



### **School Social Worker – Maternity Cover starting March 2023**

The Avery Coonley School is seeking an experienced, qualified, social worker for our school to cover maternity leave. The school social worker promotes students' success by providing preventative services, student assistance, a comprehensive school counseling program, social and emotional support, and also serves as a liaison with outside student counselors working with ACS students. The school social worker consults with faculty, administration, staff, and parents to enhance their effectiveness in helping students.

The full scope of the social worker position is outlined below. However, the primary role that this position will fulfill is crisis management, as well as providing individual support to the already existing caseload of students. Strong clinical/assessment skills, rapport building, communication skills, and collaboration will be essential to the success of this position. This position is very well supported by a team that includes the Lower School Head, Middle School Head, and Social Emotional Facilitator/Gifted Coordinator to problem-solve students' emotional and behavioral needs. The team will provide guidance and support to the person filling this position in navigating school systems and communication structures.

The Avery Coonley School is particularly interested in candidates who will enrich the diversity of identity, lived experience, and thinking that makes a community strong and empowers students to engage across differences.

#### **Qualifications, Skills, and Abilities:**

- Master's degree from an accredited institution. Clinical license (i.e. LCSW, LCPC) preferred.
- Three or more years of social work experience in Lower and/or Middle school and/or clinical setting.
- Excellent writing, communication, presentation, and group facilitation skills
- "Can do" attitude and ability to work as part of a team
- Ability to receive feedback and engage in continuous self-improvement
- Ability to adapt to a dynamic, rapidly changing work environment
- Ability to build positive relationships with all important constituencies
- Ability to work collaboratively and across teams, departments, and divisions
- Firm belief in personal accountability, producing measurable outcomes, and sustaining high expectations

## Duties:

- Develops and regularly updates social emotional curriculum to support the social and emotional learning (SEL) needs of ACS students in conjunction with the school gifted coordinator
- Counsel's students to help ensure student success, academically, socially, and emotionally in the ACS environment.
- Develops policies and procedures, in conjunction with the administration, to help students and families cope and remedy difficult situations (coping with divorce, death, bullying, social skills, etc.).
- Assesses the need for higher level clinical support outside of school for students experiencing mental health crises.
- Provides referrals to parents for concerns that require intervention or evaluation by an outside provider.
- Serves as liaison between outside providers and school for coordination of care in supporting students at school.
- Provides regular feedback to faculty and administration on how to best address student needs for counseling services.
- Collaborates with parents and guardians to assist ACS students with life planning and educational goals.
- Consults with and trains faculty, staff, administrators, and parents regarding children's counseling needs.
- Assesses social emotional learning needs and assists in implementing programs that support the development of social emotional competency and resilience.
- Documents students' progress and development and maintains confidential student records related to counseling cases.
- Participates in school meetings designated to address student concerns.
- Coordinates the development and communication of special student accommodations and 504-type plans as needed.
- Provides direct intervention and support to students individually, in groups, or in the classroom.
- Utilizes professional growth opportunities to maintain and develop skills.
- Supports school wide wellness programming and initiatives.
- Attends divisional and school wide meetings, as directed by supervisor.
- Builds out social/emotional programming that supports student performance from a micro (individual work with students), mezzo (providing direct and developmentally appropriate support/education to staff and families), and macro (SEL school initiatives, hosting podcast, curriculum, policy, programming) lens.
- Completes any additional tasks assigned by the Lower School Head and Middle School Head.
- Seeks professional development that supports anti-racist work and perspectives.
- Supports and affirms the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Is dedicated to the continuous growth and development of perspectives and knowledge as it pertains to diversity, inclusion, equity, and accessibility.
- Anticipated start date is March 2023 and anticipated end date is May 2023
- Position based on 32 hours/week

The statements in this job description are intended to represent the key duties, essential nature, and level of work being performed. They are not intended to be all responsibilities or qualifications of the job.

Salary is competitive and dependent upon experience and qualifications.

Please e-mail resume and cover letter to: [201710hr@averycoonley.org](mailto:201710hr@averycoonley.org)

**About The Avery Coonley School**

Located in the western suburbs of Chicago and serving 325 children from 40 communities in grades PreK to 8, The Avery Coonley School (ACS) welcomes highly motivated, high-ability learners who eagerly seek new challenges. Gifted and high-achieving students flourish in a unique and collaborative culture where the drive to learn transcends all other differences. Founded in 1906, ACS enjoys a storied place in the history of gifted and progressive education for younger students in Chicago and across the nation. Learning spaces brim with energy, project-based learning, and individual exploration. On the historic 11-acre campus, which is adjacent to a forest preserve, members of the Avery Coonley community thrive in a learning environment that allows for flexibility, creativity, and innovation.