



Anti-Hunger Program Associate

Position Available

Maryland Hunger Solutions, an initiative of the Food Research and Action Center, seeks a highly motivated and skilled individual to join Maryland Hunger Solutions as an **Anti-Hunger Program Associate**, focusing substantially on policy advocacy, public education, training and outreach around the Child Nutrition Programs, and leading work throughout the state, with special emphasis on Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Prince George's County and Montgomery County. The work will have special emphasis on school breakfast and the community eligibility provision for school lunch and breakfast and will build broad-based approaches to school meal access and nutrition for children and youth. This full-time position will be located in Baltimore, Maryland with some travel around the state as required. This position reports to the Director of Maryland Hunger Solutions.

Organizational Background

FRAC is the leading national nonprofit organization working to improve and implement effective public policies and public-private partnerships to eradicate hunger and undernutrition in the United States. For more information on FRAC, please visit www.frac.org.

In 2007, FRAC founded Maryland Hunger Solutions (MDHS). MDHS is the leading Maryland non-profit working to reduce hunger and improve nutrition in the State of Maryland by improving participation and benefits in public nutrition and related programs. MDHS's primary focus is on using federal nutrition programs (e.g., food stamps, called the Food Supplement Program in Maryland, school breakfast and lunch, summer and afterschool nutrition programs, WIC and other programs) to reduce hunger and its adverse effects; to improve economic security, health and nutrition; and to strengthen community institutions.

MDHS works to educate the public and policymakers about the extent of hunger and its impact on Maryland residents, to forge workable solutions at the state and local level, to track the performance of state and local agencies, to identify and spread sustainable best practices and to engage a network of partners to make the federal nutrition programs accessible to all those who are in need. MDHS is a core member of the Partnership to End Childhood Hunger in Maryland, a public-private coalition created to raise awareness about childhood hunger in the state and increase participation in nutrition programs that combat hunger. MDHS leads the Maryland Food Access and Nutrition Network and is a key participant in various other anti-hunger and anti-poverty coalitions. For more information on MDHS, please visit www.mdhungersolutions.org.

Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Anti-Hunger Program Associate will be to protect, improve and grow child nutrition programs in Maryland. This will predominantly involve policy advocacy, public education, training, technical assistance, and outreach to increase participation and strengthen nutrition in school breakfast throughout Maryland. The associate will also lead MDHS efforts within the Baltimore City school district and other target districts to expand children's access to healthy food through all of the school meal programs (breakfast, lunch, afterschool and summer meals).

Responsibilities include:

- Analyze policies and practices that foster or inhibit program participation and healthier nutrition in Maryland, and assist in the development and implementation of strategies to increase the participation of families in school-based public nutrition programs, with an emphasis on the School Breakfast Program.
- Advocate for policies that improve children's access to nutrition, including effective implementation of the Community Eligibility Provision and work with local education agency staff and community groups to help increase participation.
- Evaluate current school breakfast program implementation in public schools in target jurisdictions, including Baltimore City, and work with school districts to establish and use best practices to significantly expand program participation.
- Provide technical assistance and engage multiple stakeholders, including representatives from the state of Maryland (including the Governor's Office, the Maryland State Department of Education, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health, city and county public officials, community groups, teachers, parents, school administrators, child care providers, and afterschool providers through research, training, meetings and presentations, site visits, and support materials.
- Collect, analyze and report district-by-district data on School Breakfast Program participation and rates and trends across the state to help raise awareness of the districts' varying accomplishments or short falls.
- Provide support and leadership to other Maryland Hunger Solutions team members to coordinate and integrate the team's work on School Breakfast with other child nutrition efforts across the state.

Skills and Qualifications

- Bachelors degree and at least two years of relevant experience; Masters degree in a related field preferred.
- Good conceptual, strategic thinking and creative skills.
- Detail-oriented planning and implementation skills.
- Willingness to work varied hours.
- Demonstrated ability to reach out effectively to low-income families and community-based organizations.
- Experience in policy analysis and advocacy.
- Experience in or with the public school system a plus.

- Excellent oral and written communications skills.
- Ability to collect, analyze and report on program data.
- Strong organizational skills and the ability to manage several tasks simultaneously.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Strong team orientation.
- Own transportation required. (Parking/mileage reimbursement provided for required out-of-office travel.)

Salary and Benefits

Salary commensurate with experience. Generous leave, health and other benefits.

To Apply

This position is available immediately.

Send resume, writing sample (not to exceed three pages), and cover letter providing a summary of accomplishments and experience to:

Anti-Hunger Program Associate Search
Maryland Hunger Solutions
Food Research and Action Center
1200 18th Street NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036

E-mail: employment@mdhungersolutions.org (Please include “Anti-Hunger Program Associate – MDHS” in subject line.)

Fax: 202-986-2525

No phone calls please

Closing Date

When filled. However, Maryland Hunger Solutions/FRAC seeks to hire a highly qualified individual as soon as possible.

FRAC is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. FRAC is firmly committed to a policy against discrimination based on sex, race, age, religious creed, sexual orientation, disability or ethnic or national origin.