



## NATIONAL PARENTS ORGANIZATION

### Executive Director



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National Parents Organization (NPO) is an advocacy organization leading the nationwide movement to advance the rights of children and parents by making shared parenting the norm through reform in family courts and laws across the country. NPO believes that children have a natural right to be nurtured and guided by both parents. The organization works to improve the lives of children and strengthen society by protecting every child's right to the care of both parents after separation or divorce. It seeks better lives for children by advocating for shared parenting – meaning equal rights, responsibilities and shared custody between parents – following separation, and decreasing parental alienation.

Despite widespread public and scientific support for shared parenting, courts across the country act on an outdated parenting paradigm and stereotypes that leave countless children and parents at risk. NPO believes that courts, legislatures, and related systems must be proactive in their support for more thoughtful custody arrangements, ensuring access to both parents, and advocate for the use of thoughtful conflict resolution in the areas of financial support and visitation.

Started in 1998, NPO has grown into a network of 14 state affiliates who work at the state level on lobbying, reform, and awareness building efforts. NPO is internationally recognized for a range of accomplishments, which include:

- In Missouri, a new law encouraging shared parenting which was advanced by NPO's local chapter leader Linda Reutzel. Linda and national experts were featured by print, radio, and television media outlets including NPR and CBS.
- In Kentucky, a new law advancing the presumption of 50/50 custody in the case of divorce or separation.
- Organizing and hosting the 2017 *International Conference on Shared Parenting* that brought together leading researchers and social scientists from 18 countries to share findings on the psychological, developmental, and social benefits of shared parenting.

The organization's programs focus on:

- Education and Awareness Building: collaborating with researchers, thought leaders, the media and other advocacy groups; NPO seeks to build awareness of the research-supported benefits of shared parenting and other reforms.
- Lobbying and Advocacy: NPO works to change the "default" position of laws, court orders, and social attitudes to support shared parenting and other related reforms.

- Building Affiliates: NPO identifies and engages volunteer activists who drive reform efforts at the state level. NPO supports its affiliates with national and local media, social media tools, lobbying and organizational supports, leadership development and general guidance.

After nearly 20 years of development, the current Acting Executive Director is stepping down and the organization now seeks a new leader to advance its mission and have a unique and significant impact on society.

## **THE POSITION**

National Parents Organization now seeks an ambitious and strategic advocate to lead the organization in its next phase of growth. The Executive Director will be a highly intelligent self-starter who will work with the organization's board to deepen NPO's impact and raise its public profile, cultivate new and diversified funding opportunities. NPO's leader will also identify and lead new and existing projects, build relationships with partners and communities, develop organizational systems and capacity, develop affiliates, and expand the board. The position offers a rare opportunity to grow a nimble organization with a strong national presence and unlimited potential.

Ideal candidates will be strategic, proactive, and hands on with proven leadership, fundraising, media and political savvy. Candidates should have experience in nonprofit administration and familiarity with advocacy work. Individuals must be able to represent NPO with funders, researchers, volunteers, affiliates and community officials at the regional, national, and international levels. Candidates should have demonstrated success as a leader and in building relationships with donors, legislators, researchers and more.

## **SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES**

### *Leadership & Programs*

- Collaborate with the Board to develop and drive forward a long-term organizational strategy and related goals, establishing near-term plans to support NPO's growth and strategic objectives.
- Serve as the face of NPO, working with leaders in the government and nonprofit organizations on systemic reforms. Seek and cultivate additional relationships on behalf of the organization with individuals who might serve as volunteers, advocates, donors or otherwise promote NPO's work and the people it serves.
- Oversee work with NPO state affiliates – Identify and cultivate new affiliate leaders, develop affiliate goals and provide broad support.
- Advance the dissemination of data that supports shared parenting and its benefits.

### *Board*

- Create a dynamic, collaborative partnership with the organization's national Board to advance short and long term objectives.
- Develop the Board; refine roles for existing board members, cultivate new board prospects, and consider the development of advisory board/s to supplement activities.

### *Fundraising and External Relations*

- Plan and execute a strategic, sustainable approach to raising philanthropic support from various sources with the goal of increasing private fundraising dollars.
- Collaborate with the Board, develop long-term communication/marketing strategy including press outreach and social media. Manage NPO's relationship with its consulting PR firm.

### *Financial and Administrative*

- Develop financial and strategic projections and budgets, reporting to the Board on the organization's progress. Monitor cash position, and financial statements as well as all contracts with vendors.
- Evaluate and build the NPO team roles as needed, refine and develop responsibilities and support professional development.

### **QUALIFICATIONS AND QUALITIES**

- Belief in and commitment to the mission and values of National Parents Organization.
- Minimum of 7 years of progressively responsible leadership experience in nonprofit advocacy, lobbying, politics or related field; ability to motivate and collaborate with a large group of volunteers and affiliates across a wide geography.
- Experience in national advocacy a plus.
- Experience in non-profit management; success leading and motivating a Board, encouraging collaboration, creativity, and accountability.
- Successful fundraiser and relationship builder with a track record of developing new partnerships and attracting new funding.
- Ability to compellingly articulate NPO's message to a broad range of constituents and the general public; strong oral and written communication skills.
- Ability to use, apply and embrace use of technology.
- Strong entrepreneurial instinct with the ability to drive innovation.
- Intellectual/emotional intelligence; strong analytical and conceptual mindset.
- Bachelors from an accredited college or university.

For more information on National Parents Organization, please visit [nationalparentsorganization.org](http://nationalparentsorganization.org)

### **COMPENSATION**

A competitive compensation package will be offered.

**TO APPLY:** Please submit a resume and cover letter to [NationalParentsED@drgnyc.com](mailto:NationalParentsED@drgnyc.com)

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT**

Sara Garlick Lundberg, *Search Consultant*

**DRG – Executive Search Consultants**

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*This position description is based upon material provided by National Parents Organization, an equal opportunity employer.*