



The BCDI-Atlanta Lifted Voices Fellowship

Lifted Voices is a multi-tiered approach designed to systematically address the programmatic needs of diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice.

The Black Child Development Institute (BCDI)-Atlanta Lifted Voices Fellowship is designed to establish a lifelong practice of inclusive leadership and commitment to social justice in professions serving young children. Fellows will participate in a variety of experiences throughout the year to build their capacity, influence and development of others to be advocates for racial equality. This includes deepening knowledge of the barriers, resources, new approaches to policy, diverse points of view, and fresh perspectives on increasing equity and access to high-quality programs. Fellows will take a deep dive into content covering the development and implementation of policies that support early education and the overall health and well-being of Black children ages 0-8 and their families.

As the demographics of young children in America are changing, thought leaders and child advocates are more concerned with how child-serving professionals must evolve to relate. With a strong commitment to racial equity, BCDI-Atlanta Lifted Voices Fellows will add diversity in areas of expertise aligned with early education. Our long term goal is to develop policy professionals throughout the state of Georgia, who more closely reflect the culture of young children being served in early care and education systems. While fellows will have the option to focus on a variety of policy areas impacting the quality of life of Black children and families, BCDI-Atlanta fellows must have strong knowledge of early childhood as a critical period in child development.

Fellows will have the opportunity to explore the impact of current policies at the local, state and national level on the lives of Black children and families. The fellowship will provide experiences to help each fellow upgrade equity practices, cultivate inclusive leadership skills, increase understanding of complex organizational systems, examine policy development and implementation, and effectively advocate for change. The BCDI-Atlanta Lifted Voices Fellowship seeks to identify passionate professionals with demonstrated leadership, community impact and an appreciation for advocacy and policy as a key lever for the lasting, transformational change Black children and families deserve and need.

Who's Eligible

BCDI-Atlanta is seeking fellowship applicants with a diverse set of experiences and demonstrated leadership. Lifted Voices Fellows will be leaders from a wide variety of professional backgrounds, including, but not limited to the health, human services, public policy, education, business, and non-profit sectors. The ideal applicant will demonstrate the following:

- ★ Knowledge of public and private organizational structures and systems
- ★ Experience in working with programs that serve children and families of color
- ★ Ability to examine policy implementation and relevant data
- ★ Demonstrated leadership experience and community impact
- ★ Strong oral communication and writing skills
- ★ Ability to motivate and influence others
- ★ Utilize research, maximize resources and analyze data to inform a variety of audiences

How to Apply

All BCDI-Atlanta Lifted Voice Fellowship applicants must complete an online application by **January 15, 2021**. All applications should include a current CV or resume. Learn more and apply at www.bcdiatlanta.org/early-care.