



The Buffalo Niagara Community Reinvestment Coalition is looking for a Community Organizer!

The BNCRC seeks a person with a passion, drive and commitment to social justice work. Historically, banking practices in the United States have resulted in discriminatory practices such as redlining or a lack of lending to certain neighborhoods and individuals on the basis of race. Redlining and other policies act as barriers for racial groups and low to moderate income individuals on their journey to the traditional means of asset building. These policies and practices also lead to planned divestment and neighborhood deterioration, creating pockets of concentrated poverty in our communities. A community organizer is a critical position, particularly for grassroots work. An organizer identifies and manages the various themes that emerge from the work and is instrumental in bringing together the work of organizations to those most impacted by it. *Dedication, passion and commitment to the community and social justice, around issues of race and poverty are a must for this position.*

The Buffalo Niagara Community Reinvestment Coalition works to eliminate inequitable banking practices and the enduring impacts of redlining. The Coalition is comprised of thirteen prominent community organizations in the Buffalo-Niagara region with a history of working with local banks in holding them accountable under the Community Reinvestment Act, one of the last pieces of legislation to come out of the Civil Rights Era with the intent on combatting discriminatory banking practices. In recent years, the Coalition has successfully entered into two Community Benefits Agreements with two local banks totaling over \$2 billion to come to the Buffalo-Niagara region over a period of 5 years. These agreements hold each bank to commitments around mortgage lending, small business lending, and community lending and development projects (ie affordable housing) for low to moderate income individuals and communities.

Want to learn more about the Coalition, redlining or the Community Reinvestment Act? Visit our website at www.bncrc.org

A Community Organizer will:

- Build relationships with other non-profit and community organizations around equitable banking practices
- Hold community workshops on the work of the BNCRC and ways community can get involved in holding bank accountable
- Assist in the development and implementation of a strategic plan to move the Coalition forward
- Organize community members around issues of equitable/nondiscriminatory banking practices to prevent banks from engaging in discriminatory practices around home mortgages, small business lending and community development lending projects
- Conduct focus groups/surveys to assist in identifying community needs

A Community Organizer will have:

- A deep devotion to achieving social justice

- Excellent interpersonal and relationship building skills
- Passion and commitment to social justice work
- Outstanding organizational skills
- Strong written and verbal communication
- Ability and demonstration to work with diverse groups
- Good listening skills and decision-making abilities
- Flexibility, adaptability, and a proactive and initiative taking approach to tasks
- Ability to self-starter capable of doing independent work
- 1 year organizing experience preferred
- Bachelor's degree preferred

*To apply for the Buffalo Niagara Community Reinvestment Coalition's **Community Organizer** position please send a cover letter and resume to Kathryn Franco at BuffaloNiagaraCRC@gmail.com by November 22nd, 2019.*