



Research for People and the Planet

May 2010 posting

Job Opening
Community Strategies for Sustainability and Justice Program:
Sustainable Redevelopment Research Assistant

The Pacific Institute is seeking a part-time summer research assistant for the Community Strategies for Sustainability and Justice (CSSJ) Program. Founded in 1987 and based in Oakland, California, the Institute works to develop solutions to the related problems of environmental protection, economic development, and social equity from the local to the international level. The CSSJ program, launched in 1995, partners with community groups and coalitions to provide research support and technical assistance on critical environmental health and justice issues. Our program work includes community-based participatory action research, technical and policy analysis, community education, and leadership development.

Position Description

The Institute is seeking a part-time research assistant (RA) who can conduct research related to environmental and community health aspects of redevelopment project planning, and the promise and challenges of transforming recycling industry operations to meet sustainable community economic development goals, such as generating quality green jobs and other direct benefits for local residents. The research will support work by community groups in West Oakland working to ensure that the redevelopment of the former Oakland Army Base and the recycling sector in Oakland meet priority goals of healthy and sustainable community economic development.

We seek an energetic, organized and confident person with strong research and analytical abilities, and writing skills. Graduate students are encouraged to apply. Specific areas of research may include:

- Environmental health standards related to military base redevelopment.
- Community health measures achieved through Community Benefits Agreements
- Mitigation measures to address impacts of truck-attracting businesses on community health and quality of life
- Best practices for healthy and sustainable recycling facility operations
- Current and projected growth of the recycling sector locally, and potential gains in local job growth and job quality.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree and educational or experiential background in urban planning, sociology, public health, economics, environmental health, geography, environmental science, or related field;
- Excellent research skills;



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- Strong writing skills with the ability to write about technical material for a community audience;
- Ability to verbally communicate technical, scientific, or policy information to a lay audience;
- A working understanding of and commitment to environmental, economic, and other social justice movements;
- Demonstrated ability to work with a people from diverse backgrounds;
- Strong organizational skills, self-motivation, and a true enjoyment of managing multiple tasks at once;
- Excellent computer skills, including fluency with Word, Excel, and the Internet;
- Experience with community-based participatory research or participatory action research a plus.

Time and Compensation

The research assistant will work between 15 and 20 hours per week. Compensation will be in the form of a \$14/hour wage for a summer internship lasting between 9-12 weeks from June-August 2010.

Application Procedure

Please send a brief cover letter, resume, and research writing sample to: Eli Moore at the Pacific Institute, 654 13th Street, Oakland, California 94612. Hard copy, faxes (510 251-2203), or email (emoore@pacinst.org) are acceptable. No phone calls please.

Anticipated Start Date is June 1st 2010; position is open until filled. This is a summer associate position that will end in late August 2010.

Pacific Institute is an equal opportunity employer.
People of color and women are strongly encouraged to apply.