



## **Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition**

### **Policy Associate**

#### **Full-time**

**Start Date: January 2023**

**Salary: \$54,000 - \$66,000 commensurate with experience plus a generous benefits package**

### **Organization Background**

Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition (MEJC) is a statewide coalition working to achieve a clean, healthy and safe environment for Michigan's most impacted residents. MEJC works to achieve this goal in alignment with the Jemez and EJ Principles through popular education, building collective power, and taking action for systemic change. MEJC convened in 2011 to grow the environmental justice movement in Michigan. We have led campaigns in Energy Democracy and Cumulative Impacts as well as engaging in federal and state policy. MEJC hopes to define an ambitious climate justice agenda for Michigan that centers Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities and is free of fossil fuels and false solutions.

### **Position Overview**

MEJC is seeking a full-time Policy Associate to support our state policy campaigns. The Policy Associate will build and strengthen relationships amongst a diverse set of stakeholders from communities of color and tribal communities. They will be responsible for supporting our engagement with elected officials and regulators, and for defining our policy positions on current and emerging environmental justice issues. In 2023, MEJC expects to engage our communities on the dangers of projects like carbon capture and hydrogen, understand the impacts of the Justice40 Initiative in Michigan EJ communities, and build a grassroots vision for Climate Justice in Michigan. MEJC will continue its flagship work on bringing Energy Democracy and Energy Justice to communities of color throughout Michigan. The Policy Associate will report to the Policy Director and will work in consultation with other MEJC staff, MEJC members, and other allies across the state and the country to best assure the success of our policy programming. Work is mostly remote with an expected 20% travel time. Location is flexible within the state of Michigan. Applicants outside of Michigan must be willing to relocate to the state.

### **Scope of Work**

The Policy Associate scope of work includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Educate and inform elected leaders in the state of Michigan about the structural inequities of

- environmental burdens and climate change;
- Create opportunities for MEJC members and coalitional partners to present to elected officials and hold them accountable to our values;
- Promote and advance policies that seek to root out environmental racism in our state;
- Represent and amplify MEJC core values and campaigns within public forums;
- Build relationships with legislative staff, members of the State legislature, and City Council with the goal of supporting Climate Justice;
- Work in collaboration and partnership, be led and lead, coalition members for successful power-mapping, and strategies to build power;
- Develop and launch digital platforms and tools necessary to accomplish these goals.

### **Ideal Candidate**

The ideal candidate has the following qualifications:

- At least 3 years of work experience in policy advocacy or government affairs
- Experience working with coalitions and grassroots organizations
- Experience and commitment to working on racial and social justice issues
- Experience working in and with racially, ethnically and socioeconomically marginalized communities
- Sharp analysis of the Environmental Justice & Climate Justice movements, and the current political landscape at the state and national level
- Strong understanding of Energy Democracy and Energy Justice
- Strong writing and research skills
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to manage relationships with colleagues as well as external partners and stakeholders
- Ability to consider multiple perspectives, think critically, provide an analysis of policy strategies and related risks
- Persuasive and effective communication
- Commitment to raising one's cultural consciousness and challenging oppressive practices on an interpersonal and institutional level
- Arabic or Spanish desired, but not required
- Graduate degree preferred, but not required

### **How to Apply**

To apply, please submit the following items by **December 16, 2022** at 5:00PM to [juan@michiganej.org](mailto:juan@michiganej.org) with "Policy Associate" in the subject of the email. Remote position; candidate must live in Michigan or be willing to relocate within 3 months.

- Resume

- Phone number and/or email of at least two professional references.
- 1 page cover letter outlining your experience and how it would inform your approach to the work

*MEJC is an equal opportunity employer and strongly encourages people of color, women, LGBTQ, and disabled candidates to apply.*