**Senior Officials and Office on Children and Young People Globally**

Children and young people globally are experiencing increased violence, food insecurity, learning loss, sexual abuse and exploitation, and orphanhood as a direct result of COVID-19. The pandemic remains a critical threat that has intensified violence, loss, and trauma for young people globally. Such pervasive trauma and abuse have broad health, economic, peace, and security ramifications for societies and nations at large.  The consequences of inaction are grave and can have far-reaching, long-lasting effects.

This is a vital moment for U.S. global leadership that requires a robust coordinated response. Making children and young people a top priority in U.S. foreign policy and diplomacy requires a dedicated coordinating office and senior-level officials across agencies including USAID, DOS, HHS/CDC, DOD, Peace Corps, etc. that can advance a whole of government approach.

**Office on Children and Young People Globally will:**

* Be led by a coordinator at the level of Ambassador who has a direct line to the White House and Cabinet officials
* Direct and coordinate activities across agencies
* Provide financial oversight and approval for implementing agencies
* Serve as the point of contact and liaison for senior officials across agencies
* Oversee dedicated funding for [pilot] projects to advance a whole of government strategy as well as targeted funding for various sectors including well-being, education, and prevention of sexual abuse and violence.
* Convene White House/President’s Interagency Taskforce for Children/Young People
* Liaise with and convene White House Council for Children and Youth Globally
* Report to Congress on progress and impact

**White House Director for Children & Youth Globally**

* Senior Advisor or Senior Director level
* Coordinates with White House, National Security Advisor, Domestic Policy Institute, Gender Policy Council, Office of Management and Budget, other Executive staff, as well as Cabinet level officials and Senior officials for Children & Youth at State, USAID.
* Convenes the White House/President’s Interagency Taskforce for Children/Young People, liaises and coordinates with senior officials from other agencies
* Facilitates inter-agency coordination, tracking, and reporting on budget allocations, data collection, impact measurement, and reforms needed to improve outcomes
* Supports agencies to apply the Best Interest of the Child standard, Child Impact Statements, Cross Agency Priority, and other indicators that reflect a whole-of-government approach and plan for supporting children and young people globally
* Engages civil society including the White House Council for Children and Youth in regular consultations to enhance U.S. approaches and collaborate on mutual areas of work
* Provides oversight of government-wide/cross agency budget allocations to support children and youth globally

**State and USAID Senior Officials for Children/Young People Globally:**

Structural considerations:

* Direct report to Cabinet level official at DOS and USAID
* Has sign off authority on policy and programming based on Child Impact Statement and assessment of Best Interest of the Child
* Has a direct link to the front office giving them direct access to the Secretary of State, Administrator, etc.
* Has sign-off authority and a seat at the table where decisions are made
* Has sufficient direct staff and indirect staff at Headquarters with dotted line authority to child/youth officer at every US mission
* Has sufficient independent funding to support various initiatives including pilot projects and to contribute to other desirable agency and government-wide initiatives

Duties:

* Liaise and coordinate with senior officials from other agencies
* Facilitate inter-agency coordination, tracking, and reporting on budget allocations, data collection, impact measurement, and reforms needed to improve outcomes
* Provide sign-off authority for programs, policies, and funding including for [pilot] projects
* Support agencies to apply the Best Interest of the Child standard, Child Impact Statements, Cross Agency Priority, and other indicators that reflect a whole-of-government approach and plan for supporting children and young people globally
* Engage civil society including the White House Council for Children and Youth in regular consultations to enhance U.S. approaches and collaborate on mutual areas of work
* Manage direct staff and provide instruction and support as needed to dotted-line staff in missions
* Advise on government-wide/cross agency budget allocations and manage dedicated fund to support children/young people with urgent needs as well as investments that improve outcomes over the long-term.

Qualifications and Experience:

Any nominee for this post should, at a minimum, be a champion for the participation, rights, and empowerment of children and young people. Candidates for this important post should be carefully considered and should have at least the following qualifications:

**Commitment to advancing the rights, well-being, and opportunities of children and young people**

* Commitment to working with a broad range of governments, civil society, private sector, grassroots women’s and community-based organizations that represent various backgrounds and perspectives
* Experience working in international affairs
* Proven track record working to improve the lives of children and youth globally
* Commitment to opposing all forms of discrimination and sexual violence, and to empowering vulnerable children and young people populations, including religious, racial and ethnic minorities; indigenous peoples; people with disabilities; LGBTQI; people living with HIV or AIDS; migrants, and refugees and internally displaced people.

**Understanding of U.S. foreign policy, funding, and programming**

* Knowledge of (Insert agency) and a commitment to the agency’s mission and role within the U.S. government.
* Understanding the suite of current U.S. Government strategies, legislation, and policies for or that impact children and young people such as the USAID youth policy, USAID National Action Plan on Children in Adversity, Global Child Thrive Act, etc.
* Commitment to U.S. government leadership in the global community and leveraging the UN system and other multinational institutions as a positive force for change for children and young people
* Experience in applying non-partisan research, evidence and data as the basis of setting priorities and making decisions
* Commitment to holistic programming approaches that more effectively meet the broad range of needs for children and young people.
* Ability to bring about consensus to advance shared values and interests

