



Director of Student & Family Services

About the GO Project

The GO Project's vision is to close the opportunity gap for all under-resourced families who have children that are struggling in their New York City public school. By providing access to coordinated, comprehensive, and effective programs, GO supports families in ensuring their child's success in school, at home, and in life.

Founded in 1968, the GO Project has a long history of serving public school children that are struggling academically. The GO Project currently serves 722 students in grades K-8 through our summer (GO Summer) and school year program (GO School). Unique to the GO Project model is the partnership we have developed with independent schools in Lower Manhattan and Brooklyn. These schools donate space and resources to the GO Project to enable us to operate our programs in a cost efficient manner. Current independent school and host site partners include Grace Church, Grace Church School, LREI, Avenues: The World School, St. Luke's, and Berkeley Carroll.

The GO Project was named a semi-finalist for the [Nonprofit Excellence Awards](#), was named one of the most effective summer program models in the United States by the [National Summer Learning Association](#), and was highlighted as an effective out-of-school time program as part of [American Graduate Day](#) on PBS. GO was also recognized for its outstanding board leadership as a finalist for the [Brooke W. Mahoney Award](#). Please learn more about our programs and outcomes at www.goprojectnyc.org.

Program Description

GO Families is a year-round component of the GO Project that is designed to support participants' social-emotional well-being and empower families to create positive learning environments at home and in school through proactively addressing various student learning and behavioral challenges.

Position Description

The GO Project is seeking a qualified Director to lead our year-round student and family support programs throughout year. The Director of Family Services will report to the Chief Program Officer and will also work closely with other members of the Program Leadership Team, including the Director of Academics and Enrichment and the Director of Community Engagement. Specifically, the responsibilities of the Director of Student & Family Services will include the following:

Program Development, Management & Evaluation

- Lead the development, coordination and facilitation of high quality family engagement programming, including workshops, classroom visits, referrals, and case management.
- Spearhead the enhancement of the organization's programming connected to the growth of our students' social-emotional health including classroom level intervention and family support services.
- In partnership with the Program Leadership Team, co-facilitate the annual student enrollment process including application collection, review, and family interviews. Determine if/how the organization can support each prospective student; Conduct in-depth intake assessment of



incoming families based on need.

- Lead the organization's Middle School and High School access, application, and transition program, GO Bridges.
- Work with other program leadership to shape family communications so that our families receive timely, accurate, and culturally competent information about programming and/or their child's progress.
- Refine systems that will enable the organization to effectively track and monitor student growth and family progress over the course of their participation.
- Provide crisis intervention, referrals, and follow up for students and their families, as needed.
- Maintain critical partnerships with public schools and other service providers to ensure that our families' needs are met through case management and referrals.
- Provide training and support to all program staff around social and emotional development, behavioral intervention, parent engagement, and working with children who have special needs.
- Provide direct support and supervision to one full-time Social Worker and a team of up to 10 part-time youth development professionals.
- Provide clinical supervision to up to two Master's level interns in partnership with MSW schools. Masters students will be responsible for facilitating the activities of the GO Families department at partner schools during the week and during GO programming on Saturdays and in the summer.

The ideal candidate is also able to clearly demonstrate GO Project Core Values:

- **Achievement.** We work together to create opportunities to unlock the potential in ourselves and in others.
- **Support Diversity.** We value the different backgrounds, talents, perspectives, and experiences of our diverse community.
- **Participate & Innovate.** We are actively engaged in the relentless pursuit of the organization's mission through our approach to the work.
- **Integrity.** We adhere to the highest standards of ethics, professionalism, and mutual respect amongst our community.
- **Responsibility.** We take accountability for ourselves, our decisions, and the people and programs that we oversee.
- **Effort & Enthusiasm.** We commit to a conscious exertion of hard work with strong excitement and motivation.

Qualifications

- LCSW with SIFI Certification or Eligibility.
- Minimum of 5 years of experience working in a youth development organization and/or school.
- Experience with a strengths-based, systemic approach to programming for children with special learning or emotional needs.
- Experience supporting families to navigate processes within the NYC Department of Education including IEPs and school applications.
- Significant capacity to serve as a coach and mentor to students and staff.
- Ability to manage relationships with a diverse set of community stakeholders including parents, teachers, school officials, service providers, and neighborhood leaders.



- Willingness to take a primary role in the daily maintenance and management of Saturdays, weekday services, and summer program.
- Must be available for a five-week summer program (Monday-Friday) as well as 22 Saturdays from October-April (During this time, the work week is Tuesday-Saturday).
- Familiarity with diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Fluency in Spanish, Mandarin or Cantonese is a plus.

Salary & Benefits

Salary based on experience. Excellent medical, dental, and vision benefits. Four weeks annual vacation + paid holidays. Pension contribution match plan. Life insurance and short- and long-term disability. All benefits are employer funded.

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for this position, please send a cover letter and resume to JBenstraum@goprojectnyc.org. In the subject, please indicate **Director of Student & Family Services**. Only eligible candidates will be contacted. No phone calls will be accepted. The GO Project values the diversity of its employees and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.