Position: District Lead - Madhya Pradesh, FLN Reform  
Location: Sehore/Shajapur

Founded in 2012, Central Square Foundation (CSF) is a non-profit philanthropic foundation working on the vision of ensuring quality school education for all children in India. We are driven by our mission to transform the school education system with a focus on improving learning outcomes of children, especially from low-income communities.

We believe that ensuring Universal, Early, Conceptual and Procedural Mastery of Foundational Skills is absolutely essential for the overall success of the education system. In order to achieve this, we partner with individuals and social impact organizations to bring innovative solutions in education, as well as work with the government to drive systemic impact. We collaborate with the ecosystem to leverage knowledge, build evidence and create proven tools around critical issues such as early learning, EdTech, classroom instruction methods and governance.

We also support exceptional social entrepreneurs with powerful ideas, undertake application-oriented research, provide a platform for sharing of innovation, and collaborate with other stakeholders in the ecosystem to find policy solutions - all towards enabling sustained change in India’s educational system.

CSF’s team members bring a deep sense of commitment and passion towards our collective vision that every child deserves quality education. We strive for excellence in everything we do and collaborate to create an impact as we move closer to achieving our mission. We encourage an entrepreneurial outlook that evokes new and bold ideas along with taking smart risks. CSF provides a dynamic, learning and positive environment that is driven by our strong sense of values.

Position Summary

We work in collaboration with State Education Departments to bring reform by implementing large-scale system-led projects, with the goal of improving foundational learning (FLN) outcomes in students. Our team supports the State to design and implement an integrated program which encompasses multiple aspects of a reform process - ranging from designing effective classroom pedagogy to building salience and state capacity to deliver FLN at scale, while also strengthening governance and other critical enablers. CSF has partnered with the Education Department of Madhya Pradesh on a long-term engagement for system reform and a demonstration program in selected districts.

The District Lead will work closely with the Project Manager in engaging with the respective district education offices in Madhya Pradesh for delivering Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) initiatives. S/he will support the Project Manager in the
design of the program, on-ground execution, coordination with various stakeholders (government and non-profit partners) and delivering on a roadmap for building government capacity to sustain the reform initiatives.

The District Lead will lead a team of 4-5 Field (Block) Specialists and report to the Project Manager.

Roles and responsibilities

The District Lead will be responsible for the intervention in respective district/s and will have the following key responsibilities, but not limited to:

Support program strategy and approach:

- Support Project Manager in designing program strategy and creating action plans with specific inputs from the districts and blocks
- Co-develop actionable implementation plan for the district with clear timeline, budget targets, M&E framework, along with the Project Manager
- Support in contextualizing program strategy based on on-ground learnings from the districts

On-ground implementation and monitoring:

- Lead a team of 4-5 Field (Block) Specialists to fulfill program objectives in the respective district
- Interact with key stakeholders - government departments and officials such as District Education Officials (DEOs)/District Project Coordinators (DPCs)/Block Resource Coordinators (BRCs) and others on a day-to-day basis to ensure delivery on program objectives
- Generate ownership for the program among the district officials
- Develop strong working relationships with government officials at district level and other program partners
- Ensure program is delivered as per the plan and within the budget and timeline targets
- Identify operational bottlenecks, wherever applicable and come up with solutions for the same in consultation with Project Manager
- Track program progress on key indicators according to the Monitoring & Evaluation framework during monthly meetings and throughout the project timeline
- Conduct regular field visits in the district
- Coordinate all district-level activities (trainings, review meetings) related to FLN
program
● Develop and execute community engagement plans for the districts
● Provide operational oversight to the Field Specialists and support them in communication with schools
● Identify any gaps in the operational capabilities and plan for the capacity building of Field Specialists in discussion with the Project Manager

Communication & Documentation:

● Documentation and communication of program achievements / outcomes, through concept notes, presentations, reports, etc.
● Preparing and managing documentation related to program implementation, e.g. approvals, letters, etc.
● Documentation of on-ground learnings and knowledge received from external partners to support the team’s internal capacity and knowledge building

Required Qualifications, Skills and Abilities

● A Bachelor’s degree or above, in any discipline
● At least 4-5 years of relevant work experience in development sector
● Prior experience with program implementation in a team lead role is crucial
● Prior experience in working with the government and education sector is required
● Fluency in Hindi and basic communication in English is preferred

Desired Qualities

● Excellent problem-solving and analytical skills
● Written and verbal communication
● Flexible with work timings and able to multitask efficiently
● Ability to adapt to emerging situations and work on tight deadlines
● Excellent management skills including attention to detail and multitasking skills

Compensation

Remuneration will be competitive with Indian philanthropy pay scales and will depend upon the candidate’s experience levels.

Apply

Interested candidates can click on the Application Form and fill in the required details.