

# FFTA



## EMERGING BLACK LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

### *About the Program*

FFTA's Emerging Black Leaders Scholarship is designed to support pathways to leadership for emerging Black leaders. Five scholars will be selected to receive this prestigious scholarship in 2024.

#### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Scholars will gain knowledge from sector leaders from across the country.
- Scholars will have the opportunity to network and engage with other leaders to showcase their own skills, knowledge and expertise.
- Scholars will develop a peer network from across the sector, who will be a future support in sharing resources, building resiliency and navigating career challenges & opportunities.
- Scholars will infuse their ideas and suggestions into future conference planning in a way that improves the overall conference experience.

#### CORE PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Applications received & reviewed with awardees selected by panel comprised of leaders within the FFTA Community.
- Pre-Conference virtual Meet & Greet, including overview of conference events, activities and expectations.
- Conference components and activities:
  - Curated list of workshop sessions aimed at advancing leadership curiosity, skill and knowledge.
  - In-person Meet & Greet with other scholars, EBL liaisons and FFTA Leadership.
  - Dinner/off-site activity for scholars and EBL liaisons.
  - Attendance at Board of Directors/Key Partners/Sponsor Networking Reception.
  - Recognition at Conference Luncheon.
  - Post-Conference Webinar to: 1) Debrief & learn from scholars' conference experience. 2) Share with scholars a curated set of free leadership-focused professional development resources for use on their own time in the future. 3) Share ways scholars can continue connections to the broader FFTA Community to support their leadership/career advancement.

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### *Eligibility*

- Individuals who self-identify as Black or African American
- A staff person of a Full or Affiliate FFTA Member Agency

### DEFINING EMERGING LEADERS

“Emerging Leaders” represent a diverse workforce with a range of responsibilities, areas of focus and job titles, just as the array of FFTA member agencies are diverse in size, scope, geography and services provided. For example, in a smaller agency an individual may have a “Director” title of a program, with a similar scope of responsibility to a Supervisor or Manager at a larger agency. Therefore, job titles will not be utilized as a sole determinant of eligibility for the scholarship program. As such, emerging leaders may work in any department within an organization and hold nearly any title in the organization’s hierarchy. Candidates should have 2-5 years of professional experience in the human service sector in their corresponding field of work, yet in support of the “emerging leader” concept, candidates should be in non-management/supervisory positions, a relative newcomer to management or supervision roles, or an aspiring senior leader within the field.

### CHARACTERISTICS/MINDSET OF IDEAL CANDIDATE

- Intellectually curious about systemic issues in child welfare and behavioral health
- Has aspirational career goals and seeks a professional path with successive steps toward a senior leadership role in the human services sector
- Seeks out and identifies new, innovative solutions to existing organizational or sector challenges
- Enjoys working collaboratively and seeks partnerships with others, even those in different areas of focus, to make improvements or accomplish shared goals
- Seeks greater organization and sector learning, as well as responsibility outside of their “home” department or specific field
- Understands the value of and can conceptualize systemic approaches to solving problems
- Embraces the use of data, science and research in decision-making
- Is eager to examine public policy impact on child and family serving systems
- Is a courageous advocate for fair as well as equitable child and family service systems and driven to lead in making changes to reduce harmful racial disparities and disproportionality in child-serving systems
- Seeks to understand the lived experience of those receiving child and family services
- Brings a positive spirit and hopeful, determined vision for growth and change to their work

### SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT COMMITMENTS

- Actively and fully participate in the Annual FFTA Conference in its entirety, being held in person July 7-10, 2024 at the Hyatt Regency Denver
- Attend and actively participate in designated on-site activities and leadership track workshops
- Attend and participate in 2 ninety-minute Cohort Webinars with other scholarship recipients. One will occur before the conference and the second will occur post-conference (dates to be announced)

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### *Application*

Before completing the scholarship application, please assess your eligibility by reviewing the Eligibility Requirements provided within this application, as well as your willingness to fulfill the Scholarship Recipient Commitments. By submitting this application, you confirm that you have the support of your supervisor and agency to participate in the scholarship program and make the required commitments.

The scholarship provides a conference registration, hotel room at the conference hotel checking in 7/7/2024 and checking out 7/10/2024, and up to \$800 towards related travel costs.

Applications are due by Friday, April 5th. Scholarship recipients will be selected and notified by April 26, 2024.

Submit your application via Survey Monkey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/92K9MNT>