ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship

Position Title: Campaigns Researcher
Organization: HEAL (Health, Environment, Agriculture, Labor) Food Alliance
Location: Remote
Stipend: $62,500 in the first year, $65,000 in the second year, plus health insurance and professional development funding
Start Date: September 2022

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

HEAL is a multi-sector, multi-racial coalition building collective power to transform our food & farm systems, with racial justice and community self-determination at the core. We are led by our member organizations, who represent over 2 million rural and urban farmers, ranchers, fishers, farm and food chain workers, indigenous groups, scientists, public health advocates, policy experts, community organizers, and activists nationwide. For more about HEAL, please visit our website.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

HEAL is committed to achieving food and farm systems that are healthy for our families, accessible and affordable for all communities, and fair to the hard-working people who grow, distribute, prepare, and serve our food — while protecting the air, water, and land we all depend on. HEAL’s work spans five “core methods”: Connecting and Uniting Groups, Political Education and Analysis, Advancing a Shared Movement Narrative, Connect and Nurture Existing and Emerging Campaigns, and Organizing Resources for a BIPOC-led Grassroots Movement for Change.

Our staff team is small and –mighty – we are highly accountable to our members, and to each other. Each of us contributes to the overall functioning of the organization, maintaining relationships with members, and adapting workflows to support one another’s needs. For more about how our team operates, please see our protocols and principles.

Working closely with HEAL’s Political Education team, the Campaigns Researcher will play an integral role in research, communications and campaign development to support HEAL’s work to advance our Platform for Real Food. They will provide critical background information and analysis for our membership to achieve key policy outcomes.

The fellowship tenure is 24 consecutive months, with an expected time commitment of approximately 37.5 hours per week.

Responsibilities and tasks:

- Conduct historical and contemporary research on policies and trends relevant to each of the planks of HEAL’s Platform for Real Food to aid the development of Platform Toolkits. Each toolkit includes a series of explainers, a short video tutorial, member interviews, and an annotated resource list. The Research Fellow will contribute to toolkits for the following Platform planks: 1) Dump the Junk 2) Increase Food Literacy and Transparency 3) Real Food in Every ‘Hood 4) Close the Loop.

This position is only available through the Leading Edge Fellowship program. You may not contact the host institution to inquire about this position.
• Provide research and data analysis support for infographics, power mapping and other medium scale research projects.
• Develop one-pagers and presentations, supporting communications team in the creation of material on key policy initiatives, including Farm Bill, climate policy, support for BIPOC producers, and workers’ right to organize, as well as key political issues such as corporate control, climate change, workers rights, and regenerative agriculture.
• Provide landscape analysis on policies and media trends to inform HEAL’s membership and staff on key policy opportunities to advance HEAL’s platform and support HEAL’s campaign work, including work on anti-trust, corporate control, and land rights.
• Research and develop a database of values-aligned BIPOC producers to inform HEAL’s procurement policy work.

Qualifications:

• PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. Read more about eligible fields in our FAQ;
• Informed: Strong understanding of intersectional issues related to gender, economic, environmental, and racial justice; working knowledge of a range of relevant issues including climate, labor, and agriculture;
• Committed: Alignment with and commitment to organizational values;
• Organized: Demonstrated ability to track details and set priorities on multiple projects while driving them to completion;
• Communicative: Impeccable English language skills in all areas of verbal and written communications. Ability to translate complex information to compelling and accessible communications;
• Adaptive: Comfortable adapting to shifting priorities and able to problem solve;
• Self-directed: Demonstrated initiative, accountability, and comfort managing projects remotely;
• Collaborative: Great team player and listener with strong interpersonal skills;
• Tech Savvy: Proficient with Microsoft Office Suite and Google Online Office Tools. Basic image editing skills. Must have basic fluency with social media;
• Analytical: Must have analytical and critical thinking skills, with an ability to assess situations, take initiative and make recommendations.

Preferred:

• Familiarity with policy processes at local, state and/or federal levels;
• Proficiency in Spanish.

APPLICATIONS

• Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: https://www.acls.org/competitions/acls-leading-edge-fellowships/
• All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
• Application deadline: March 28, 2022, 9pm EDT