

GoodCitizen

World Savvy
Chief Executive Officer
Minneapolis (Twin Cities) & Midwest Preferred

About World Savvy

World Savvy educates and engages youth to learn, work, and thrive as responsible global citizens. As a leading national education nonprofit, World Savvy is working to transform teaching, learning, and culture in K-12 public education so all students can learn, work, and thrive in our rapidly changing world as globally competent citizens.

At a time when 85% of today's grade-schoolers will hold jobs that do not exist yet, World Savvy's work has never been more critical. Using their Global Competence Matrix, World Savvy's unique systems change approach holistically supports the integration of global competence into student learning, teacher training and capacity, and school and district leadership to build inclusive, equitable, and future-ready schools.

With over 20 years of experience working to help create future-ready education, World Savvy has launched its most ambitious initiative to date: Through the [We Must Imagine Campaign](#), World Savvy has a goal of reaching 10,000 schools and 5 million students by 2035.

With an annual operating budget of \$8- \$9 million, World Savvy blends philanthropic funding with earned revenue from partnerships with schools and districts. They employ 30 staff and are growing. Governance is provided by 11 dedicated Board of Directors. World Savvy is headquartered in Minneapolis, with staff currently in the Twin Cities and northern California.

To learn more about World Savvy, visit www.worldsavvy.org.

The Opportunity

This is an exceptional opportunity for a proven executive to take the helm of a national organization that is creating future-ready learning environments that adequately prepare students for a diverse, complex, and ever-changing world. This is an opportunity for a leader who is excited by the prospect of building, fast learning and action, and big year-over-year expectations for expanding the impact of an organization that is already doing important work to reimagine education. The work that lies ahead for World Savvy includes growing into new U.S. regions to develop new partnerships to reach more students and continuing to shift the discourse around what constitutes quality education in the United States.

This is an important moment for World Savvy as it goes through its first-ever executive leadership transition. The Co-Founder and CEO, Dana Mortenson, has grown a highly regarded organization that is making a mission-driven, data-demonstrated impact on a regional and national level. The goals are set, and the strategic direction is clear for the next leader. Still, the work ahead will require creativity and vision to see it through to execution. The Board of Directors, Dana, and the team are ready to welcome a new CEO to World Savvy and support

their success into the next chapter.

Key Responsibilities

Strategic Vision & Organizational Leadership

- In alignment with World Savvy's vision for reimagining education and the Global Competence Matrix, build upon the strong foundation and organizational reputation to help the organization reach its' "We Must Imagine" goals for 2035.
- Embody the mission and values with a passionate, genuine, and compassionate voice that calls in school partners, funders, and community stakeholders in support of the work.
- Provide leadership in the investment of organization resources and transparency about financial and operating results.
- Steward the finances with prudence, accountability, and integrity. Ensure that World Savvy remains in good financial health while sustaining and growing its impact in a responsible manner.
- An experienced partner to the board in both immediate term actions and in helping to develop an ever stronger board to achieve the mission.

Staff & Board Management

- Lead, inspire, and support the staff in a culture of impact-driven change and transition.
- Continue to lead and build a culture in alignment with World Savvy's values, while providing mentorship and professional development opportunities to staff.
- Continue building an organizational culture that values diversity, equity, and inclusion, where each member of staff is supported to thrive, build skills, have fun, and be successful.
- Maintain effective dialog between board and staff for updates and critical information sharing. Partner with Board members to identify common issues and develop strategic priorities for the Board. Support Board governance (i.e. committee structures, term limits, and recruitment).
- Mentor senior staff to enhance their working relationships with the Board and committee chairs.
- Embrace the strengths, commitment, and passion of the high-performing team at World Savvy and continue to recruit, retain, and develop a high-performing staff and Board.

People Builder and Coalition Builder

- Serve as a vocal thought leader in K-12 public education with the credibility, experience, and influence to shift the discourse around quality education and engage individual and organizational changemakers.
- Engender trust and respect by engaging with transparency, authenticity, and compassion.
- Build trusting relationships with key stakeholders, such as funders, superintendents, principals, teachers, local officials, and community members, to support growth objectives and foster collaboration.

- Lead with a nuanced understanding of how systems disproportionately impact and influence student outcomes, while continuing to lead and guide the organization in a direction of political neutrality.
- Foster frequent, consistent dialogue with relevant constituents to develop strong cross-sector collaborations.

Business Development & Fundraising

- Be accountable for the fiscal health of the organization, including the identification and cultivation of new funding opportunities to enable growth and impact targets to be met.
- Experienced fundraiser who has had success securing funding from diverse sources (foundation, corporate, and individual giving), and able to provide strategic guidance on fundraising priorities to support sustainability and fund new initiatives.
- Bring a keen business sense that allows World Savvy to continue building and strategically expanding its impact through new and existing revenue-generating relationships.

Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate is an optimistic leader with vision and strong execution skills who motivates others and believes that students learn best when they are engaged in relevant and important issues that impact their communities and the world. This leader will be an accomplished nonprofit executive leader with a deep understanding of K-12 combined with cross-sector collaboration and impact. A leader who has led organizations of similar size or larger and has led through expansion and scale. A demonstrated history of leading and executing a vision that motivates others to action. The chosen candidate must excel in building trusting, collaborative relationships with leaders in public education, philanthropy, and across sectors. This leader will also bring a personal connection to the power that global competence has played in their own experience as a student, professional, and leader, and believes in what's possible for kids and communities.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, related master's degree preferred.
- Preference for someone with direct experience in traditional K-12 public education systems and/or adjacent executive experience at an organization serving K-12 public schools.
- Demonstrated ability to drive action with data and translate research findings to a variety of audiences to create impact.
- A natural convener to lift not only World Savvy but a coalition of leaders and organizations driving to reimagine education.
- Demonstrated ability to build trusting relationships and collaborative partnerships with stakeholders who, at times, hold divergent views and differing interests but share mutual objectives.

- Record of developing, nurturing, and retaining strong teams.
- Experience leading data-driven change in education or adjacent work.
- Demonstrated ability to identify new organizational funding sources, including business development and fundraising with foundations, businesses, and individual donors.
- Demonstrated ability to grow and shift the financial make-up of an organization to increase and sustain focus on earned revenue.
- Proven ability to connect and co-create with a diverse range of perspectives representing lived experience in urban and rural communities.
- A learner's mindset that is open to feedback.

Compensation

The starting salary range for this position is \$240,000 to \$260,000. World Savvy provides a comprehensive benefits package, including comprehensive medical, dental, and vision, 401k with match, partially paid parental leave, flexible PTO, 15 paid office closures, cell phone and internet compensation, professional development, and paid sabbatical after five years of employment. World Savvy is a hybrid workplace with principal offices in Minnesota and Northern California and employees around the United States.

Location:

This is a full-time position with a preference for candidates located in Minneapolis, Minnesota (Twin Cities) or Midwest region.

Given that our primary office and the majority of our team are based in Minneapolis, proximity to this location is advantageous for fostering collaboration and team synergy. For candidates considering relocation to Minneapolis, we offer relocation assistance to facilitate a seamless transition to our vibrant city.

For candidates opting for remote work, the importance of maintaining connectivity with the core team in Minneapolis is critical. The organization is open to working in partnership with the candidate to develop a way forward that is mutually agreeable.

World Savvy's EEO Statement

World Savvy is an equal opportunity employer and complies with all applicable federal, state, and local fair employment practice laws. Equal employment opportunity has been, and will continue to be, a fundamental principle at World Savvy, where employment is based upon personal capabilities and qualifications without regard to: age; ancestry; color; religious creed; religious belief, observance, and practice, including dress or grooming practices; domestic violence victim status; ethnicity; sex; gender; gender expression (meaning a person's gender-related appearance or behavior, the perception of such appearance or behavior, whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's sex at birth); gender identity (meaning a person's internal understanding of their gender, or the perception of a person's gender identity, which may include male, female, a combination of male and female, neither male or female, a gender different from the person's sex assigned at birth, or transgender); sexual orientation; genetic information (including information about an individual's genetic tests, family member's diseases or disorders, an individual's or family member's receipt of, or request for, genetic services, and participation by an individual or their family member in clinical research that includes genetic

services); marital status; familial statuses; pregnancy; medical condition; military and veteran status (including past, current, or prospective service in the uniformed services); national origin; citizenship status; physical or mental disability; mental condition; political affiliation; protected medical leaves; race (including traits that are historically associated with race, such as hair texture and protective hairstyles, including braids, locks, and twists); religion; sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or related medical conditions); status with regard to public assistance; or any other protected categories under applicable federal, state and local law in which World Savvy operates.

A note about World Savvy's commitment to anti-racism and recruiting

In the past, we've used equity and inclusion language to express our social justice values. Like many organizations, we've recognized how passive and ineffective this has been at overcoming the effects of systemic racism that have impacted the workforce for generations. Many things need to change, including the dialogue we have with job seekers. To that end, we share the following:

As we grow, our commitment is to intentionally build a team that reflects the ethnic, racial, and cultural diversity of the students, educators, and communities we serve. We're seeking individuals who identify as a part of BIPOC communities to apply. We believe these life experiences and perspectives are critical, in particular, to advance our global competence work. At its core, this work is about teaching students to practice empathy, value cultural differences, consider multiple perspectives, and collaboratively problem-solve. In an increasingly divided world, this work is more important than ever, and its continued success hinges on modeling this ourselves by continuously learning and growing.

To Be Considered

Please submit your resume and cover letter expressing your interest in the position and fit for the role via the "[Become a Candidate](#)" button. Letters may be addressed to Kevin Bryant.

Applicants applying by Sunday, May 12th will be given priority consideration, with the position open until filled.

GoodCitizen has been exclusively retained by World Savvy to lead this search. For questions, please contact:

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