

DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Congregation Kol Ami
White Plains, New York

The **Director of Early Childhood Education** is a full-time senior staff member and leader of our early childhood education team. The Director must be a passionate and compassionate educator, creative thinker, enthusiastic collaborator, thoughtful communicator and inspirational leader. The Director reports to Kol Ami's Executive Director and will work with, and with the support of, the Clergy, professional staff and lay leadership.

Our nursery school educates approximately 100 children aged 1 to 5 and has about 30 dedicated teachers and staff members. Our school is devoted to providing a comprehensive and developmentally appropriate early childhood curriculum while teaching and modeling Jewish values. Our school programs provide opportunities for play-based and experiential learning within a warm, accepting, and nurturing environment, including enriching classrooms and outdoor learning spaces. We recognize and respect each child's unique qualities and strive to foster their growth and development in all aspects; cognitive, physical, social, and emotional. We inspire our preschoolers to grow at their own pace and realize their full potential.

Our Director of Early Childhood Education will be:

A dynamic, dedicated, innovative role model and educator who is excited to dream, experiment, and build upon our excellence in early childhood education and programming. We are seeking an inspiring role model, teacher, and leader who will bring developing and innovative practices to our school.

A bright, motivated, and talented professional who will lead all aspects of the nursery school and early childhood programming. The position includes curriculum development, implementation of best practices and compliance with applicable regulations, recruitment and enrollment responsibilities, day-to-day operations, long range planning and working with professional and lay leadership to ensure continued innovation and vitality of our early education program. The Director will hire and evaluate school staff to support the mission of the school. The Director will have other congregational educational responsibilities including collaboration with the Religious School Director on meaningful and innovative early childhood programming, transition from the nursery to school to religious school and the broader Kol Ami community, and such other educational activities as serves the interests and continuing enrichment of our congregation. The Director will work with senior staff and lay leadership to develop a balanced budget that will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval.

A relationship builder and leader. The strength of our community depends on the relationships we build with children, parents and teachers. We seek a leader who loves interacting directly with children and will earn the trust and confidence of their parents, families and the community. The Director will understand the importance of thoughtful communication in building community and will demonstrate strong communication skills. Work at Kol Ami is collaborative, and it is essential that the Director be both a leader and a team player.

The ideal candidate:

- Holds a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education or equivalent (required)
- Has 5 years Early Childhood classroom teacher (preferred)
- Has 3 years Early Childhood Director experience (preferred)

- Brings new ideas and has the ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a team
- Is familiar with Jewish holidays, customs, and traditions and embraces a progressive Jewish environment
- Has excellent interpersonal, communication and organizational skills
- Effectively sets priorities and seamlessly manages multiple tasks
- Is passionate, responsible, achievement oriented, positive and engaging

This position brings with it tremendous opportunities for professional growth and the opportunity to help shape our community and the future of our children.

This is a full-time position with occasional work on weekends and evenings. The ideal start date is August 1, 2020, but the actual start date is negotiable if necessary for the right fit. Competitive salary based on experience. Employee medical, dental and vision insurance benefits are included.

To apply for this position, kindly send a cover letter and resume/cv by email with the subject line “ECE Director” to: ECEDirectorSearch@nykolami.org.

Congregation Kol Ami is a leading Reform congregation of 700 families in White Plains, New York, founded 97 years ago by parents seeking a Jewish education for their children.

At Kol Ami, our members – of every age and with diverse backgrounds and identities – are our heartbeat. Here, we cultivate relationships with family, friends, staff, and clergy. Here, we are rooted in our synagogue, in our community, in our country, and in Israel. Here, we celebrate Jewish traditions and culture, nourish our souls through music and the arts, and explore relationships with God. Here, we evolve and challenge ourselves. Here, we worship, we learn, we celebrate, we engage. Here, we practice Tikkun Olam. “Kol Ami” means “the voice of my people. Here, hear your voice.