

JOB DESCRIPTION

ACORN/INSTITUTE INTERNSHIPS

JOB TITLE: Community Organizer

BASIC FUNCTION: To work as an organizer with low to moderate income neighborhood groups affiliated with ACORN, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now. The self-governed local groups confront a broad scope of economic and political issues which affect their lives including utility rates, health care, taxes and neighborhood deterioration.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: To complete a minimum of a ten-week apprenticeship-style internship program devoted entirely to direct organizing. The first three days are an orientation period during which the intern gains familiarity with ACORN through reading compiled organizing materials, working through basic exercises and meeting with staff members to discuss the basics of setting up an organizing drive. In the second phase of the training, the intern works under the direction of an experienced ACORN organizer in the actual organization of a community group. After the organization is formed, the third phase of training stresses maintenance of the group, development of strategies and tactics, and the mechanics of internal financing.

Other responsibilities include research on local campaign issues, leadership development, participation in large-scale statewide campaigns, developing the financial self-sufficiency of ACORN at the neighborhood level by coordinating the membership dues system.

Interns will attend project and regional staff meetings.

SUPERVISION: The field organizer training the intern, as well as the Head Organizer of each state and the staff of the Institute for Social Justice, will be available for consulting on organizing problems and to offer guidance.

STIPEND: There is no stipend for the internship although in some cases financial aid may be arranged. Interns will be reimbursed for on-site mileage.

For further information: Kaye Jaeger, ACORN, 117 Spring,
Syracuse, NY 13208 315-476-0162.