



Environmental Justice Lead

OPPORTUNITY:

Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, a St. Louis-based nonprofit organization, is seeking a **Full-Time Environmental Justice Lead**. The successful candidate will deliver the Treesilience program in Missouri and support environmental justice work in St. Louis. Treesilience is a growing national initiative that works to provide a holistic approach to healthy community tree canopy including tree planting, health assessments and inventory, mature tree pruning and removal and replacement. Forest ReLeaf of Missouri has been piloting the Treesilience initiative for the past 2 years and we are now ready to expand it.

The majority of the work will be focused in low-income neighborhoods that are disproportionately affected by urban heat island impacts, air quality challenges, flood risk and increased tree insects/diseases pressure. Maps of urban tree canopy across St. Louis, as well as the entire U.S., show that trees, and thus their essential benefits, are not distributed equally - with low socioeconomic communities of color most neglected.. Treesilience helps remove barriers so residents can welcome trees into their neighborhoods with less negative impacts or maintenance burdens and reap the numerous quality of life benefits that community trees provide.

COMPENSATION:

The annual starting salary range is \$45K - \$48K a year. A successful candidate will have regular opportunities for pay increases associated with effort, professional development and demonstrated reliability and leadership. Forest ReLeaf offers excellent insurance benefits including comprehensive medical and dental coverage and provides matching retirement investments. Full-time employees enjoy holiday time-off and accrue paid vacation and sick leave. Forest ReLeaf of Missouri is an equal opportunity employer.

SCHEDULING:

Typical schedule is an 8-hour day, Monday through Friday, 40 hours per week. Working hours, especially during spring and fall, will require weekend and evening commitments, but flexible schedules are allowed.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:

The Environmental Justice Lead reports to the Partnership Manager.

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Delivering the Treesilience program to fulfill grant and funding requirements, including tracking activities and outcomes to produce a yearly report.
- Conducting focused outreach to program participants to understand the quantitative and qualitative impact Treesilience has had on participants, particularly with regard to human health outcomes.
- Handling phone calls and inquiries about the Treesilience program.
- Working with residents to determine eligibility for the program.
- Managing day-to-day work and relationships with various contractors.
- Coordinating tree plantings on private property that includes extensive homeowner tree care training as well as follow up monitoring.
- Leading career exploration and workforce development programs designed to improve access to career opportunities within the green industry for those living within the qualifying communities.
- Research viability to launch the Treesilience program across Missouri.
- Participating in organization-wide events such as tree plantings, tree giveaways and our spring and fall signature events.
- Working with various staff members as needed.

Successful candidate will be expected to:

- Take initiative in leading a successful implementation of the program.
- Work well with people of all ages and from all backgrounds, particularly residents who will be served by the Treesilience program.
- Be committed to checking their own biases and respectfully handling an environmental justice program.
- Request and handle bids from various contractors.
- Enjoy talking on the phone to manage program participants.
- Be understanding and flexible as the program may evolve over time.
- Articulate well, both in oral and written communications.
- Work independently.
- Be okay with working weekends during busy seasons - spring and fall - for tree plantings, community events, etc.
- Have a valid driver's license and clean driving record.
- Provide for personal transportation to and from the office and the field.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education/Experience: An Associate degree in Business Administration, Applied Arts, Forestry or related field; OR, an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. At least one (1) year of experience in community engagement is preferred. Functional knowledge of trees and/or plants is ideal, but not required. Experience using Google suites and working knowledge of Canva is also preferred.

Other Expertise: Strong leadership, communication, flexibility and human relations skills are critical for this position. Must be able to function well as a team player with staff, volunteers and partner organizations. A valid driver's license is required; use of a personal vehicle for agency-related travel will receive mileage reimbursement.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Accepting applications through **Friday, October 20, 2023.**

Qualified candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to:

Rebecca Hankins

Partnership Manager

rebecca@moreleaf.org