

Minnesota Coalition *for the Homeless*
JOB DESCRIPTION || REGIONAL EXPERTS ORGANIZER

Organizational Summary

The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless (MCH) is an advocacy coalition of over 100 housing, homeless, and employment service providers and allied member organizations committed to ending homelessness in Minnesota through policy change. Founded in 1984, we are grounded in our core values of collaboration, community, and achievement. We strive to do all of our work through an equity lens by embedding the variety of lived experiences and perspectives of our team, stakeholders, and community partners into the work we do. As a nonpartisan, nonprofit, statewide coalition, MCH is uniquely positioned to advance policy change at the State Capitol. Since 2012, along with our partners, MCH has secured over \$600 million in state funding to prevent/address homelessness, create/preserve homes and passed nation-leading policy reforms in Minnesota's economic assistance programs. MCH is a small and mighty organization that harnesses the power of advocates and caring communities across Minnesota.

Position Summary

Homelessness disproportionately hurts Black, Indigenous, People of Color and LGBTQIA+ people. We believe that these communities, and anyone who has experienced homelessness, are the experts and must be centered in the work we do together. We will not be able to end homelessness without these communities identifying the issues, solutions, and making decisions. We recognize that marginalized groups have different access to employment and job advancement and believe strongly in leadership development and lifting up the voices of non-traditional leadership. We will work with the right candidate to develop the necessary skills to be successful in this position, including a budget for personal training. Hence, we strongly encourage applications from people with these identities or who are members of other marginalized communities to apply.

MCH is looking for someone to fill the position of the Regional Experts Organizer. The organizer will work in close collaboration with the Director of Organizing in order to build our advocacy and organizing with a focus on people closest to homelessness. The Organizer will be responsible for identifying & implementing power-building goals, including but not limited to aligning issue campaigns, developing a base of advocates in the 7-County Metro area and incorporating the work into our statewide advocacy. This job is ideal for someone who wants to organize within communities most impacted by the housing crisis and the organizations dedicated to ending homelessness.

A growing area of our work is the Regional Expert Network. MCH currently facilitates a statewide Regional Expert Network and is expanding our work with a focus on the 7-County Metro Regional Homeless Response system. Regional Expert is defined as someone with lived experience of homelessness with support from those working in homelessness.

Location

This position is based in our Saint Paul office although some travel throughout Greater Minnesota will occasionally be required. MCH understands that each person's ability to travel will differ so access to funds or

other resources can include, but not limited to carpooling, mileage and a travel budget. Work is performed in a standard office environment which requires occasionally lifting such articles as file boxes or heavier materials with help from others and/or lifting and carrying light objects frequently. A job in this category may require walking or standing to a significant degree or may involve sitting most of the time with long periods of computer work and heavy phone usage.

Salary/Benefits/Other Information

The annual salary range for this position is between \$50,000 and \$55,000, depending on experience. MCH offers generous benefits including: health insurance, dental insurance, vision insurance, life insurance, short-term disability, and flexible spending account; generous paid time off. Working hours can be flexible depending on the scope of work being done.

This position reports to the Executive Director.

Responsibilities

- The Organizer will be a public leader and strategic thinker who is able to build trusted relationships with a variety of constituencies such as those most impacted by homelessness, partner organizations, government agencies, the legislature and others as appropriate
- Identify key partners in the 7-County Metro to join the Regional Expert Network (REN) that is convened and facilitated by MCH. The REN is a statewide partnership of organizations committed to ensuring people with lived experience of homelessness and staff are building an empowered, peer-led community that is collaborative and strategic in advising localities and policymakers on best practices to prevent and end homelessness.
- Work with the REN and other partners to identify and implement solutions that improve the 7-County Metro homeless response system
- Build a base of advocates within the 7-County Metro to grow our statewide power and influence.
- Be a convener, facilitator and leader in creating safe spaces for diverse groups to gather together and work towards ending homelessness
- Ensure REN members have the individual support and training they need to participate in community policy and planning discussions, and that the policy and planning tables that request their assistance are prepared and committed to fully include REN members in decision making.
- Work in partnership with the entire MCH staff on our shared projects. We have our Homeless Day on the Hill which draws over 800 people on a single day and the MCH Conference which has over 500 people attend a multi-day event of workshops, speakers and networking.

Qualifications and Experience

- Lived experience of homelessness, while not required will be strongly considered
- Experience engaging the perspectives of multiple perspectives and communities in the decision-making process.
- Experience working directly with people from diverse racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Effective written and verbal communication skills, and ability to present to diverse audiences, specifically racially, ethnically, and socioeconomically diverse communities.
- An understanding of institutional and structural racism and bias and their impact on communities.
- Ability to flex communication style to multiple cultural environments.
- An understanding of community organizing and how it can be incorporated into our advocacy.

Desirable Qualifications and Experience

- Knowledge of or experience with the homeless response system in the 7-County Metro region.
- Ability to keep electronic records of organizing and advocacy efforts in order to ensure relationships are built and maintained within MCH.
- General understanding of how the MN legislature and local governments operate in order to identify decision making spaces and/or people.

How to Apply

Please send a cover letter, resume, and three references to info@mnhomelesscoalition.org with the subject line **“Regional Expert Organizer_YourFirstandLastName.”** First review of applications will begin on February 7th; position is open until filled.

The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from Black, Indigenous, People of Color, Persons with Disabilities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, women, and individuals with lived experience of homelessness.