



Western States Center

POSITION AVAILABLE: Researcher/Organizer

Western States Center was founded in 1987 and currently employs eight staff. It was established to help strengthen and further develop the progressive movement in the West. For nearly three decades, it has served to connect leaders, activists, and organizers, building a sense of shared values, honing strategies for building power, sharpening our political analyses, and forging relationships and alliances with the broader movement for social, economic, racial, and environmental justice. Its current programs include work in gender justice, tribal sovereignty, and racial justice.

Position Overview

An emerging white nationalist movement and its “alt-right” coalition has shown its ability to shape public narrative on national policies, endanger community cohesion and limit the ability of people of color, immigrants and refugees, and other marginalized communities to fully participate in civic life without the threat of criminalization, harassment, or violence. What was once a contained fringe social movement is morphing into a mass movement.

Now, critical work involves managing this threat in a way that enables forward movement, protects vulnerable communities at the local level, and begins to reopen political, social and cultural space for those seeking long-term systemic change based on inclusion and rights.

The Researcher/Organizer will work intensively under the Program Director’s supervision. Responsibilities include:

- Conduct outreach to and build relationships with state and local partners;
- Provide direct support to community organizations in countering organized racist activity;
- Research white nationalist groups and track their activity;
- Develop materials to bridge anti-hate research and organizing;
- Assist with developing and conducting webinars and trainings on white nationalism and strategies to counter it;
- Participating in national and local campaigns to interrupt white nationalist alignment;
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

Desired qualifications include:

- Two years of community organizing experience (including campus organizing);
- Experience conducting opposition research or an excitement to learn;
- A strong racial justice analysis;
- Ability to thrive in a diverse, multi-racial working environment both internally and externally;
- Ability to learn quickly and think creatively;

- Ability to work independently and to coordinate multiple projects at once;
- An understanding of digital organizing;
- Strong writing skills.

Extra points for the following qualifications:

- Experience organizing against or researching anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim, or white nationalist groups;
- Fluency in Spanish;
- Graphic design skills.

Location and Travel

The position will ideally be based in the Portland, Oregon office of Western States Center, or in the Bay Area, California. However, consideration would be given to a remote arrangement for the right candidate. The successful candidate for this position must be willing to travel regularly.

Salary & Benefits

This is a full time exempt position. Benefits include health and dental insurance, retirement benefits, paid sick leave, vacation, and sabbatical. Starting annual salary range is \$40,000 - \$42,500 depending on experience.

Application

To apply, please submit the following to: againsthate@wscpx.org, with the subject line "Researcher/Organizer Application":

- Cover letter clearly outlining the specific skills and knowledge you bring to the job and how they are a good fit with the responsibilities of this position;
- Resume detailing relevant experience, work history, education, and accomplishments;
- 2- or 3-page writing sample.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

Western States Center is an EEO employer and encourages applications from people of color, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, and women.

Only complete applications will be considered. Due to the high volume of applications, only those selected for further consideration will be contacted. No phone calls, please.