



Public Education Partners

Greenville County

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER

Posted: August 2020 | Salary: \$40,000
Reports to: Policy & Advocacy Director
FLSA Classification: Full-time (exempt)

ABOUT PUBLIC EDUCATION PARTNERS

For 35 years, Public Education Partners (PEP) has collaborated with community partners to strengthen public education for the 77,000 students and 7,000 teachers in Greenville County Schools. We are a nonprofit organization, and our mission is to lead our community in acting collectively to support, strengthen, and advance public education and student achievement in Greenville County Schools. Our small but dedicated team executes programming and initiatives that center around three strategic intentions:

Elevating Teachers

Creating the conditions to position Greenville as an ideal destination for teachers

Empowering Advocates

Building a space for education champions to learn, engage, and lift their voices in support of public education

Engaging Communities

Connecting people and ideas together to improve educational outcomes and inform cross-sector issues, conversations & action

POSITION SUMMARY

As a supporter of the largest school district in the state and the 44th largest in the nation, PEP is well-positioned to lead a collective response to these challenges. The Community Organizer will play the critical role of conducting outreach and ensuring that the community has the support and tools it needs to advocate for stronger, equitable public schools.

The Organizer, supported by PEP's Policy and Advocacy Director, will serve as a convener of local community organizations, community members, faith-based organizations, school groups (including School Improvement Councils, PTAs, etc.), teachers, and administrators to inform and advance local and state public education policy and advocacy work. A portion of the Organizer's time will be spent supporting or leading specific projects and initiatives, including EdTalks (quarterly informational events), Teacher Fellows (a policy and advocacy training program for educators), statewide coalition work, and our Vote Public Education voter mobilization campaign.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Design and execute an inclusive outreach plan that will inform the Greater Greenville community about PEP's programmatic and systems-level work
- Build community leadership and capacity by working closely with teachers, students, parents, PTAs, School Improvement Councils, churches, non-profits, neighborhoods, etc.

- Provide community members, leaders, and organizations with the tools needed to advocate on behalf of Greenville's public schools
- Support those closest to the challenges they face in their efforts to improve their schools and communities
- Work in partnership with PEP's Policy and Advocacy Director and Senior Researcher to develop PEP's annual policy agenda
- Mobilize a diverse, representative coalition of education allies in support of sound and equitable public education policy
- Develop and manage relationships with new and existing partners
- Organize community events, trainings, and calls to action
- Grow and maintain PEP's advocacy database, Congress Plus
- Craft action alerts, newsletters, training materials, and other policy and advocacy publications
- Conduct fieldwork that includes door-to-door canvassing, tabling at community events, and phone banking

QUALIFICATIONS

It's okay if you don't meet every qualification! Don't let that stop you from applying if you believe you have the skills and know-how to help us advance PEP's mission and our policy and advocacy work.

- Experienced organizer and/or campaigner with a demonstrated track record of non-partisan movement-building and grassroots mobilization
- Ability to comprehend and explain complex education policy and law
- Familiarity with the South Carolina General Assembly and legislative process
- Clear, concise, and persuasive writer
- Ability to communicate and work with individuals from different backgrounds, communities, and with different lived experiences
- Deep commitment to PEP's mission and foundational beliefs
- Preferred: Background or knowledge of South Carolina's public education system
- Preferred: Proficiency in written and spoken Spanish

HOW TO APPLY

We are accepting applications until the position is filled. Preferred start date September 2020.

Please submit your resume and cover letter to Lindsey Jacobs, Policy and Advocacy Director, at lindsey@pepgc.org with "Community Organizer" in the subject line.

Note: This position is supported by grant funding and contingent upon continued financial support.