

Overview: The Housing Director will be responsible for our program to preserve and create homeownership in the Lower 9th Ward, and will drive our policy and advocacy work through close collaboration with staff providing technical assistance to homeowners in the community. This role requires partnership with community leaders, homeowners and public officials.

Organizational Description: The Lower 9th Ward Homeownership Association (L9WHA) was formed in 2006 to address the needs of residents trying to return home after Army Corps of Engineers levees failed during Hurricane Katrina. We are a small, neighborhood-based, resident-run organization committed to improving the quality of life in the Lower 9th Ward. Our mission is the preservation and creation of homeownership and the resident-driven revitalization of our historic community. In particular, we work to achieve racial equity for lower-income African Americans, many of whom have overcome systemic barriers to become homeowners—or are still trying to surmount them.

The L9WHA's core strength is our ability to uncover systemic problems at the ground level and bring solutions to policy makers, bridging the gap between affected communities and the people in power—then circling back to make sure neighborhood residents receive the benefits of positive housing policies. We bring this approach to each of our initiatives, including preserving existing homeownership in the face of harmful policies; supporting the creation of new homeownership opportunities while building the capacity of residents to become homeowners; and community organizing and outreach to revitalize and protect our neighborhood.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Individual Assistance:

- Work with and supervise Community Engagement and Client Services Specialist (CECSS) on individual cases assisting residents with issues that affect their continued ownership of their homes, such as assessments, taxes, title, repairs, and disaster recovery resources.
- Handle individual cases directly as necessary
- Manage database to track progress of cases and outcomes

Policy Work:

- Develop policy solutions to systemic issues uncovered through individual assistance
- Work with partners in housing rights organizations, to develop strategies and bring solutions to policymakers
- Work with CECSS to engage neighborhood residents in advocating for change
- Create plan to make sure residents benefit from successful policy initiatives

Homeownership Creation:

- Supervise the Housing Creation Specialist (HCS) in supporting local residents/potential homeowners in the L9 Ward in becoming homeowner-ready
- Oversee and support the Housing Creation Specialist in developing programs to create new homeownership opportunities, including the HCS's work with the Lower 9 Housing Table
- Collaborating with the HCS, proactively develop new approaches to homeownership creation and work with developers and government agencies to implement

Outreach:

- Assist with developing outreach plan, in coordination with Executive Director, CECSS, and HCS
- Participate in outreach events and other aspects of plan as needed
- Support community organizing initiatives
- Support neighborhood revitalization activities as needed

Fundraising & Other:

- Assist with grant applications and reports as needed
- Support other team members as needed

Attributes, Experience, and Skills

Required

- Firm commitment to racial equity and understanding of systemic racism
- Experience in policy development related to housing rights/equitable homeownership creation and preservation
- Experience assisting individuals with homeownership-related issues, either in assisting in acquiring or preserving homeownership
- Knowledge of and experience working in housing issues related to disaster recovery
- Experience working and developing strong relationships with partners
- Experience working with public officials
- Ability to supervise and collaborate with team members, with a commitment to colleagues' and one own's growth
- Experience working with online platforms and software such as databases and Google Suite
- Strong communication skills, both oral and written
- Critical thinker: Ability to identify root causes of current problems and develop solutions, especially as relates to housing
- Ability to use time effectively



Lower 9th Ward
Homeownership
Association



Desired

- Experience planning and conducting outreach and community organizing campaigns
- Experience with grant reporting and budgeting
- Demonstrated connection to urban housing issues affecting BIPOC communities in Southern US cities

Supervisor: Executive Director of the L9WHA

Details: This is a full-time position. Compensation is in the range of \$41,600 to \$45,700 depending on experience. We offer generous annual and sick leave and a flexible schedule based on organizational needs and the candidate's availability. Some evening and weekend hours may be required. At this time, we are unable to offer health insurance and retirement benefits. Staff members are encouraged to apply for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

To Apply: Application period will close as soon as the position is filled. To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to director@l9wha.org.

Members of the Lower 9th Ward community are strongly encouraged to apply.