

## **United Congregations of Metro-East – Environmental Justice Community Organizer Job Description**

United Congregations of Metro-East (UCM) is seeking a full-time Environmental Justice Community Organizer to lead and organize communities and organizations to work on environmental justice issues in the Illinois Metro-East, throughout Madison and St. Clair Counties. This role is primarily responsible for building and maintaining relationships with local congregations and key actors throughout the Metro-East. Additionally, this role is responsible for building and maintaining relationships with statewide and national environmental justice coalition partners.

The ideal candidate has a proven ability to foster coordination and cooperation among diverse groups. They are committed to getting results in a fast-paced environment and able to handle a heavy workload without dropping the ball. This position is an opportunity to engage with faith organizations, policy makers, advocacy organizations and constituents to help bring about real systemic change.

### **About United Congregations of Metro- East**

#### ***United Congregations of Metro-East***

United Congregations of Metro-East (UCM) is an interfaith, multiracial community organization. UCM's coalition of congregations transcend the divisive barriers of race, economic status, religion, partisan politics, and geography to unite in a powerful voice for justice. We believe all citizens deserve to have a voice in the decisions that affect the quality of their lives. Our mission is to eliminate the root causes of systemic injustice in our region. UCM was established in the year 2000 with six churches and has now grown to 28 congregations and three community organizations with over 24,000 members. Despite their different backgrounds, the leaders of UCM share the vision of a society where all persons have equal opportunity and the resources needed to reach their full potential.

### **Job Responsibilities**

The Environmental Justice (EJ) Community Organizer is based in southern Illinois at UCM and reports to the Lead Environmental Justice Community Organizer. They are responsible for the following:

- Serve as a community organizer for congregations in East St. Louis, IL and surrounding area
  - Build relationships with current leaders
  - Recruit new member organizations
  - Facilitate network video calls, events, and gatherings
- Develop and assist others in understanding social justice work at UCM
- Develop and execute fundraising activities
- Develop and guide campaigns, actions, and issue cuts in accordance with the Gamaliel principles of community organizing
- Build relationships and accountability with UCM leaders and Pastors
- Train local leaders in community organizing

## Requirements

- The ability to travel and reliable transportation is required
- This position is part of an organizing cohort and will be required to attend meetings and training with other organizers across the Gamaliel network

## Qualifications

We're seeking candidates to organize in Environmental Justice communities. We are looking for candidates who excel in **relationship-building** and who are **results-oriented**. Strong **project management skills are a plus**.

You should have:

- A track record of developing and maintaining strong working relationships with and among a diverse group of leaders
- A demonstrated commitment to meeting a high bar of success and a history of getting things done even in the face of obstacles
- Experience managing multiple projects and ability to oversee a cadre of multiple leaders and organizations

Compensation depends on experience and is competitive. We also provide organizer training for qualified candidates. UCM is an equal opportunity employer and we make a particular effort to recruit people of color to apply for open positions.

## How to apply

Please send a cover letter and resume to Stefanie Ward, Organizational Administrator of UCM, at [stefaniew@ucmetroeast.org](mailto:stefaniew@ucmetroeast.org).