



Position: The Radical Imagination Fellowship

Collaboration: CDF-CA staff, peers, and community partners

Supervision: CDF-CA's senior manager of youth development

Hourly Range: \$20 per hour

Number of Hours/Week: up to 10 hours per week (Hybrid, 90% Remote)

Organization Overview

Children's Defense Fund (CDF) envisions a nation where marginalized children flourish, leaders prioritize their well-being, and communities wield the power to ensure they thrive.

Children's Defense Fund builds community so young people grow up with dignity, hope, and joy. We serve and advocate for the largest, most diverse generation in America: the 74 million children and youth under the age of 18 and 30 million young adults under the age of 25, with particular attention to those living in poverty and communities of color.

CDF partners with policymakers, aligned organizations and funders in this service.

Children's Defense Fund is the only national, multi-issue advocacy organization working at the intersection of child well-being and racial justice by wielding the moral authority of programmatic proximity and community organizing to inform public policy. For more information visit www.childrensdefense.org.

Position Summary

Children's Defense Fund–California (CDF-CA) seeks Los Angeles-based individuals with lived experience in the foster care system to join the **Radical Imagination**

Fellowship. The fellowship will convene a team of confident rising leaders prepared to collaboratively activate their radical imagination to ensure a better now and future for foster care-impacted youth in Los Angeles.

Radical imagination sees the world not as it is, but as it could be...Radical imagination does not blindly accept the status quo, it recognizes that the world can and should change. And how the world could be is not simply better, it's radically different. Radical imagination is the courage to envision a future that is completely unlike the world we have today. - Everyday Activism Network

Individuals selected to join the fellowship will collaborate with CDF-CA staff, peers, and community partners to achieve the following:

1. Co-produce CDF-CA's Radical Imagination Fellowship podcast
2. Lead Story Map Workshops supporting Foster Care-Impacted Youth and Transition-Age Youth (TAY) in navigating their K-12 academic journey
3. Co-produce CDF-CA's 2025 Child Watch, CDF-CA's annual child advocacy convening

Schedule and Reporting

Fellows will report directly to CDF-CA's senior manager of youth development. **The fellowship will run weekly from March 17–September 30, 2025.** Schedules will be determined based on selected applicants' availability.

Responsibilities

- **Co-produce a three-episode podcast** focused on issues impacting foster care-impacted youth and transition-age youth.
- **Co-produce Child Watch**, CDF-CA's annual child advocacy event.
- **Co-lead story map workshops**, helping amplify youth voices through storytelling.
- **Support research and data analysis** on issues affecting transition-age youth (TAY) and foster care-impacted youth.
- **Attend at least three *CDF Freedom Schools* events** to engage with youth and community leaders.
- **Participate in and lead collaborative discussions** with peers, CDF-CA staff, youth, and community partners.
- **Complete weekly program impact evaluations**, and a pre/post-program evaluation.

Eligibility Requirements

- Be **between the ages of 18–25** and currently or formerly impacted by the foster care system.
- € **Available for up to 10 hours per week from March–September 2025.**
- € **Commit to full participation** in weekly workshops and meetings from **March–September 2025.**
- € Available to participate virtually and in-person.

Qualifications

- € **Visionary and creative thinker**, ready to explore bold ideas and drive social transformation for **transition-age youth (TAY) and foster care-impacted youth**.
- € Possess a **strong interest in podcast production** and on-air hosting.
- € Comfortable with **public speaking** and enthusiastic about working in group settings.
- € **Genuine curiosity about data** and how it can be used to create change.
- € **Experience executing successful collaborative projects**.
- € Familiar with **New Media tools**, including TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, Threads, BlueSky, and Twitch.
- € **Proficient in Microsoft Office** (Word, Excel, PowerPoint).
- € **Highly organized, efficient, and able to multitask** while meeting deadlines.
- € Exhibit a **positive attitude, professionalism, and strong communication skills** (both written and verbal).

Type of work environment associated with the job

- Collaborative
- Fast-paced
- Supportive
- Challenging
- Rewarding
- Hybrid (90% remote) and indoor, office setting
- Travel (local to Los Angeles)