



**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT  
COMMUNITY EDUCATION SPECIALIST  
AND TENANT ORGANIZER**

The Connecticut Fair Housing Center seeks an individual to conduct community education and assist with tenant organizing. Even before COVID-19, nearly 20,000 evictions a year were filed in Connecticut, a substantial majority of which were for non-payment of rent. This year, because of a global pandemic, we will likely see eviction numbers twice or three times as high. The Center seeks an individual with a commitment to civil rights work relating to race and housing justice provide community education and assistance to tenants who are organizing to prevent displacement.

**Specific Responsibilities Include:**

- Build internal working group to guide tenant organizing and mass eviction defense work;
- Work with the attorney assigned to the project to develop a workplan and goals to be accomplished;
- Support efforts by tenants to organize against the impending eviction crisis and the government's inadequate response;
- Provide information and education to tenants in danger of eviction on the fair housing laws, tenant assistance programs, and the eviction process;
- Work with tenant groups and coalitions to determine how to fight evictions both through the courts and through organized efforts that do not rely on the court system;
- Develop strategies to assist tenants with the state's rental assistance programs and bring any problems or discriminatory impact caused by the programs to the attention of attorneys at the Center;
- Create a multilingual organizer/advocate toolkit that explains the effect the COVID-19 crisis has had on landlord-tenant laws and evictions, guidance on process for applying for rental assistance and appealing a denial;
- Assist tenants with legislative advocacy, including gathering legislative testimony and, where requested, help with drafting proposed legislation;
- Currently CFHC staff is working remotely with laptops and other equipment supplied by the organization. We expect all staff to work in the office when the current public health crisis ends.

**Qualifications:**

- Two years of post-high school education and 2 years of directly related experience OR 4 years of directly related experience;

- Exceptional interpersonal skills; proven ability to cultivate relationships with and establish networks among a diverse set of stakeholders, including clients, partner organizations, community groups, etc.;
- Spanish-speaking ability strongly preferred;
- Bi-lingual and/or bi-cultural individuals are strongly encouraged to apply;
- Excellent communication skills; public speaking/training experience strongly preferred;
- Demonstrated interest in and passion for combating housing discrimination or other civil rights violations, or related issues;
- Ability to work independently and take initiative;
- Ability to collaborate well with others;
- Proficient in Word and Excel; experience with other relevant software programs and with managing social media accounts and/or websites helpful.
- Must be willing and able to travel throughout CT (if this can be done safely) for meetings, trainings, and other events (mileage reimbursed).

**Salary:** Between \$48,000 - \$63,000 depending on experience for a 35-hour work week. The benefits package includes health care, retirement, life insurance, flexible scheduling, and substantial paid leave.

**Send resume and cover letter to:** Letty Ortiz, Administrative Assistant at [letty@ctfairhousing.org](mailto:letty@ctfairhousing.org). Please include the names and addresses of three people who can act as references. We will not contact any references without speaking to you first. Please do not call.

**Application Deadline:** August 20, 2020

**About Connecticut Fair Housing Center**—Connecticut Fair Housing Center is a statewide nonprofit civil rights organization dedicated to ensuring that all people, and principally those with scarce financial resources, have equal access to housing opportunities in Connecticut, free from discrimination. To accomplish our mission, the Center provides legal services to the victims of housing discrimination and those at risk of home foreclosure; conducts education, training, and outreach on fair housing laws; works with state and local governments to ensure compliance with the fair housing laws; and advocates for policies that will improve access to housing. [www.ctfairhousing.org](http://www.ctfairhousing.org)

Connecticut Fair Housing Center is an equal opportunity employer.