



**INTERFAITH ALLIANCE**  
OF COLORADO  
PROTECTING FAITH AND FREEDOM

## **JOB OPENING: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC JUSTICE**

### **Summary**

As a leading voice for progressive people of faith and moral conscience in Colorado on issues of human rights, equity, and opportunity, the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado is seeking passionate, qualified candidates for Director of Economic Justice. The right candidate will bring an entrepreneurial, asset-based, grassroots spirit to building economic, housing, and racial justice; a strong appreciation for faith communities and the gifts they bring to community transformation; a spirit of collaborative creativity and openness to emergence in a dynamic work environment; and a particular set of skills and passion for developing affordable housing. Primary responsibilities will include the Congregation Land Campaign and managing our Catalyzing Social Change initiatives.

**Reports To:** Executive Director

**Type:** Full-time, 40-50 hours per week, with flexibility needed for some evenings and occasional weekends

**Compensation:** Between \$55,000 - \$65,000 commensurate with experience; strong vacation and work-hours flexibility; new employee benefits plan coming Quarter 1 2020.

**Application Deadline:** Monday Oct 7th, 2019

### **Organization Background**

The Interfaith Alliance of Colorado was founded in 1998 by a group of religious leaders who were searching for a way to give voice to Coloradans who wanted to put their faith into action as a progressive force for good in public life. Over the last four years, the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado has expanded our work on religious nondiscrimination and anti-oppression while lifting up the voice of progressive people of faith in Denver and Colorado more broadly.

### **Our Work**

Interfaith Alliance organizes our work into three primary program areas -- Education & Empowerment, Advocacy & Action, and Catalyzing Social Change -- strategically supported by robust work in Relationship Building & Communications. All team members weave their roles through all areas, with programmatic emphases specific to their position.

Through these strategic buckets, we work for human rights, opportunity, and equity. Our efforts blend social justice advocacy and reweaving the fabric of community. We are deeply committed to a way of being that centers love, solidarity, relationships across differences of all kinds, spirituality and the moral wisdom of our multiple faith-traditions, and a commitment to self-transformation in the process of transforming the world. Our issues include LGBTQ rights, gender equity, women's reproductive justice and rights, religious liberty as nondiscrimination, racial justice, criminal justice system reform, immigrant and refugee rights, and a host of economic justice issues including homelessness, decriminalization of poverty, affordable housing (emphasizing renters rights and public investment), predatory lending, and advancement of a cooperative solidarity economy.

Education & Empowerment programs include: Healing our Divides series, providing a suite of speakers, workshops, and trainings, and the Progressive Congregation Network. Advocacy & Action programs include: Day at the Legislature, Advocacy Toolkit Trainings, ongoing legislative advocacy and community organizing, and providing responses in moments of public crisis. Our Catalyzing Social Change projects include: developing tiny home villages through Colorado Village Collaborative, the Congregation Land Campaign, and emerging opportunities for building a cooperative solidarity economy. Please see our [website](#) for details.

We place a high value on the holistic health and wellbeing of our staff, believe that those fighting for liberation should themselves find freedom and life along the way. The emotional, spiritual, and physical health of our team is emphasized in many parts of our work-life culture.

### **Position Description**

The Director of Economic Justice will lead the Congregation Land Campaign and other grassroots, Asset-Based Community Development work, leveraging the resources of faith community for equitable and redistributive economic development. They will work closely with the Lead Housing Organizer and the full Interfaith Alliance of Colorado team. As a scrappy nonprofit, applicants should anticipate wearing multiple hats as needed, and being adaptable to emerging opportunities and needs.

### **Responsibilities Include:**

- *Congregation Land Campaign* - In partnership with the nonprofit architect firm Radian (among other partners), we promote the use of congregation-owned land for affordable housing development and integrating additional community beneficial uses. We offer workshops and design charrettes to clarify what a congregation wants to build, provide initial design and feasibility studies, and connect the land-owners with developers and non-profit partners who do the actual development. We encourage faith communities to consider the full housing spectrum (tiny homes, permanent supportive housing, affordable rental, affordable home ownership through community land trusts, and other creative housing solutions) and emphasize those with the greatest housing needs. Interfaith Alliance takes lead on connecting with faith communities, interpreting the complexities of housing development for non-experts, and supporting the difficult

change and decision-making processes involved in choosing to move forward on such projects. The Director of Economic Justice and Lead Housing Organizer will split projects and promotional duties, and will collaborate with the Radian team to further develop the program. DEJ responsibilities will include:

- Program budget management
  - Program vision, leadership and strategy
  - Promotion and sales of new projects
  - Project management and support
  - Technical assistance and developer partner relations
- *Catalyzing Social Change, Program Entrepreneurship* - Interfaith Alliance of Colorado is committed to identifying, supporting, and leading grassroots community development efforts that contribute to a more just and equitable Colorado. Historically, these include co-founding and incubating Colorado Village Collaborative which built the first tiny home village for people experiencing homelessness in Denver; the Congregation Land Campaign; and providing fiscal sponsorship to Soul 2 Soul Sisters. The Director of Economic Justice will identify and build new initiatives, particularly in areas of economic justice (or “community wealth building”), housing, and criminal justice reform.
  - *Staff Management* - The Director of Economic Justice manages the Lead Housing Organizer, Alternative Solutions Advocacy Project (ASAP) Coalition Organizer, program-relevant contractors and consultants, and interns working on Catalyzing Social Change initiatives.
  - *Miscellaneous* - additional responsibilities, which will be limited to 20% of time, may include:
    - Support fundraising and grant writing related to position
    - Limited policy advocacy support
    - Public speaking and trainings
    - Participate in annual Statewide Listening Tours
    - Be a presence and support when able at other Interfaith Alliance of Colorado events and programs

## **Qualifications**

- 2-4 years experience in affordable housing on either policy, community organizing, and/or development
- 2-4 years of economic justice work, with preference for experience that shows a capacity for grassroots community development and community organizing
- Appreciation for multiple faith traditions and the role of people of faith in movements for rights, justice, and liberation
- Ability to listen and learn about issues, strategies, local particularities, and diverse religions and cultures

- Excellent interpersonal, written and public communication skills with high emotional intelligence
- Organized and able to function in multiple settings across multiple projects
- Experience working in partnership, coalitions, and in solidarity with grassroots community groups

**To Apply**

Please send a resume and cover letter to Nathan Davis Hunt ([nathan@interfaithallianceco.org](mailto:nathan@interfaithallianceco.org)). Please include “Director of Economic Justice Application” in the subject line.

Applications are due by September 30th.