

# Teach For America and Lighthouse Academies

TEACHFORAMERICA

Leading with integrity and persistence to close the achievement gap

**We are actively recruiting highly qualified Teach For America alumni into Regional Director, Principal, Director of Instruction and Teacher Leader Fellow positions at Lighthouse Academies schools across the country.**

## WHO ARE WE?

Lighthouse Academies (LHA) is a nonprofit network of charter schools offering a high quality, urban education option to families who have been underserved historically. Our mission is to prepare students for college through a rigorous arts-infused program. Our vision is that all students will be taught by an outstanding teacher in a nurturing environment and will achieve at high levels. Each student will develop the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for responsible citizenship and life-long learning. The impact of our collaborative efforts will fundamentally change public education.



### Our daily actions and expectations of our students reflect our four core values:

- » Work hard. Get smart. Graduate from college.
- » High expectations equal results.
- » Nothing less than excellence.
- » Today is the day we make it happen.

## WHERE ARE WE?

Lighthouse Academies is committed to opening K-12 schools in urban areas that serve families who have limited or no access to quality schools and opportunities. We currently have 10 schools on 11 sites. Our expansion plan is to continue growing organically at each school and to add new sites within our existing regions.

### You can lead and teach in a LHA school in one of the following areas:

- » **New York:** Bronx
- » **Indiana:** Indianapolis, Gary and East Chicago
- » **Washington, DC**
- » **Ohio:** Cleveland
- » **Illinois:** Chicago

## WHAT DO WE OFFER?

- » **College focus:** It is our job to make college an attainable goal for all of our scholars; building the skills and knowledge necessary starts as early as kindergarten.
- » **Arts-infusion:** A powerful approach to teaching that enhances student learning and increases student engagement. Schools partner with community arts organizations for professional development and to bring the arts to life in all core subjects.
- » **Standards-driven, rigorous research-based programs:** Our education model is anchored in grade level mastery objectives and state standards. High quality curricular programs, such as Open Court Reading® and Saxon Math®, provide the foundation for instruction and enable our scholars to meet LHA learning standards.
- » **Complete solution:** LHA serves scholars in grades K – 12, allowing significant time to build strong relationships with families, as well as meet high expectations for learning.
- » **Assessment to drive instruction:** Ongoing standardized and curricular assessments are used to determine individual needs of our scholars, to measure progress, and to build a culture of achievement.
- » **Professional development:** Significant time is devoted to intensive professional development both before and during the school year; there are a minimum of 20 professional development days including a week-long, summer Network Summit.
- » **Social curriculum and SHINE:** LHA believes the social curriculum is as important as the academic curriculum. Our SHINE Character Education Program reinforces the set of qualities that all children need to be successful: Self-Discipline, Humility, Intelligence, Nobility, and Excellence.

**Data indicates that LHA is making ground in closing the achievement gap as measured by the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) that is administered three times per year to all scholars in our network in reading, writing and math. The 2007-2008 data indicates:**

- » 100 percent of our schools achieved the LHA academic goal to gain 12 RIT points in reading and in math.
- » 100 percent of LHA schools increased the rate of growth in reading and math compared to the previous year.
- » Reading gains increased 58 percent and math gains increased 23 percent compared to the previous year.

### **SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AT LHA**

Currently 55 percent of all school leadership positions are filled with Teach For America alumni. The primary leadership opportunities in our model are as follows:

- » **Regional Director:** Oversees a cluster of schools and works closely with the school leaders to implement the LHA program
- » **Principal:** Instructional, strategic and operational leader
- » **Director of Instruction:** Instructional leader and coach of teaching and learning
- » **Teacher Leader Fellow:** Masterful teacher in training to become an instructional leader at LHA

Another way to lead at LHA is to serve on a Board of Trustees. Board opportunities involve local school boards, the LHA national board or on an initiative-driven board such as the newly founded board of the LHA Scholarship Fund.

### **WHAT DO WE LOOK FOR IN SCHOOL LEADERS?**

Lighthouse Academies leaders are more than just managers. They help transform children's lives by creating opportunities for a brighter future. LHA school leaders are responsible for ensuring all of our students achieve high levels of success. We are seeking school leaders who will make the commitment to lead with determination, integrity and purpose, embodying these essential qualities:

- » A commitment to the LHA mission, vision and core values as shown through past experiences and actions
- » A passion and ability to build and sustain the LHA K-12 model in a high-need, urban environment
- » A sense of urgency and the relentless pursuit of high academic achievement
- » Reflection, self-awareness, and adaptability to the communication styles of others
- » An ability to take initiative and possess critical thinking and problem solving skills
- » A belief in the power of working together to build a collaborative culture among students, parents, community and LHA network members

### **HOW TO APPLY?**

To view all available positions within our network by location, please visit the "Careers" section of our website found at [www.lighthouse-academies.org/careers.htm](http://www.lighthouse-academies.org/careers.htm). All applicants must complete an on-line application through our website in order to be considered. For more information, please contact Matthew Gallup, Executive Recruiter at [mgallup@lighthouse-academies.org](mailto:mgallup@lighthouse-academies.org) or at 800-901.6943 x22.

**“Understand what it means to have relentless pursuit of results and a sense of possibility. I would argue that as education is in a state of emergency we are seeking new leaders that are beholden to vigorously fighting for the youth that so many have given up on. We have to ‘be the change we seek.’ We cannot complain from an armchair. Get your hands dirty. Call out the pink elephant. Say what others will not. Our work demands boldness.”**

—Agnes Aleobua, Miami-Dade '05  
Director of Instruction, Cleveland Lighthouse Community School

**TODAY IS THE DAY YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN...LEAD AT LIGHTHOUSE ACADEMIES!**

