

COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY COALITION



Position Announcement: Senior Policy Director Washington, DC

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

CFSC is the premiere national organization promoting local food systems and access to healthy food for all persons. Established in 1994, CFSC has 450 organizational members across the US and Canada. The Community Food Security Coalition catalyzes food systems that are healthy, sustainable, just, and democratic by building community voice and capacity for change. The Coalition achieves its goals through a comprehensive blend of training, networking, and advocacy to further the efforts of grassroots groups to create effective solutions from the ground up.

CFSC has successfully pursued policy changes within the Farm Bill, and also plays an advisory role in state and local policy issues. The Coalition led the effort to create the Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program, as part of the 1996 Farm Bill. CFSC has been successful in doubling funding for this program, as well as gaining passage of mandatory funding for a farm to school grant fund in the Senate version of the 2009 Child Nutrition Act reauthorization. CFSC advocacy has focused on a range of nutrition and agriculture policies, and is branching out to include other federal policies that affect food systems.

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Policy Director will direct the policy activities for the Community Food Security Coalition. S/he works as a team with staff members and the Policy Committee, collaborating with allied organizations to formulate and implement strategies to further policy objectives. The Policy Director acts as a conduit to translate policy goals into action by connecting with advocacy groups, policymakers and their staff, and other actors in the domestic policy community. This position requires a high level of autonomy, initiative, and ability to work with a range of players in the policy world.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Senior Policy Director will work full time to coordinate the CFSC's federal policy program from our Washington, DC office. S/he will report directly to the Executive Director. His/her responsibilities include:

- Manage the policy formation and prioritization process, including gaining input from CFSC members and other allies
- Develop and implement federal legislative and administrative policy strategies and tactics to accomplish objectives
- Identify and cultivate contacts among research, advocacy, administration and congressional audiences
- Develop and maintain relations with key partners and networks, coalitions, and organizations critical to the achievement of CFSC policy goals
- Provide leadership to CFSC's policy program and committee
- Represent CFSC and participate in conferences, coalition meetings and public events
- Supervise other policy staff, fellows, and interns
- Participate in fundraising for current and new federal policy program activities

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QUALIFICATIONS

- Reside in the DC area or be willing to move there by September 2010
- A minimum of seven years experience in federal policy advocacy, including working with Congress and the Executive Branch
- Experience in managing staff
- Experience working in coalitions and/or collaborative settings
- Experience in policy-related research and priority setting
- Proven success in gaining passage of and/or implementing legislation
- Knowledge of and past work experience in nutrition, agricultural or food systems policy
- Masters degree in agriculture, city and regional planning, public health, nutrition, public policy or related field preferred
- Excellent verbal communication and writing skills
- Ability to travel nationally as needed
- Ability to work independently, yet as part of a team
- Ability to handle multiple projects in a fast moving environment

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Compensation for this position is based on qualifications and experience. CFSC offers excellent health, vision, life, and dental insurance, retirement plan, flexible holidays, vacation, and sick leave benefits.

HOW TO APPLY

Send resume, cover letter, salary history, and contact information for three references to Andy Fisher at andy@foodsecurity.org. Deadline for applications is July 15, 2010, with a preferred (but flexible) start date in September, 2010. Open until filled.

CFSC is an equal opportunity employer that considers applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, disability, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, or any legally protected status.