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**JOB DESCRIPTION: DIRECTOR OF WATER EQUITY**

The Ohio Environmental Council seeks a full-time Director of Water Equity to take our water access and affordability work to the next level. The Director of Water Equity will serve as the organization’s expert on laws, regulations, needs, and barriers to provide safe, affordable drinking water to all Ohioans. The Director will advocate for the passage and implementation of strong policies through partnerships, campaign coordination, media work, and lobbying.

The ideal candidate is a collaborative leader and a strategic thinker who can grasp onto broad, ambitious goals and motivate a team on the ground to deliver on them. The Director will work to foster relationships with community leaders, utility leaders, decision-makers, businesses, and the water advocacy community. They will be creative about seizing new opportunities for growth that align with the organization’s larger strategic plan and they will be a persistent, reliable teammate.

This position is an opportunity to advance policy solutions toward equitable investment in water infrastructure and access to safe, clean water for all.

**Job Responsibilities**

Reporting to the Managing Director of Water Policy and Chief of Organizational Planning, the Director will:

* Demonstrate thought leadership in the national movement for affordable and clean water by developing cutting-edge, well-researched, and pragmatic solutions to improve water justice and equity in Ohio.
* Lead in identifying solutions to water access and affordability issues and advancing equitable investment in water infrastructure through writing, speaking, facilitating discussion, and forging partnerships.
* Research issues, write policy initiatives, and provide expert opinions related to water affordability and water infrastructure.
* Provide policy analysis to support the Managing Director of Water Policy and the Chief of Staff in educating local, state and federal elected officials.
* Develop, execute, and coordinate initiatives, strategies, and tactics to advance the water policies outlined in the OEC’s strategic plan.
* Work with legal, advocacy, campaigns, and communications staff along with partners, media, and activists on a range of effective tactics.
* Work with the OEC Action Fund to advance water affordability legislation and promote water champions at the local, state, and federal levels.
* Raise the profile of the organization in the water equity space, including communicating with funders, building new partnerships, and participating in forums and conferences on water justice and equity.
* Fulfill organizational responsibilities including: attending board meetings; managing foundation relationships; and ensuring grant deliverables are met.
* Share our commitment to increasing racial diversity in the environmental movement and for our organization, integrating justice and equity into the work we do and contributing to an inclusive organizational culture.

**Qualifications**

* Experience in advocacy, community organizing, local leadership, or government affairs.
* Knowledge or expertise in the areas of water equity, water security/water access, and water affordability. A demonstrated commitment to environmental justice.
* A track record of success designing and delivering results on water policy, environmental justice policy or environmental-adjacent programs and plans.
* Excellent communication and public speaking skills with ability to communicate with diverse individuals across the political spectrum.
* Experience with developing relationships and building strong networks moving toward the same goal.
* Thrives in a fast-paced environment.

**Performance Expectations**

Ensure all communications are accurate and compelling, and advance a portfolio of programs which is strongly aligned with our organization’s strategic plan. Effectively develop and work towards multiple aggressive goals. Translate broad goals into achievable steps. Demonstrate initiative in planning and meeting deadlines and work as a team player. Commit to continued professional growth and development.

This is a full-time position with a Monday-Friday work schedule; however there may be occasional evening and weekend work. Some local travel will also be required, including occasional overnight or out-of-state travel for conferences and for meetings with partners, donors, reporters/editorial boards.

**Compensation and location**

The salary range for this position is $56,726-62,398. Salary depends on experience and is competitive. Excellent benefits include health, vision, dental, and life insurance, flexible and dependent care spending accounts, generous paid time off, and employer-matched retirement fund. While this position does not require a juris doctorate, an attorney may bring skills to this position useful to the goals of the water program. Attorneys are encouraged to apply. This position is within the bargaining unit represented by OEC Workers United.

The OEC’s headquarters is in Columbus, with a satellite office in Cleveland. The location of the Director of Water Equity is flexible within the State of Ohio, with a preference for one of these cities.

**About the OEC**

The Ohio Environmental Council is the state's most comprehensive, effective and respected environmental advocate for a healthier, more sustainable Ohio. Our experts work daily to restore, protect, and strengthen the quality of life for families and communities — from the air we breathe and the water we drink to the food we eat and natural resources we enjoy. Find out more at [www.theOEC.org](http://www.theoec.org).

The OEC is committed to inclusion and diversity. We seek to hire staff that reflects the diverse communities and perspectives that comprise Ohio. Qualified candidates of all backgrounds are highly encouraged to apply.

The OEC prohibits discrimination of employment, promotion, compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment on the basis of gender identity and expression, disability, race, age, national origin, creed, sexual orientation, marital and parental status, religion, economic status, ethnic identity, veteran's status, or any other basis prohibited by applicable law.

**How to Apply**

Send your cover letter, resume, writing sample, and references to careers@theOEC.org with “Director of Water Equity” in the subject line. Applications received prior to February 28 will receive priority consideration.