



Engaging, Managing, and Bonding through Race

ORGANIZATION/PROJECT SUMMARY:

Are you passionate about the mental health of Black families? Do you want to work with a team that takes pride in addressing the challenges that racial discrimination have on the mental health of families? If so, become a Student Intern/Research Assistant with the Engaging, Managing, and Bonding through Race (EMBRace) Program in the Columbia School of Social Work. Led by Dr. Riana Anderson, our team conducts community-engaged public health research, culturally competent programming, and family bonding skills building, with African American families. EMBRace is a family program that brings parents and their children together for conversations on race, cultural pride, discrimination, and stress management in an effort to reduce parent and adolescent racial stress, promote bonding for families, and improve adolescent psychological well-being.

This position offers hands-on experience in research and program implementation, including qualitative and quantitative research methods, community engagement, literature review, data management and analysis, and the development of culturally responsive resources.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the supervision of the Program Coordinator, the Research Assistant will assist the team with several projects including:

- Supporting **family recruitment and participant engagement**
- Engaging directly with youth and caregivers in a professional, welcoming, and culturally responsive manner
- Participating in **community outreach and recruitment**, including tabling, flyer, and outreach events
- Building and maintaining relationships with **community partners and organizations in Harlem**
- Attending and supporting **in-person community events**
- Coordinating meetings and communication with community partners
- Assisting with communication, social media, and graphic design
- Transcribing qualitative interviews
- Conducting qualitative and observational coding
- Supporting qualitative and quantitative data analysis (training provided as needed)
- Conducting literature reviews and preparing research summaries
- Developing resources and materials for community partners and families
- Assisting with grant writing, manuscripts, and other research products
- Supporting EMBRace program sessions and related activities
- Other research and program tasks as needed

QUALIFICATIONS AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be highly motivated, professional, reliable, and detail-oriented
- Strong communicators with good interpersonal skills
- Comfortable engaging with youth, caregivers, community members, and organizational partners
- Able to manage multiple responsibilities and meet deadlines
- MSW or undergraduate student in social work, psychology, education, or related field
- Experience working with African American communities is desired but **not required**

POSITION DETAILS:

- **10-20 hours per week**
- Hybrid position with both remote and in-person responsibilities

- Meet with the EMBRace team **once or twice per week**
- **Required availability from approximately 4:00-6:00 pm or 6:00-8:00 PM on at least two weekdays per week** to support the intervention
- Flexibility to attend weekly in-person community events and outreach activities is expected
- Community-facing responsibilities may include tabling, flyer, recruiting families, and developing relationships with community partners
- Location: **Columbia School of Social Work and community sites in Harlem**

WHAT YOU WILL GAIN

This position provides hands-on experience with:

- Community-engaged research
- Family-based mental health programming
- Qualitative and quantitative research methods
- Participant recruitment and engagement
- Community outreach and partnership development
- Qualitative and observational coding
- Grant writing and academic writing
- Working with youth and families in community settings

TO APPLY: Send your resume and cover letter to Fardowsa Dahir, fd2618@columbia.edu, with the subject line “Research Assistant Application”.