



where great stories begin™

Program Specialist

Triad Area, NC

About Reach Out and Read

Founded in 1989, Reach Out and Read gives young children a foundation for success by incorporating books into pediatric care and encouraging families to read aloud together. Reach Out and Read's tens of thousands of trained pediatric providers use books as a diagnostic tool during regular check-ups, and teach parents how to engage their child with a book to promote positive parent-child interactions during the rapid brain growth between birth and age five, particularly in economically disadvantaged families who are at risk for adverse outcomes. The daily practice of reading aloud with a parent supports children's literacy and math skill development, their social-emotional development, and prepares them for future success in school. Through its national network of providers, Reach Out and Read is helping to set 4.7 million children a year on a path to a bright future, from birth.

Reach Out and Read is the only national early literacy intervention delivered through pediatric care providers. The program has been the subject of 16 independent studies, the largest body of scientific research for any psychosocial intervention in pediatrics. Research shows that children served by Reach Out and Read are read to more often, enjoy sharing books more, and have better expressive and receptive language skills.

Reach Out and Read Carolinas (RORC) has been serving children across North and South Carolina since 1998. RORC has been working as a two-state office since 2010, and today serves children in more than 500 clinical locations across the region and continues to grow. The RORC team works virtually in communities across the two-state region and is supported by a regional Advisory Board. High-quality implementation of the Reach Out and Read evidence-based model is a primary focus for the RORC team, and fidelity and impact guide our work.

To learn more about Reach Out and Read Carolinas, visit www.rorcarolinas.org.

The Impact

- Reach Out and Read program sites are located in more than 6,000 hospitals and health centers in all 50 states, Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Reach Out and Read serves more than 4.7 million children and their families annually.
- More than 7.2 million new, developmentally appropriate books are given to children annually.
- More than 32,000 medical providers currently participate in Reach Out and Read
- 16 independent studies demonstrate that Reach Out and Read parents are two-and-a-half times more likely to read regularly to their children and, as a result, children's language development is enhanced.

To learn more about Reach Out and Read, visit www.reachoutandread.org.

The Opportunity

Reporting to the Regional Program Director, the Triad Program Specialist has a unique opportunity to help shape the future direction of Reach Out and Read in the greater Greensboro, NC area. The Triad Program Specialist will be a part of early childhood systems integration work through the medical home and community.

Key Responsibilities

The primary functions of this position consist of the following:

Technical Assistance and Professional Development Support (50%):

- Maintain regular contact with programs to develop relationships with clinical and administrative staff in order to assess quality, deliver support and identify additional needs.
- Assess programs' adherence to the Reach Out and Read program model and utilize Quality Matrix.
- Create and implement technical assistance plans to support programs' efforts to reach a higher level of program quality as needed.
- Support programs' implementation of program quality improvement processes, monitor progress, and reassess, in partnership with the programs.
- Conduct site visits to programs in assigned region with a frequency appropriate for sites' identified needs and quality rating.
- Cultivate Reach Out and Read champions and advocates from among each clinic's medical providers and staff.
- Support program leaders to identify and overcome barriers that negatively impact their program's quality and sustainability.
- Ensure all programs have training processes in place for their providers, so that existing and new providers are able to provide a high-quality program
- Offer all providers ongoing professional development opportunities, and continually assess opportunities for professional development services that programs would find helpful.
- Guide new programs through the process of applying, training providers, and implementing Reach Out and Read.

Community Connectivity (30%)

- Collaborate with systems work in Guilford county to ensure the medical home is activated as a partner in support for families, including the Ready for Work, Ready for Life initiative.
- Coordinate resources and services with community partners as needed.
- Represent Reach Out and Read in community meetings and convenings.

Program Data and Reporting (10%):

- Review progress report data for assigned programs and use it to inform technical assistance plans and quality ratings for each program.
- Track and document quantitative and qualitative program data using established tools and databases.
- Provide data summaries for assigned region to support funding applications, partnership development and advocacy activities, as requested.
- Support programs in in completing and understanding/addressing barriers in processes including annual parent survey process, twice-annual progress reports, MOAs, and other required pieces.

Book Support and Funding (10%):

- Support programs in selection and ordering of books to meet the needs of their patients.
- Provide support for efficient tracking processes to support accurate data collection and reporting
- Document programs' book funding sources.
- Assist with fund development and advocacy in connection with programs (e.g. arrange Site Visits for prospective or existing donors or legislators).
- Identify programs in need of book funding support and collaborate with the Leadership Team in the allocation of funding to individual programs.

Qualifications and Experience

There are innumerable ways to learn, grow and excel professionally. We respect this when we review applications and take a broad look at the experience of each applicant. We want to get to know you and the unique strengths you will bring the work. We are most likely to be interested in your candidacy if you can demonstrate the majority of the qualifications and experiences listed below:

- Experience providing technical assistance and/or implementing professional development programs. Experience working with health care professionals to implement practice change and experience cultivating champions to lead quality improvement processes is preferred.
- Excellent customer service skills with a desire to solve problems and work with doctors, nurses and medical practices.
- Self-motivated, independent worker who functions effectively in a “virtual” work environment, while being an enthusiastic, collaborative team member. Demonstrated ability to take both initiative and direction, maintaining a focus on mission and collective team impact.
- Excellent verbal and written communications skills.
- Ability to prioritize multiple tasks, meet deadlines and adapt flexibly within a rapidly growing organization.
- Ability to effectively use electronic communications systems as primary work processes, including database systems, internet use, and MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- Access to dependable and regular transportation for frequent in-state travel.

Additional desirable qualifications (not required)

- Experience with medical practice change efforts and quality improvement processes.
- Education and/or experience within the fields of health care, early education, literacy, parenting support or related fields.
- Experience working with diverse populations and low-income communities.

Compensation and Benefits

Salary will be competitive with similar roles at non-profit organizations of a comparable size, and you will also receive a robust benefits package. We offer medical and dental insurance, 401(k) retirement plan with match, paid vacation, professional development stipend, and more.

For interested candidates, please submit cover letter and resume to Callee Boulware, RORC Regional Director – callee.boulware@reachoutandread.org.

-----**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**-----

Reach Out and Read is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, cultural heritage, ancestry, political belief, age, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability or veteran status. Reach Out and Read is compliant with the American with Disabilities Act and we are committed to making special accommodations for your interview or work as a member of our team. If specific accommodations are needed, please notify jsmerkers@positivelypartners.org and we will work to accommodate your needs.