

UNITED VALLEY INTERFAITH PROJECT JOB ANNOUNCEMENT – LEAD ORGANIZER/STAFF DIRECTOR

The United Valley Interfaith Project (UVIP) seeks a Lead Organizer/Staff Director who has a passion for social justice and a strong desire to work with ordinary people organizing themselves as a force to that end. The Lead Organizer/Staff Director will help UVIP leaders strengthen and grow our organization by building relationships, developing additional leaders in member groups, and engaging in effective issue campaigns to win significant gains in local and statewide social justice issues. The Lead Organizer/Staff Director will also help leaders organize fundraising efforts, as well as write and submit grants, and actively participate in developing and overseeing the UVIP budget with the UVIP Finance Committee.

UVIP Background and Overview - The United Valley Interfaith Project (UVIP) is a growing three-year organization of faith congregations and community groups in the central Connecticut River Valley of New Hampshire and Vermont. Our member groups are committed to working together for greater justice and a better quality of life for all people. We pursue these goals by building community across lines of income, religion and geography, developing the leadership skills of members within our congregations and organizations, and taking effective action on critical public issues. We view this work as an expression of our faith and values. A complete background on UVIP is available on www.unitedvalleyinterfaith.org. UVIP is a member of the Inter Valley Project (IVP) network of community organizing organizations in New England. IVP is discussed in detail at www.intervalleyproject.org.

Responsibilities

1. Build relationships to strengthen our organization.
 - Initiate and foster relationships with clergy and other leaders of existing and potential UVIP member organizations.
2. Recruit and develop leaders to increase our capacity to act.
 - Provide in-the-field training for UVIP leaders as they engage in campaigns.
 - Provide formal leadership training and learning opportunities through the InterValley Project (see below) and UVIP local training for leaders of existing and potential UVIP member groups, helping leaders develop the skills to lead meetings, congregational development campaigns, group actions, issue and fundraising campaigns and evaluations.
3. Assist UVIP leaders in selecting, strategizing and winning on issues that matter most to our members.
 - With leaders research political, business, labor, employment, media, and other institutions in and outside our region that help shape its future.
 - Help UVIP leaders in designing and implementing effective issue campaigns to address issues of shared concern, including carrying out public action meetings and other tactics for advancing the cause of our issues.
4. Oversee and work with UVIP leaders to carry out development and administrative responsibilities.
 - Research and identify potential grant sources, build relationships with funders, and carry out regular and consistent grant writing.
 - Assist leaders in the planning and execution of grassroots fundraising efforts.

- Work with the UVIP Finance Committee to develop budgets, and maintain relationships with our bookkeeper and other financial service providers.
5. Collaborate with allies and other groups beyond UVIP.
- Help UVIP build relationships with potential allies and resource organizations.
 - Fully participate in the work of the InterValley Project, including monthly organizer meetings and regional trainings.
 - In a collaborative project funded by the Needmor Fund, work with our sister IVP organization, the Granite State Organizing Project (Manchester, New Hampshire), to develop statewide community leadership, build grass roots power for the two organizations and for their collaborative efforts to win real, substantive changes in New Hampshire in areas of shared importance for UVIP and GSOP.

Qualifications and Attributes

1. Passion for social and economic justice, and strong commitment to faith- and values-based organizing.
2. Minimum of three years experience as a community or congregation-based organizer.
3. Demonstrated ability to develop leaders, and help them organize, and bring issue campaigns and other projects to successful conclusions.
4. Proven track record in grant writing and grassroots fundraising.
5. High energy, exceptional team-building and strong one-on-one relationship-building skills.
6. Strong communication skills: listening, speaking, writing, and computer skills.
7. Ability to share talents, values and sense of humor with a diverse team of leaders, staff and technical assistance providers.
8. Proven experience in developing staff for their own growth and for the growth of the organization.

Compensation

Compensation commensurate with experience; excellent benefits.

To Apply

We are accepting applications through January 5, 2011. Interviews will commence in early January to mid-March, 2011. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

Please e-mail your cover letter and resume to:

Ms. Gisela Jones

First Vice President

United Valley Interfaith Project (UVIP)

Gisela102@myfairpoint.net