

Position Details

Science Director

Healthy Minds Innovations

Posted: 8/15/2017

Position Type: Full-Time (Paid)

Function: Other

Primary domain: Science/Technology

City: Madison

State: Wisconsin

Postal code: 53703

Country: United States

Organization Information:

Budget:

\$3M - \$10M

Website:

hminnovations.org

Mission statement:

Our recently formed non-profit arm, Healthy Minds Innovations, Inc. (HMI), is dedicated to supporting the mission of the Center for Healthy Minds (CHM) to cultivate well-being and relieve suffering through a scientific understanding of the mind.

HMI takes the discoveries and insights gleaned from Center research and transforms them into tools and services – as well as helps manage events and public

Featured Content

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- **Designing for Transformative Scale: Global Lessons in What Works**
- **Transformative Scale: The Future of Growing What Works**

speaking engagements for the Center.

Ongoing feedback and a wider dissemination of tools will allow for larger data collection, provide refinement, generate ideas for additional research and continually inform the field of the neuroscience of well-being.

Position Details:

Job Description:

Cultivating well-being holds enormous promise for humanity. There is growing evidence that well-being impacts our health, resilience, life success, and ability to contribute to society more than any other single quality, including IQ. It is now clear that well-being is the critical link to those areas that ultimately shape the human condition – our health, environment, and societies.

Led by founder and world-renowned neuroscientist, Richard Davidson, Healthy Minds Innovations (HMI) is an early-stage, nonprofit, mission-driven organization focused on supporting the Center for Healthy Minds at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (CHM). HMI advances and disseminates tools and services developed through the research conducted at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (*Innovation Pathway*) and promotes well-being in the world (*Movement Pathway*).

HMI, in collaboration with CHM, is developing a scientifically-based program to cultivate psychological well-being via both in-person training and scalable app-based delivery. Delivering the scientific assessment features of the program to potential partners and clients, and conducting program evaluation in different settings is integral to this endeavor. The Science Director will head integration of scientific assessment into the program, design the ways in which assessment data is delivered to individual users and to organizations, and conduct program evaluation that will guide evolution. The Science Director will also manage academic collaborations with CHM leadership and scientists in accordance with the mission and vision of the Center for Healthy Minds.

What You'll Work on at Healthy Minds Innovations:

Responsibilities:

Leadership

- Provide scientific leadership on the science of well-being that informs products and services provided by HMI
- Ensure scientific integrity of HMI products and services

- Prepare scientific papers and presentations for industry and academic purposes
- Maintain current knowledge of broad field relevant to company and bring current insights back to team (engage in literature review and attend relevant conferences)
- Provide speaking engagements on the science of well-being
- Embody HMI's core values

Design, Implementation & Engagement

- Liaise with the Science Director at CHM to integrate scientific assessment into the Healthy Minds Program and to manage the academic research partnership. Advise CHM on strategic areas of assessment and research that are important in a specific setting.
- Collaborate with CHM science team to design ways in which assessment data delivered to individual users and to organizations, and lead implementation of these designs
- Design tracking of key metrics related to program evaluation, user experience, and commercial success
- Work with the leadership team to tailor implementations to workplace settings and develop best practices for program implementation in this setting. As program expands, develop best practices in other settings, including healthcare and school settings.
- Generate implementation insights that can be scaled across organizations and research studies (e.g., recruitment and implementation methods)
- Contribute relevant expertise, especially pragmatics of implementation, to CHM research studies focused on novel and large-scale implementations

Data Management, Analysis & Reporting

- Contribute to and create program operational processes that result in sharable and replicable standards, protocols, procedures, and other appropriate resources
- Oversee HMI data management, data sharing between HMI & CHM, and compliance with terms of use and research IRB
- Direct data analysis in the service of program improvement and decision-making
- Ensure data received by users and organizations is accurate and valid
- Manage analytic tools through which customers receive data and reports

Customer Relationships and Communication

- Communicate the value of scientific assessment and research features of the program to potential partners and clients. Assist customers with understanding what they want to measure.
- Scope research projects with customers and coordinate with CHM to design specific research studies. Manage these research partnerships with customers as they evolve.
- Support business development team in the development of implementation and service related materials to support sales
- Contribute to the Neuroscience and Well-being Consortium

Teamwork

- Collaborate with HMI team, particularly the Healthy Minds Program team
- Collaborate with Chief Development Officer on funding partnerships
- Maintain a positive working relationship with external stakeholders

Qualifications:

What You've Accomplished:

- PhD in Psychology, preferably in Industrial-Organizational Psychology, Health Psychology, or Clinical Psychology
- 2-4 years work experience following post-doctoral fellowship or equivalent
- Demonstrated track record of publications in behavioral health, digital interventions, mHealth, and/or implementation science
- Demonstrated ability in research study design and successful execution of research studies in the behavioral health, behavioral medicine and well-being space
- Experience with multi-dimensional data organization, visualization, and statistical analysis; conducting data analysis in the service of program evaluation
- Passion for the mission to cultivate well-being and relieve suffering
- Self-motivated; demonstrated ability to work both independently and collaboratively with other scientific and non-scientific colleagues as well as community stakeholders.
- Excellent communication, project management, and managerial skills, and preference for a highly collaborative work atmosphere.
- Eligible to work in the US

- Be willing to work out of our Madison, Wisconsin office—this is not a remote position

Benefits:

Salary is commensurate with qualifications. HMI offers an extensive benefits package.

Salary:

Commensurate with Experience

Posting Expiration Date:

10/14/2017

How to Apply:

If you're excited by the idea of seeing yourself in this role at Healthy Minds Innovations, please apply with your CV and a cover letter that best expresses your interest and unique qualifications. Please send to Chelsea Petersen at wellbeing@hminnovations.org

The Center for Healthy Minds

The Center for Healthy Minds has an unusual and visionary mission, as previously stated. It envisions a kinder, wiser, more compassionate world as a result. CHM realizes this vision by conducting novel research on the neuroscience of well-being, disseminating research-based tools designed to build skills that cultivate well-being; communicating these findings to the world; engaging people in nurturing well-being for themselves and others; and inspiring/igniting more research and a shift in culture to support practices that cultivate well-being.

The Center for Healthy Minds at the University of Wisconsin-Madison was founded and is led by world-renowned neuroscientist Richard J. Davidson. It is conducting novel research that has revolutionized how we understand the mind, our emotions, and how to nurture well-being for ourselves and others.

In 1992, the Dalai Lama personally challenged Dr. Davidson to investigate how well-being could be nurtured through these amazing insights from neuroscience. His Holiness believes that "All humans have an innate desire to overcome suffering and find happiness." This launched a robust series of research studies and new discoveries have emerged about how the mind works and how well-being can be cultivated.

Since then Dr. Davidson and his team have made remarkable progress, publishing more than 300 scientific articles and leading the world in this field of research. No other organization has the visionary leadership, immense body of successful research to build upon, over \$15 million of neuroimaging technology, and the tremendous infrastructure and reputation of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, one of the world's top learning institutions.

CHM is the voice to tell the story around the world about what is likely the most hopeful, compelling, and promising message of our time: that you can learn well-being, be happier and suffer less.

The Ten-Year Vision

A turning point occurred in 2012 when a generous philanthropist made a significant investment in the Center to build infrastructure and enhance financial sustainability. A three-year strategic business plan was developed and executed. Over 60 new scientific discoveries emerged, financial stability improved dramatically, and millions of people were impacted by a substantial body of evidence supporting the novel idea that well-being can be learned.

This progress provided a springboard to reflect on the true potential that CHM could contribute to the larger movement toward a kinder, more compassionate world. This inspired deep dialogue among the leadership team, advice from generous and wise experts, and conversations with internal staff and external partners. The result of this discovery process was the creation of a *Ten-Year Vision* that is bold, audacious, and inspiring. Over the next ten years, CHM will pursue research questions that could revolutionize how we understand the mind and how well-being can be cultivated and scaled.

Following enthusiastic support and endorsement of the *Ten-Year Vision* by a wide range of stakeholders, a new *Five-Year Strategic Business Plan* was developed. It includes a robust research agenda, as well as the creation of a new nonprofit entity (Healthy Minds Innovations, Inc.), to support the development and dissemination of tools derived from the research, and a global public awareness strategy aimed at promoting well-being in the world.

Three Pathways

The objective of the *Five-Year Strategic Business Plan* is to create a sustainable organization that will meet CHM's mission. There are three pathways that lead to accomplishing this objective:

Research Pathway: Research is at the core of what CHM contributes to the greater movement toward a kinder, more compassionate world. It is the findings from CHM's rigorous research that result in discoveries about the mind and how to cultivate well-being. It is this scientific evidence that informs and generates a shift

in knowledge that is necessary to apply the findings to major institutions in our society.

Innovation Pathway: This pathway provides the tools to learn how to cultivate well-being. The interventions developed and tested in the translational research projects – along with the insights gleaned from the basic research – result in a portfolio of products and services that can be disseminated. Revenues generated by these innovations are reinvested in the research.

Movement Pathway: This pathway focuses on promoting well-being through robust communication/marketing/public health strategies, building awareness, and public will. It focuses on shifting the belief that “exercise to nurture our minds” will be embraced in the same way that physical exercise is – and becomes a part of our daily routine.

A new organizational structure is being initiated to accelerate progress on each of these pathways:

- The Research Pathway will continue to be supported at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is referred to as the Center for Healthy Minds-UW Madison (CHM UW).
- The Innovation and Movement Pathways require a new organizational structure that is more agile, able to attract the critical expertise and garner the resources required for the dissemination of products and services to develop and promote well-being. A new nonprofit entity has been developed and is named Healthy Minds Innovations, Inc. (HMI)

Healthy Minds Innovations, Inc.

Healthy Minds Innovations, Inc. (HMI) is a nonprofit entity designed to provide support for the Center for Healthy Minds at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. HMI is newly created out of CHM’s *Five-Year Strategic Business Plan (FY2016-FY2020)* for the purpose of funding the CHM mission, establishing an innovation enterprise, building the movement, engaging a network of partners and collaborators, and building capacity to house product development/innovation, communications/engagement, and development.

HMI will have responsibility for advancing the Innovation and Movement Pathways, as described above.

Leadership

Dr. Richard J. Davidson

Founder

The Center for Healthy Minds at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dr. Davidson is best known for his groundbreaking work studying emotion and the brain. A friend and confidante of the Dalai Lama, he is a highly sought after expert and speaker, leading conversations on well-being on international stages, such as the World Economic Forum, where he serves on the Global Council on Mental Health. *Time Magazine* named Davidson one of “The 100 Most Influential People in the World” in 2006.

His research is broadly focused on the neural bases of emotion and emotional style, as well as methods to promote human flourishing, including meditation and related contemplative practices. His studies have centered on people across the lifespan, from birth through old age. In addition, he’s conducted studies with individuals with emotional disorders, such as mood and anxiety disorders and autism, as well as expert meditation practitioners with tens of thousands of hours of experience. His research uses a wide range of methods including different varieties of MRI, positron emission tomography, electroencephalography, and modern genetic and epigenetic methods.

Davidson has published hundreds of scientific papers and is the author, with Sharon Begley, of *The New York Times* bestseller "The Emotional Life of Your Brain" published by Penguin in 2012. He has been featured widely in popular media, including the Today Show, ABC’s Nightline, National Public Radio, *National Geographic Magazine*, *Time Magazine*, *Newsweek*, *O: the Oprah Magazine*, PBS’s The Charlie Rose Show, *Harvard Business Review*, and additional national and international news outlets.

Davidson is the William James and Vilas Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry and the Director of the Waisman Laboratory for Brain Imaging and Behavior – both at the University of Wisconsin–Madison where he has been a faculty member since 1984. Throughout his career, he has published more than 300 articles and 80 chapters/reviews, as well as edited 14 books.

Education

- Ph.D., Harvard University, Psychology, Psychopathology, Psychophysiology with minor focus in Behavioral Neurology and Neuroanatomy
- B.S., New York University, Psychology

Awards

- National Institute of Mental Health Research Scientist
- MERIT Award from the National Institute of Mental Health
- Established Investigator Award from the National Alliance for Research in Schizophrenia and Affective Disorders (NARSAD)
- Distinguished Investigator Award from NARSAD
- William James Fellow Award from the American Psychological Society
- Hilldale Award from the University of Wisconsin–Madison

- Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award, the most distinguished award for science given by the American Psychological Association
- Mani Bhaumik Award by University of California, Los Angeles; first recipient for advancing the understanding of the brain and conscious mind in healing
- Paul D. MacLean Award for Outstanding Neuroscience Research in Psychosomatic Medicine
- NYU College of Arts and Science Alumni Achievement Award
- *Madison Magazine* Person of the Year

Scientific Contributions and Affiliations

- Founding Co-Editor, American Psychological Association journal
- Past-President, Society for Research in Psychopathology
- Past-President, Society for Psychophysiological Research
- Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- Fellow, Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters

Board Affiliations

- Board President, Healthy Minds Innovations
- Scientific Advisory Board Member, Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences in Leipzig, Germany
- Board Member and Fellow, The Mind & Life Institute
- Advisory Board Member, Search Inside Yourself Leadership Institute

Location

Madison, WI

Madison is the capital of the State of Wisconsin, and as of July 1, 2015, its estimated population of 248,95 made it the second largest city in Wisconsin, after Milwaukee, and the 84th largest in the United States.

The city is sometimes described as “The City of Four Lakes.” Nearby the Yahara River flows into the Rock River, which, in turn, flows into the Mississippi River. Downtown Madison is located on an isthmus between Lakes Mendota and Monona. The city's trademark of "Lake, City, Lake" reflects this geography.

The main downtown thoroughfare is State Street, which links the University of Wisconsin campus with the Capitol Square, and is lined with restaurants, espresso cafes, and shops. Only pedestrians, buses, emergency vehicles, delivery vehicles, and bikes are allowed on State Street.

On Saturday mornings in the summer, the Dane County Farmers' Market is held around the Capitol Square, the largest producer-only farmers' market in the country. On Wednesday evenings, the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra performs free concerts on the capitol's lawn. The Great Taste of the Midwest craft beer festival, established in 1987 and the second longest running such event in North America, is held the second Saturday in August every year.

During the winter months, sports enthusiasts enjoy ice-boating, ice skating, ice hockey, ice fishing, cross-country skiing, and snowkiting. During the rest of the year, outdoor recreation includes sailing on the local lakes, bicycling, and hiking. Madison was named the number one college sports town by *Sports Illustrated* in 2003. In 2004, it was named the healthiest city in America by *Men's Journal* magazine. Many major streets in Madison have designated bike lanes, and the city has one of the most extensive bike trail systems in the nation.

In 2009, Madison ranked No. 2 on *Newsmax* magazine's list of the "Top 25 Most Uniquely American Cities and Towns," a piece written by CBS News travel editor Peter Greenberg. In 2005, Madison was included in Gregory A. Kompe's book, *50 Fabulous Gay-Friendly Places to Live*. The Madison metro area has a higher percentage of gay couples than any other city in the area outside of Chicago and Minneapolis.

Madison's vibrant music scene covers a wide spectrum of musical culture. Several venues offer live music nightly, spreading from the historic Barrymore Theatre and High Noon Saloon on the east side to small coffee houses and wine bars. During the summer, the Memorial Union Terrace on the University of Wisconsin campus, offers live music five nights a week, and the city hosts many music festivals.

Art museums include the UW–Madison's Chazen Museum of Art (formerly the Elvehjem Museum), and the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, which annually organizes the popular Art Fair on the Square. Madison also has many independent art studios, galleries, and arts organizations.

The Madison Opera, the Madison Symphony Orchestra, Forward Theatre Company, the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, and the Madison Ballet are some of the professional resident companies of the Overture Center for the Arts. The city is also home to a number of smaller performing arts organizations, including a group of theater companies that present in the Bartell Theatre, a former movie palace renovated into live theater spaces, and Opera for the Young, an opera company that performs for elementary school students across the Midwest.

The largest employers in Madison include the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics. The University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics is an important regional teaching hospital and regional trauma center, with strengths in transplant medicine, oncology, digestive disorders, and endocrinology.

Madison is home to companies such as Spectrum Brands (formerly Rayovac), Alliant Energy, the Credit Union National Association (CUNA), MGE Energy, and Sub-Zero & Wolf Appliance. Insurance companies based in Madison include American Family Insurance, CUNA Mutual Group, and National Guardian Life.

Technology companies in Madison include Google, Microsoft, Broadjam, a regional office of CDW, Full Compass Systems, Raven Software, and TDS Telecom. Biotech firms include Panvera (now part of Invitrogen). The contract research organization Covance is a major employer in the city. Oscar Mayer has been a Madison fixture for decades, and was a family business for many years before being sold to Kraft Foods.

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