

Community Organizer

The Center for Health, Environment and Justice (CHEJ) is a national environmental organization based in Falls Church City, Virginia (6 miles from the District of Columbia). In 2017, CHEJ became a project of Peoples Action Institute (PAI). CHEJ empowers local groups to protect their communities from the health risks posed by contamination of their soil, air, water or food. This is accomplished by providing organizing, technical and research assistance, and by coordinating nationwide issue-focused campaigns. **This position is located in Falls Church, Virginia.** In conjunction with Peoples Action Institute, we are linking these groups together to build a movement, from the bottom up, and harness the collective power of the grassroots to curtail the polluting power of government agencies, broad industrial sectors.

Position Will Be Responsible For:

- The quality and effectiveness of CHEJ's Community Organizing efforts.
- Assuring that CHEJ and PAI's spirit, leadership and vision is felt throughout the constituency touched by its organizing assistance.
- Assisting individuals to establish an organization.
- Connecting organizations within the CHEJ and PAI's network to work collaboratively and share, learn and support one another.
- CHEJ and PAI's efforts to have a place and role in building a bottom up movement for justice.
- Identifying trends in issues effecting both CHEJ and PAI's constituencies, helping adjust programs to meet these trends/needs, and/or developing new programs to meet these needs.
- Integration of CHEJ's programs into PAI's programs, campaigns and coalition efforts.
- Assisting community leaders with community organizing and capacity building assistance, primarily through the telephone calls and travel to communities.
- Monitoring constituency feedback on organizing effectiveness.
- Integrating program activities across both CHEJ and PAI's organizational programs including campaigns, coalition work, technical assistance, information and fundraising.

Training/Leadership Development/Networking:

- Providing training when needed in communities or at other events.
- Identifying opportunities to bring group leaders together to learn from each other, develop collective strategies and obtain a deeper relation with each other and understanding of the issues.
- Organizing priorities and developing annual and other related work plans.
- Acting as public spokesperson, as necessary, for media calls, networking, joint- planning, liaison, and activist activities with other organizations, as requested.
- Other duties, as assigned

Publications/Information:

- Working with other staff in writing or assisting in joint publications around issues and providing written summaries and updates of field activities for newsletters and alerts.
- Assisting with updating web sites to keep community stories up-to-date with blogs, and e-blasts.

The ideal candidate should have the following experience and qualifications:

- A minimum of five years of organizing experience working with community, labor and/ or electoral organizations.
- Similar level of experience coalition building and facilitating diverse groups, with a strong track record of building and team collaborations.
- Experience balancing long-term power building with rapid response action needs.
- Experience writing and managing grants and other donor relationships.

- Strong commitment to racial, gender, environmental injustice and economic justice and their intersections, both inside and outside the organization.
- Strong interpersonal, writing, and organizational skills.
- Effective at multitasking with a wide range of skills.
- Ability and willingness to travel up to 2-3 times per month.
- Experience running statewide or national level campaigns with multiple partners is ideal, but not required.
- Previous experience organizing around environmental health issues is ideal, but not required.

Salary & Benefits

The salary range for this position is \$\$65-68k. The Benefits Package includes a very good family medical, dental & vision insurance plan, a 403b Retirement Plan with employer contribution after 6 months, as well as paid time off in December, in addition to paid vacation and sick leave.

Application Process

Please send a cover letter, writing sample, resume, and references to sfranklin@chej.org with Community Organizer in Subject Line. The Center for Health, Environment and Justice, a Project of People's Action is an Equal Opportunity Employer; Women, People of Color, Persons with Disabilities and LGBTQI people are strongly encouraged to apply.

Position Open Until Filled. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.