UCHICAGO
URBANLABS

Science in Service
of Cities.

urbanlabs@uchicago.edu
773 834 4292

33 North LaSalle Street
Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60602

urbanlabs.uchicago.edu

Title: Implementation Manager (Research & Evaluation)
Start Date: ASAP

Who We Are

Crime remains a major policy challenge in Chicago as well as most major urban centers across the country. Worldwide, around 500,000 people are murdered annually; millions more are victims of other crimes. Crime is very regressive in its impact: crime rates, particularly for violent crimes, are higher in poor countries than rich ones, and within countries are higher for poor people than for the more affluent. Crime also exacerbates almost every other public policy problem, particularly in cities, by draining resources from other pressing needs, while driving out taxpaying residents and businesses.

The University of Chicago Urban Labs seeks to improve our understanding of how to reduce crime and violence by helping government agencies and non-profit organizations rigorously evaluate promising policies and interventions to make them as informative as possible. Our goal is to assemble a portfolio of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) to generate new evidence about what works, for whom, and why, and to conduct benefit-cost analyses of different interventions to enable policymakers to prioritize resources for the combination of strategies that achieve the greatest social good per dollar spent. Crime Lab projects evaluate ways to help make the criminal justice system more effective and fair, and try to identify tools from social policy, education, and behavioral economics to prevent crime from happening in the first place and to improve outcomes for the most disadvantaged populations.

In sum, UChicago Urban Labs:

- Identifies promising solutions to urban challenges
- Tests the most promising urban policies and programs
- Scales-up the most effective and cost-efficient policies and programs

For more information about the UChicago Urban Labs, go to http://urbanlabs.uchicago.edu/

The Role

The University of Chicago Crime Lab seeks an Implementation Manager to work on the evaluation of a large-scale intervention offering transitional employment and cognitive behavioral therapy to individuals who are at an extremely high risk for involvement in gun violence. The Implementation Manager will be involved in a variety of project components including, but not limited to, assisting local community agencies with program design, monitoring project implementation to ensure rigor and quality, serving as the primary liaison for all stakeholders, providing input on the research design from a practitioner perspective, and managing the relationships between the research team, social service providers, government agencies, and community members.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Builds and maintains strong relationships with research partners and all participating partner organizations, government agencies, nonprofits, and community groups
- Understands the political landscape of Chicago and coordinates effective collaboration between all project partners
- Coordinates provision of services with partner agencies and serves as the point person for their communication with the research team

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- Identifies and develops relationships with key players in the communities in which the intervention is being delivered
    - Engages community members in the research process and program delivery.
    - Manages expectations as it pertains to the provision of resources and delivery of services
- Travels to program sites to monitor and assess implementation
- Oversees project structure and ensures partner agencies are working within the parameters of the evaluation: holds participating vendors accountable to the guidelines of the study
- Assists in the management and communication of the randomization and participant selection processes
- Manages the agency partner's data collection process
- Provides updates and feedback on study progress to internal and external partners
- Communicates pertinent research information, project updates, and community feedback to policymakers, researchers, program providers, and other stakeholders
- Responds to media inquiries and effectively communicates program philosophy, goals, and achievements
- Understands and is able to communicate basic research methods and procedures to key stakeholders

Education
- Bachelor's degree in economics, public policy, social science, or a closely related field required.
- Training or certification in trauma-informed counseling or social work in low-income, high-violence communities, or a closely related field preferred, but not required.

Experience
- A minimum of five years of experience working in low-income communities experiencing high rates of violence
- A minimum of 5 years of experience working with or for organizations delivering social services to individuals living in disadvantaged communities
- Previous program management experience including demonstrated success navigating various stakeholder interests to produce a common goal
- Previous experience working or living in the Chicago communities in which the program will be implemented
- Previous experience working with a research study preferred.

Competencies
- Outstanding interpersonal skills and the ability to develop and maintain positive relationships with various stakeholders required.
- Strong project management skills with exceptional attention to detail required.
- Ability to work independently in a fast-paced environment required.
- Strong time management skills with a proven ability to multitask and to prioritize activities to successfully complete projects on tight deadlines with little supervision.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to present complex ideas in a simple and straightforward way for non-technical audiences required.
- Demonstrated ability to exercise sound judgment required.
- Demonstrated ability to work both independently and as part of a team.

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- Knowledge of urban policy, social policy, crime policy, and workforce development preferred.

To Apply:
Submit a resume/CV, a cover letter briefly summarizing your research interests and interest in the position, writing sample, and unofficial transcripts to https://jobopportunities.uchicago.edu requisition number **102984**.