.
- Experience with and strong understanding of current trends in basic, preclinical, and clinical research.
- Industry and translational research experience a plus.
- Experience initiating and managing multi-stakeholder partnerships between academia, industry, philanthropy, and government a plus.
- Outstanding oral and written communication skills, including the ability to translate scientific information for non-scientific audiences.
- Demonstrated success in developing, leading, and managing complex projects
- Record of relationship building and partnership management among stakeholder groups.
- Record of successfully designing and executing a research strategic plan preferred.
- Strong analytical skills and ability to summarize and explain data in a clear and concise manner.
- Willingness to travel as necessary.

Characteristics:

- Passionate about the Hydrocephalus Association's mission to find a cure for hydrocephalus and improve the lives of those impacted by the condition.
- Creative problem solver who can rise to new challenges and capitalize on emerging opportunities.
- Persuasive and articulate written, graphic, and verbal communication and presentation skills with the ability to translate complicated scientific and technical concepts into easily understandable terms for varied stakeholders and the general public.
- Be a trusted and informed resource for staff, partners and the broader community.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to interact with scientists and non-scientists at a variety of levels in a collaborative, effective manner. A record of success working with a team to achieve shared goals.
- Excels when managing self and others through change and brings a strong sense of excitement and optimism.
- Strong administrative and organizational skills with the ability to take initiative, handle multiple tasks concurrently, and work independently as well as collaboratively
- Demonstrated commitment to data-driven program development and evaluation.
- Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Work Environment / Physical Requirements:

- This job will be performed primarily sitting at a desk and using a computer and phone.
- In order to perform the essential functions of the job, the employee must be able to walk, bend, occasionally lift or move up to 25 pounds, operate a computer and other office equipment.
- The noise level in the national office work environment is usually low to moderate.
- Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. Travel will be required.

Reports to: President and Chief Executive Officer.

Status: Exempt.

EEO Statement:

Hydrocephalus Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Employment opportunities at Hydrocephalus Association are based upon one's qualifications and capabilities to perform the essential functions of a particular job. All employment opportunities are provided without regard to race, religion, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, leave status or any other characteristic protected by law.