

Organization: 'r kids, Inc. (aka 'r kids Family Center)

Address: 45 Dixwell Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut 06511

Website: www.rkidsct.org

Direct Supervisor: Randi Rubin Rodriguez, Co-Founder and Executive Director

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Placement Dates: June 1, 2021 through August 13, 2021

'r kids is willing to be flexible within these parameters.

COVID has been taken into consideration with planning for offsite fulfillment of project.

Hours of Program: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. M-Th, 9 – 3 Fridays

Organization Description and Mission: 'r kids Family Center ('r kids) Now in its 24th year, 'r kids mission is permanency, safety and stability for vulnerable children and their families. 'r kids' provides strength-based, culturally competent, respectful and nurturing services to biological, kinship, foster and adoptive families in the greater New Haven region, ultimately leading to resilient successful community members, thereby stabilizing neighborhoods.

'r kids aids the CT Department of Children and Families, the state child protective services agency, as one part of the overall child protective services system. Reunification and Therapeutic Family Time (RTFT) is one of the programs designed to assist parents in reunifying with their children with approximately 90% of the families referred to 'r kids for reunification are successfully reunified.

'r kids Family Center is currently completing a major capital campaign of \$4 million to expand our facility at 45 Dixwell to more successfully serve our vulnerable children and families. The building will open in April 2021 with a Dixwell Neighborhood Open House toward the end of June 2021.

The 'r kids' tag line embodies its mission. *With each child, the world begins anew (Midrash).*

PROJECT SUMMARY: 'r kids Family Center is seeking a YPPS Fellow to produce a cost-benefit analysis report. This report is needed for 'r kids, Board and Staff to analyze programmatic decisions related to expanded space. Report will support staff and Board as they evaluate related alternatives and costs affiliated with new or modified programming and return on community investments in the organization. While we cannot put a price tag on a child's happiness and fundamental development, we can strive to utilize our resources in the most cost-effective manner for the well-being of our children and families.

Description of Project Work: This analysis will serve as a valuable tool for decision-making. The steps necessary (simplified) for this will include a session with our staff and a separate session with our Board to discuss current costs and benefits and the related comparison. Next step will

determine associated assumptions for those costs. Following this will be a process of weighing the benefits vs. the costs as they relate to alternative programming. This process will serve as a valuable tool to 'r kids as we expand our programming in our new facility while also seeking community funding support for our initiatives.

Specific Skills/Experience Required for Project: This position will require effective interaction with a wide range of internal staff and outside entities. The student will need to articulately discuss the mission and goals of 'r kids. Ideal candidates should come from the Yale School of Organizational Management, someone with a strong affinity for statistics and financial outcomes. Our perfect candidate will have that unique combination of passion for our mission and an eye for fiscal impact. They also will enjoy working with our Board and Staff through sessions to determine programming goals and outcomes.

Prior Yale PPSF Fellows at 'r kids: Previous Fellows include an intern who coded randomly selected family case files to begin the process of identifying the key factors that contribute to our demonstrably higher reunification rates. In 2014, a Yale fellow organized our library, worked with case managers on our annual summer outing and updated research for a proprietary work on reconnecting families subjected to domestic violence. Two years ago, we had a successful PPSF who worked on our development and marketing initiatives with an emphasis on photography. Interns have consistently loved this opportunity and the they learned so much about non-profits' challenges. They expressed "I never really knew New Haven families and I was not aware of the issues these children are facing." We are eager to have another summer intern.