

Mellon/ACLS
PUBLIC FELLOWS PROGRAM 

Job Title:	Strategic Research Associate
Organization:	Center for Popular Democracy
Location:	Brooklyn, NY
Stipend:	\$67,500 with health insurance for the fellow, professional development funds, and relocation allowance
Start Date:	September 4, 2018

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The Center for Popular Democracy (CPD) is a high-impact national organization that works with grassroots organizations around the country to build community power and transform the state and local policy landscape. CPD provides legal and strategic policy and research support to community-based organizations, and on state and local legislative campaigns, that advance a pro-worker, pro-immigrant, racial justice agenda. We also collaborate with established and emerging grassroots groups as they develop and refine their community organizing methodology and internal management, fundraising, and communications infrastructure. We engage deeply with our 51 affiliates in 32 states and Puerto Rico on a wide range of policy, research, organizing, and campaign related projects. Some of our current work includes:

- Demanding divestment from the criminalization of communities of color, and investment in public education, health, infrastructure, and equity;
- Pushing back against the corporate takeover of housing and community displacement;
- Fighting for strong public schools and against the privatization of public education;
- Championing the rights of immigrants, including the fight for Sanctuary Cities and legal representation for those facing deportation or detention;
- Advancing the next-generation of worker justice policies, including protections against wage theft and fluctuating schedules and for the right to organize;
- Advocating for policies that expand the franchise and make it easier to vote; and
- Supporting progressive local elected officials across the country.

Learn more at www.populardemocracy.org.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Strategic Research Associate will work with the research team to create the high-caliber, intersectional, and grassroots-driven research that is the core of every CPD campaign. The associate will join the team in meetings with campaign leads to develop a research plan that will both inform strategy and produce materials that can inform and persuade a wide range of audiences including lawmakers, partners, and the general public.

Potential projects include:

- Researching and drafting reports analyzing the role of private equity in the affordable housing crisis;

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You may *not* contact the host institution to inquire about this position.

- Developing popular education curricula to make dense subjects like financial regulation and tax policy accessible to our partners;
- Designing surveys both to identify the issues most important to the growing number of workers in the retail and “gig” economies and to encourage those workers to join our campaigns; and
- Working on our participatory action research project, including supporting teenage members of one of our partner organizations on a photovoice project in which participants use photography to show how a lack of investment in local schools has affected them.

We will work with the associate to identify the issue areas and communities in which to center his/her projects. In addition to the potential projects described above, the associate will provide ongoing critical support for our grassroots campaigns and advocacy through a range of qualitative and quantitative research and dissemination methods including:

- Reviewing legislative documents, white papers, and academic literature in order to identify, develop, and create policy proposals supportive of CPD’s agenda;
- Drafting memos, reports, and policy briefs; and
- Participating in public forums and conferences in order to raise the profile of CPD and its issues.

The associate will be a member of the research team (currently comprised of two Research Analysts, one Senior Research Analyst, and a Research Director), and will report to the Research Director. The CPD Strategic Research Associate will gain valuable experience to launch a career in policy analysis or legislative advocacy with a think tank or community-based organization.

QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD in the humanities or humanistic social sciences;
- A demonstrated commitment to social justice issues;
- Excellent research, writing, and analytic skills;
- Facility with qualitative analysis and eagerness to develop a facility with quantitative analysis;
- A background or demonstrated interest in research, policy analysis, and/or community organizing;
- An ability to juggle multiple projects at a time and work in a fast-paced environment;
- A history of getting things done even in the face of obstacles; and
- Hard driving and light-hearted.

CPD is an affirmative action employer. We actively recruit people of color, people with disabilities, and people with diverse gender and sexual identities.

APPLICATIONS

- Information on the Mellon/ACLS Public Fellows Program: www.acls.org/programs/publicfellows
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: March 14, 2018, 9 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time

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