CARE International Secretariat

Job Advert/Description

Position Title: Head of Global Advocacy, CARE International
Location: Semi flexible but based at a CARE member or regional office and which is a strategic location for advocacy. Preference for candidates living and working in the Global South.
Reports to: Global Director of Public Engagement & Fundraising
Supervises: 3 staff (2x Geneva and 1x in New York) with dotted line management responsibility for Brussels advocacy staff.
Travel: C. 20% of time on international travel.
Ideal Start Date: January 2017

Background

CARE International is one of the world’s leading humanitarian and development INGOs. CARE works around the globe to save lives, defeat poverty and achieve social justice. CARE’s Global Program Strategy sets out a bold and coherent vision to tackle the underlying causes of poverty and social injustice and by 2020 we will support 150 million people from the most vulnerable and excluded communities. Amongst clear roles and approaches, the strategy outlines a focus on humanitarian assistance; sexual reproductive rights and a life free from violence; food security and climate change and women’s economic empowerment.

The role of the Head of Global Advocacy is to lead the Secretariat’s function and support the Confederation’s efforts to multiply impact by using our programme expertise and proven solutions to deliver policy and practice change to improve the lives of women and girls globally. After a recent review into our Advocacy, there is an expectation that the new post holder will work with the CARE Advocacy community to reshape our output and build on our success and learnings.

In our inter-dependent structure with a lean centre, advocacy responsibilities are shared across the Confederation with line management by members, so the role will specifically be focused on providing leadership, global coherence and a global advocacy output that ensures that the whole is bigger than the sum of its parts.

The CI Secretariat provides support, coordination and global coherence to the CARE Confederation. The Secretariat is based in Geneva but 50% of its staff are remotely located at strategic places across the CARE world. The new Public Engagement & Fundraising Team brings together advocacy, fundraising and communications into one unit of thirteen dedicated professional staff plus interns. We have an exciting strategy to generate a step change in CARE’s income and influence by amplifying the confederation’s efforts to reach, engage and excite the audiences who have the power to help us deliver programme impact and deliver policy change.
The role offers an exciting opportunity to grow and build CARE’s ability to deliver on our mission as we implement our global strategy.

**Key Responsibilities and Priorities**

**Bring visionary leadership and global coherence to CARE’s advocacy – approx. 35%:**

- Provide thought leadership to support an innovative, coordinated and effective CARE advocacy programme with a focus on our four outcome priority areas and key approaches.
- Following a recent advocacy review, work with advocacy, programme and national leaders within CARE to develop a winning strategy that puts the voices of poor women, girls and their communities at the centre.
- Work closely with the CI Programme Director and Global Outcome and Approach advocacy leads to ensure that our advocacy is focused, effective and joined up and adds up to a coherent whole with true impact.
- Convene CARE’s global advocacy community to coordinate and power up our efforts, learning and development.
- Ensure CARE’s advocacy is connected and coordinated across the Confederation with a common approach and shared learning.
- Help to enable the effective use of research, knowledge and programmatic evidence to underpin, inform and strengthen policy asks.
- Support CARE to develop a wider range of advocacy approaches, including applying new technology and campaigning approaches.
- Work closely with Public Engagement teams to sharpen advocacy calls to action and improve our story telling.
- Support CARE members to develop winning public engagement campaigns that will drive real policy change and build CARE’s reputation.
- Support CARE’s fundraising and resource mobilisation strategies by developing our strong reputation with key potential funding partners.

**Policy and Representation – approx. 35%:**

- Provide senior leadership to our global presence, intelligence and relationships in key global advocacy hubs.
- Regularly represent CARE at high level fora, where appropriate and support effective representation of other key senior advocates across CARE.
- Support the Confederation to keep track of key policy trends, develop effective policy analysis and translate this into effective advocacy positions and strategies, which will offer our key targets sustainable solutions to improve the lives of poor women, girls and their communities.
- Support the Confederation to deliver powerful interventions and inputs into key global processes identified in advocacy and multiplying impact strategies that will have the ability to improve the lives of the most poor and marginalized women and girls.
- Play a key role to encourage CARE’s national advocacy effective voice and enable effective feedback loops between CARE’s national-level and global-level advocacy. There is a clear focus on developing advocacy in the Global South and working with CARE USA’s Regional Advocacy Advisors to do this.
• Lead and ensure appropriate sign-off for CARE-wide advocacy positions including within public statements and support the Confederation to balance risk, speed and effectiveness.
• Maintain a good level of understanding of relevant policy development within key contexts and actors.
• Maintain and build strategic advocacy alliances with key external partners, including peer organizations, multilateral bodies, and private sector partners.

**Best Practice and Skill Development – approx. 10%:**
• Support the Advocacy Officer to deliver a comprehensive support programme designed to embed good practice and capacity building across CARE.
• Work closely with the CARE USA Global Advocacy team and other key members to accelerate our national and regional advocacy in the Global South in line with our programme approach.
• Support the CARE Confederation to develop effective accountability measures and demonstrate impact.

**Team Management and Relationships – approx. 20%:**
• Effectively manage the Advocacy team.
• Work closely and supportively with CARE Heads of Advocacy and wider community.
• Work with the Global CEO, National Director Champion for Advocacy and Director of Public Engagement & Fundraising to support a positive and growing advocacy culture within CARE, including sharing success stories.
• Work closely with the Global Program Director and Program Team to continue to embed advocacy strategically and operationally into our programs and get needed policy-influencing evidence.
• Work closely with the Director of Public Engagement & Fundraising and the Head of Communications to develop a more integrated approach across our public engagement work.
• Link in effectively with the new Strategic Leadership Teams on Fundraising & Mobilization and Programme Quality and Impact.
• Participate in the Secretariat’s Senior Management Team.

**Person Specification**

The successful candidate should be able to demonstrate the following skills, attributes and experience:
• Degree level education (postgraduate degree level required or equivalent professional experience) with significant international advocacy experience in the international development/humanitarian/human rights sector with at least five years in a senior team leadership role.
• Solid understanding of multilateral institutions and related decision-making processes and how to influence those.
• Experience developing and implementing high impact advocacy strategies that integrate lobbying, research, media and campaigning tools in order to influence governments and other decision-making bodies.
• Advanced knowledge of humanitarian and development issues and how they play out in the significant institutions and organisations for our work and an ability to provide strong policy development and strategic analysis on
multilateral policy issues. Ideally, the candidate would be an expert on gender policy in line with CARE’s primary focus on empowering women and girls.

- Strong people and project-management skills with experience working in diverse alliances – a proven ability to build bridges and break down siloes.
- Ability to balance vision, strategy and pragmatism.
- Demonstrable experience of effectively representing complex issues before high level decision-makers, colleagues, media and the general public; strong experience with direct lobbying.
- Strong interpersonal skills that include experience with mediation, consensus-building and working well with diverse groups.
- Outstanding communications skills, including the ability to communicate effectively in writing in English in a succinct and compelling way.
- Good coordination and organization skills with an ability to prioritise and handle a large amount of information.
- Adaptability and the commitment to work within a small, flexible team.
- Ability to work under pressure to tight deadlines.
- Strong gender and diversity awareness and interest.
- In addition to fluency in English, another modern language would be desirable.
- It would be highly desirable for a candidate to have experience of living and working in a Global South context.

How to Apply:

Interested and qualified candidates should submit their CVs and a covering letter in English to cirecruitment@careinternational.org by October 14th, 2016. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.


*CARE seeks to improve the lives of the most marginalised, particularly women and girls. Our diversity is our strength. We encourage people from all backgrounds and experiences to apply.*