

PRRAC

Poverty & Race Research Action Council

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www.prrac.org

Director of State and Local Engagement

The Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) seeks a Director of State and Local Engagement to build on PRRAC's relationships with state and local civil rights advocates, grassroots and community-based organizations, and progressive local governments, to support innovative state and local housing policy solutions and to better connect our federal housing policy work with our work in local communities. This is a new position at PRRAC, and the selected candidate will have the ability to help define this role.

About PRRAC: The Poverty & Race Research Action Council is a non-profit civil rights law and policy organization based in Washington, DC. Founded in 1989 by major national civil rights and poverty law organizations, PRRAC's primary mission is to help connect advocates with social scientists working on race and poverty issues, and to develop innovative approaches to structural inequality issues. Our current work is focused in the areas of housing and education, with a particular emphasis on the causes and consequences of housing and school segregation, and appropriate remedial strategies. In addition to national-level law and policy research and advocacy, we are engaged in local technical assistance work in multiple cities. PRRAC is an active member of the Mobility Works technical assistance collaborative, which works with local public housing authorities to expand housing options for low-income families. We also staff and serve as the fiscal sponsor of the National Coalition on School Diversity, a coalition of almost sixty groups advocating for school integration. For more on our organization, go to our website, at www.prrac.org

Key responsibilities:

- Work with state and local advocates, organizers and practitioners to formulate strategy around housing policy campaigns and strengthen connections and input on national policy priorities; assist with selected state/local policy campaigns; help to ensure that information about opportunities presented by federal policy advances are effectively shared with local and grassroots partners.
- Develop ongoing relationships with aligned organizing networks in selected states.
- Engage, lead, connect and coordinate PRRAC staff in state and local engagements.
- Support PRRAC's efforts to better align national fair housing and school integration campaigns at the state and local level.

Preferred qualifications:

- Significant experience in organizing, coalition building, community-based engagement.
- Background and working knowledge of housing policy.
- Advanced degree in relevant field preferred – in law, policy, social work/organizing.
- Exceptional written and oral communication skills and ability to communicate well to a variety of stakeholders, including policy experts, media and community residents.
- Demonstrated capacity to identify and build relationships with diverse audiences and effectively facilitate group processes.
- Experience working in low-income communities.
- Experience working with community organizing groups, tenants' groups, unions, or other base-building groups and their constituencies.

- Strong and demonstrated commitment to advancing economic, racial and gender justice, including through housing and school integration strategies.
- Strategic long-term thinker with an ability to anticipate challenges as they arise.
- Ability to meet quick deadlines and execute multiple tasks simultaneously.
- Ability to work well independently as well as within a collaborative environment.
- While relocation to D.C. is not required, we have a preference for candidates living close to Washington, DC, to facilitate in-office collaboration with the rest of the PRRAC team.
- Ability and willingness to travel.

This position reports to: The PRRAC Executive Director.

Travel Requirements: Moderate

Salary and benefits:

This is a full-time position with a minimum salary of \$75,000 (final salary will be set based on experience).

PRRAC also offers an excellent benefits package, which includes 3 weeks of annual paid vacation; additional paid holiday leave between December 24 and January 1; 2% employer contribution to retirement account after six months of employment; and a choice of generous individual health insurance plans.

For most of 2020-21, PRRAC has been working remotely, with some staff voluntarily coming into the office a couple days a week. We will be reevaluating this policy in 2022 and expect that there will be a shift back to a more frequent in-office presence. All staff are required to provide proof of Covid-19 vaccination.

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to Philip Tegeler (ptegeler@prrac.org). Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

Posted December 15, 2021

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