



Position Description: Health and Safety Organizer

North River Commission (NRC) seeks a full-time Health and Safety Organizer. Excellent candidates will be dynamic and engaging with strong skills in community engagement, communications, and project management. This position serves as staff to the emerging NRC Community Health and Safety Committee. The Health and Safety Organizer is an essential team member for delivery of programs serving a broad range of community stakeholders. The Health and Safety Organizer reports to and is supported by the NRC Housing Health and Safety Director.

Summary

The Health and Safety Organizer is responsible for community outreach and prioritization of solutions to build community resilience and prevent violence among residents in the Albany Park, North Park and Irving Park Community Areas through the agency's partnership with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and peer agencies. The position collaborates with community stakeholders to enhance public safety. NRC's work is grounded in equity and social justice. NRC creates equity, opportunity and prosperity for all. The position is grant-funded for 1 year by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

Background

North River Commission is a community-based nonprofit organization founded 60 years ago in 1962 by concerned residents and neighborhood institutions. NRC unites 100s of civic associations, businesses, schools, institutions and places of worship on the Northwest Side of Chicago to improve the quality of life for all constituents in our community by creating affordable housing, quality education, community health and safety, arts & cultural endeavors, environmental sustainability, open spaces, and thriving neighborhood businesses. NRC's service area encompasses Addison to Devon, the Chicago River to Cicero.

Responsibilities

Safety

- Responsible for broad community outreach and building community relationships and trust to foster authentic conversations about local safety challenges, the increase in violence, building more community resilience, and developing shared strategies for actions to prevent violence.
- Develop the Community Health and Safety Committee with board leadership and community stakeholders, establish annual priorities through community engagement, and foster strategic partnerships to achieve priorities.
- Facilitate and manage relationships with a broad array of stakeholders including community-based organizations, street outreach and intervention leaders, law enforcement, academics and other subject matter experts.

- Organize community events, forums, panel discussions to provide space for community members to speak to their experiences; celebrate community pride by highlighting organizations, leaders, and advocates who support public safety and health; and keep the community informed around violence prevention efforts and resources.
- Actively participate in forums, meetings and strategy sessions with community members and key stakeholders.
- Engage with youth and victims directly impacted or at high risk of being impacted by violence to connect to programs, others peer agencies, and available resources.
- With staff and board members, identify and secure funding for health and safety priorities from philanthropic, government, corporate and individual sources.
- Work effectively in a team of organizers and managers to achieve shared objectives and report on performance to community stakeholders including board members, peer agencies, and funders.

Health

- Coordinate outreach, education, and engagement strategies to link people to social services or other needed assistance.
- Responsible for building relationships and trust to allow for honest conversation about local health challenges, which may vary from chronic disease, opioid overdose, gun related injury or death, infant mortality, to infectious disease.
- Responsible for disseminating public health materials and messages to improve health literacy and health awareness, and improve health care access for community members.
- Work across different sectors to ensure broad participation of youth, seniors and families as well as across identity and racial groups.
- Collect data from surveys, focus groups, community meetings and other outreach activities, analyze data and develop reports, including performance reports.

Organization

- Collaborate with NRC staff, leaders, and community members for delivery of NRC objectives and engagement of communities to identify and prioritize actions through meetings, direct outreach, and organizing.
- Assist with resource development including grant making and contracts with Executive Director and fundraising consultants.

Requirements

- Bachelor's degree
- Highly collaborative with strong community organizing skills and experience with significant responsibility in project management, outreach, and building partnerships.
- Ability to build relationships in a mission-based environment that fosters support for NRC programs.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills, including professional and clear public

speaking and presentations.

- Bilingual ability is preferred, especially Spanish, also present in our communities are Arabic, Korean, Tagalog, Urdu, or Gujarati.
- Respects and embraces equity, diversity and social justice when interacting with peers, supervisors, community partners, landlords, and residents.
- Ability and commitment to working with diverse communities and organizations, including diverse socio-economic, racial, ethnic, religious, and other identity communities.
- A commitment to community-based work and a desire to work in a flexible, friendly office environment and out in the community.
- Confidence in managing multiple projects in a demanding, deadline-driven, team-oriented environment.
- Experience in and knowledge of Albany Park, Irving Park and North Park Community Areas, preferred.
- Availability to attend evening and weekend programs, events, and community meetings. Travel within the City of Chicago, especially the community areas of Albany Park, Irving Park and North Park is required for programs, events, and meetings.
- Excellent computer skills.

Additional Details

Salary is commensurate with work experience and the anticipated range is \$48,000 to \$55,000. Benefits include excellent health, dental and vision benefits. Paid time off is provided for vacation, holidays, sick time, family leave, and medical leave.

Workplace is in the office and in the community, with limited flexibility to work from home depending on work responsibilities and in-person meetings. Work schedule depends on community outreach responsibilities that will require some morning, evening and occasional weekend work hours.

Position is open until filled, and the start date is anticipated as soon as practical. North River Commission is an equal opportunity employer.

NRC staff are required to provide proof of up-to-date COVID 19 vaccination and booster shots. A background check is required.

Application

Qualified individuals should submit a cover letter, resume, and two references including name, email and phone number.

Send application by email to:

Dalia Aragon, Housing, Health and Safety Director dalia@northrivercommission.org

No phone inquiries.