



New Jersey Counts Project Director Position

The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice (the “Institute”) is looking for a dedicated, intellectually creative, entrepreneurial team player to serve as our New Jersey Counts Project Director to support the organization’s civic engagement work for the 2020 Census.

The Institute’s civic engagement work seeks to realize the promise of democracy for New Jersey’s urban residents and people of color by working to ensure full, equal, and active participation in the electoral process. Over the coming years, the Institute will work to 1) expand the right to vote to people with felony convictions who are in prison, on parole, or on probation; 2) reduce barriers to participation so that all eligible voters are able to cast a ballot; and 3) ensure that communities of color are afforded equal representation in the districting process.

The 2020 Census is two years away, but preparations for the decennial count have already begun. The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice seeks a part-time New Jersey Counts Project Director to help develop and coordinate New Jersey’s efforts to count every person.

The New Jersey Counts Project Director will help lead planning efforts as the state prepares for the 2020 Census and coordinate a broad and diverse statewide network of community-based organizations, civic leaders, faith leaders, educators, elected officials, business leaders, and other key stakeholders who are committed to ensuring an accurate and representative census count. The project will especially focus on ensuring that hard-to-count populations, including people of color, low-income communities, immigrant communities, and children under five, are fully and accurately counted.

Responsibilities include:

- Build a broad and diverse coalition of community leaders, community-based organizations, faith leaders, elected officials, educators, and business leaders across the state who are committed to ensuring an accurate and complete census count.
- Lead the coalition’s efforts to ensure a full and accurate census count, including serving as a clearinghouse for census-related information, coordinating public education and outreach to hard-to-count communities, coordinating policy advocacy efforts related to the census, convening coalition meetings and developing agendas, and serving as the go-to resource on issues related to the decennial census count.

- Create a statewide strategic plan to engage coalition partners, community leaders, municipalities, policymakers, and other key stakeholders in census outreach and public education.
- Serve as a liaison and share best practices with other states' census campaigns and with national partners.
- Develop and disseminate public education materials related to the census, in collaboration with coalition partners.
- Research and draft op-eds, online articles, and opinion pieces.
- Interface with the New Jersey Complete Count Commission.

Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree required.
- Two-three years of experience in civil rights and social justice, immigrants' rights, public policy, community-based policy advocacy and/or organizing, preferably in New Jersey.
- Demonstrated ability to build and work effectively with diverse coalitions and community groups and to work across political ideology, race, ethnicity, socio-economic circumstances, religion, gender, and sexual orientation.
- The ability to work effectively in a collaborative context, both internally and externally.
- Outstanding interpersonal skills. Tenacity, flexibility, resilience and high energy.
- Bi-lingual Spanish/English preferred.

Compensation: This is a half-time, at-will position. Salary is commensurate with experience. This is a grant funded position.

Applications:

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please email your cover letter, resume, short writing sample, and three professional references to recruitment@njisj.org. Please submit your application materials via Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF. Include all attachments in a single email stating, in the subject line, "New Jersey Counts Project Director."

About the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice:

The Institute is an equal opportunity employer and values a diverse workforce and an inclusive culture.

The Institute's mission is to empower urban residents to realize and achieve their full potential. Established in 1999 by Alan V. and Amy Lowenstein, the Institute's dynamic and independent advocacy is aimed at toppling load-bearing walls of structural inequality to create just, vibrant, and healthy urban communities. We employ a broad range of advocacy tools to advance our

ambitious urban agenda, including research, analysis and writing, public education, grassroots organizing, communications, the development of pilot programs, legislative strategies, and litigation.