#BlackLivesMatter
Position Description

**BLACK LIVES MATTER NATIONAL DIRECTOR**

**Background:**
#BlackLivesMatter was created in 2013 after Trayvon Martin’s murderer, George Zimmerman, was acquitted for his crime, and dead 17-year-old Trayvon was post-humously placed on trial for his own murder. Rooted in the experiences of Black people in this country who actively resist our de-humanization, #BlackLivesMatter is a call to action and a response to the virulent anti-Black racism that permeates our society.

#Black Lives Matter (BLM) is a unique contribution that goes beyond addressing the extrajudicial killings of Black people by police and vigilantes. Black Lives Matter affirms the lives of Black queer and trans* folks, Black disabled folks, Black-undocumented folks, Black folks with records, and Black women and all Black lives along the gender spectrum. Bringing those who have been marginalized within Black liberation movements to the center, Black Lives Matter is a tactic to (re)build the Black liberation movement.

#BlackLivesMatter is a network of volunteer-run chapters across the United States and the world that brings new and emerging activists, seasoned leaders of all ages, and multi-issue organizations together to align, coordinate, and lead efforts for cultural, community, social, economic, and policy transformation. Our network structure is comprised of local chapters and a network hub. Currently, the BLM network connects 24 chapters in the United States and 2 international chapters, all of which are aligned with the BLM core values and policy demands. Together these chapters amplify the voices and impact of thousands of BLM chapter members.

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**
The National Director will provide leadership toward the achievement of BLM’s vision and mission, striving to meet the strategic aims of BLM through the planning and implementation of annual and longer-term goals and objectives and the management of BLM’s exceptional volunteers and team members.

The BLM National Director reports to the BLM Co-Founding Leadership Team.

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**
- Leads strategic development of the organization, guiding collaborative processes with the volunteers, chapter leaders, BLM national team and BLM Co-Founders to shape the long-term vision of BLM, developing and overseeing the implementation of BLM’s plans
- Builds relationships with chapter leaders, allies, funders, volunteers and the media.
- Oversee and implement fundraising efforts including development/fundraising support for individual and institutional donors.
- Provides support and supervision for BLM Chapter Coordinators and national BLM staff, in communication with BLM Co Founders team
Manages the organization’s finances and ensures resources are allocated efficiently and in alignment to BLM values and priorities.
Supervise dynamic staff team and ensures a functional work environment
Foster and maintain partnerships with allies in the broader movement for social justice
Strategically represents the organization and builds partnerships
Assures the organization and its mission and programs are consistently presented

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE
Deep commitment to and enthusiasm for BLM's mission including an analysis of anti-Black violence, structural racism, community healing and building a Black Power network within the United States and abroad;
Previous experience in grassroots organizing and social justice movement.
Previous community, or national organizing experience desired. Understanding of campaign development and implementation necessary.
Experience with alliance building, coalition building and/or working in established coalitions.
Able to effectively represent BLM to a diversity of audiences. Strong verbal and written communication skills.
Able to provide leadership within a fast paced and often virtual work environment.
Fundraising skills and grant writing experience. Ability to fundraise to support the development of BLM.
Knowledge and experience in staff management desired, especially within the framework of a new and emerging organization.
Able to lead team via consensus building and empower staff to lead in their areas.
Exceptional organizational skills for effective project management.
Understanding of transformational movement building and anti-oppression principles and practices with experience utilizing anti-oppression framework in personal and organizational interactions.
Experience in conflict mediation and facilitation is desired.

Type: Part-time - Independent Contract Position
Compensation: Based on skills and experience
Location: United States
Start Date: September 4, 2015

TO APPLY: Please email a resume and cover letter by August 28th, to:

- Subject: National Director Search
- Email: blacklivesmatter@gmail.com

Applications will be accepted through August 28, 2015 or until the ideal candidate is identified. Candidates of interest will be contacted immediately. Due to the anticipated volume of applicants, we regret that we will not be able to respond individually to each applicant. No phone calls, please.

*Black Lives Matter is fiscally sponsored by the Praxis Project.*
The Praxis Project is an equal opportunity employer with a commitment to engaging the skills and leadership of people of color, low-income persons, LGBT persons, differently-abled people, and other people from diverse backgrounds. People from these and other traditionally marginalized backgrounds and communities are strongly encouraged to apply.