JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: State Advocacy Manager

LOCATION: Flexible

THE POSITION:

Do you want to join a dynamic and growing organization working to advance harm reduction policies and practices across the United States? Do you have an understanding of or interest in how the nation’s history of racialized drug policies have caused egregious harm to people most vulnerable to structural violence? Do you have the knowledge and skills to support advocates at the state level in working toward policies that lead to tangible changes in the lives of people who use drugs and their communities?

The State Advocacy Manager is responsible for supporting state and local advocates in advancing effective harm reduction policies in their communities.

The State Advocacy Manager implements and advances Harm Reduction Coalition’s policy priorities by leading our state advocacy support and technical assistance on issues relevant to the health, safety, and well-being of people who use drugs, including syringe access, overdose prevention, HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis, as well as incarceration, housing, and access to health care. The State Advocacy Manager supports our community mobilization efforts by working closely with the policy team to design and implement movement building and advocacy campaigns. The State Advocacy Manager is responsible for representing Harm Reduction Coalition in meetings with state advocates and relevant state officials; tracking relevant legislation and policy developments; preparing advocacy materials; and representing Harm Reduction Coalition in state coalitions and cultivating advocacy partnerships.

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION:

Harm Reduction Coalition is a national advocacy and capacity-building organization that works to promote the health and dignity of individuals and communities who are affected by drug use. With offices in New York and California and expanding to DC, we advance harm reduction policy and practice through five core programs:

1. harm reduction policy and advocacy;
2. national training and capacity building initiatives;
3. national and regional conferences;
4. publications and resources, and;
5. technical assistance on overdose prevention education, hepatitis C prevention and treatment, syringe access expansion, and the US opioid crisis.

Collectively, these core programs work toward our North Star Statement: Harm Reduction Coalition creates spaces for dialogue and action that help heal the harms caused by racialized drug policies.
DUTIES AND ACTIVITIES:

Supporting State Advocates:

- In collaboration with the Senior Director of Policy & Mobilization, set organizational state policy priorities and state advocacy plans, based on our strategic and funding priorities, and then manage and execute state-level priorities and plans.
- Ensure state advocates have timely and easy access to the resources they need to advocate more effectively by:
  - providing mentoring and support as needed on analysis, strategy, messaging, coalition building, and leadership development;
  - identifying the need for and, with support, creating both model policies and state specific policies and messaging resources as needed;
  - organizing and facilitating workshops and advocacy trainings; and
  - organizing and managing cross-state learning opportunities.
- Ensure organizational priorities, that are reliant on state advocacy plans, are being met by coordinating with other departments to provide policy support where needed.

Harm Reduction Movement Building:

- Cultivate a stronger state harm reduction movement by identifying and mentoring new advocacy leaders particularly focusing on people who use drugs and people with other relevant lived experience; building relationships with advocacy leaders and partners in allied movements; and building partnerships with diverse stakeholders.
- Create movement building priorities and plans and execute the plans as they relate to state advocate based work.

Issue Area Expertise:

- Ensure that the development of state policy recommendations and advocacy strategies and all organization resources (including conference planning) are informed by best practices as well as emerging trends and issues by tracking all relevant state legislation, regulation, funding, and policy developments and contributing where needed to resource creation.
- Ensure the organizations federal advocacy priorities and activities are informed by state advocacy needs by contributing to planning and, where needed, execution of federal advocacy activities.
- Leverage subject matter expertise to improve the organization’s policy priorities, resources, and cross movement building work.

Department and Organization Support:

- Ensure the organization is well represented in necessary coalition and stakeholder spaces by being a point person or representative where it makes sense because of capacity or expertise.
- Support the policy department or other teams where applicable with grant writing where it makes sense because of role, capacity, or expertise.
- Support the Capacity Building team in providing training where there are opportunities to concretely advance policy goals, and in identifying opportunities for Capacity Building team involvement.
- Provide mentorship and support where applicable to other staff taking on policy roles or policy interns where needed.
REQUIREMENTS:

- Minimum 3-5 years of experience with policy advocacy and/or political or issue campaign work
- Familiarity with state policy and advocacy and proven ability to support policy and advocacy campaigns
- Experience with policy analysis, development of advocacy materials, and coalition work
- Strong writing, communication, and public speaking skills
- Ability to travel periodically
- Knowledge of harm reduction (or relevant background in public health and/or drug policy) a plus.

SALARY RANGE: $60,000-$75,000  (Title and Salary negotiable based on experience)

REPORTS TO: Senior Director of Policy & Mobilization

FLSA STATUS: Exempt

TRAVEL: Position requires heavy travel = more than 21 days per year

TO APPLY: Please use the below link to apply online for the State Advocacy Manager position. The attachments should adhere to the following naming convention: “Lastname, Firstname_Cover Letter.” Only qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls or visits please.

People who currently use or have a history of substance use, sex workers, people of color, women, members of the LGBTQIA+ communities, and people living with HIV/AIDS and/or hepatitis C, or people who have experienced housing insecurity are strongly encouraged to apply. As an equal opportunity employer, Harm Reduction Coalition views the experiences associated with these identities as assets in this role and within our organization.

To submit your application, Click HERE (external link).

DEADLINE: March 6, 2020