

Job Title: Community Connector - BL

Location: Charlottesville, Virginia

Reports to: Associate Director of Community Partnerships

Employment Type: Part-time, 20 hours per week. Includes regular nights and weekends.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Charlottesville is a non-profit organization that brings people together to build and rebuild homes and communities, so that everyone in Charlottesville can have a decent place to live. We are deeply committed to working in respectful partnership with community members to support healthy neighborhoods.

Habitat is currently redeveloping the Southwood Mobile Home Park, a 120-acre, 1,300 resident community located in Albemarle County. We are working side by side with residents to plan for a mixed-use, mixed-income community of more than 1,000 new homes and businesses. When complete, Southwood will be a national model of compassionate and inclusive resident-led redevelopment. At Southwood and elsewhere, Habitat rebuilds communities via a long-term Asset Based Community Development approach, using the skills and talents of community members themselves to help them achieve their own vision.

Job Summary:

The Community Connector (CC) is part of Habitat's Department of Family and Community Partnerships and works closely with Habitat staff to mobilize neighborhood residents to act together to strengthen their community. In close collaboration with the Community Engagement team, the CC will work to build trust in the community and deep relationships with Southwood community members. He/she will engage residents in conversations about the redevelopment process and rehousing opportunities in future Southwood and will identify and recruit community leaders to participate in public meetings, public testimonies and other actions that will advance community priorities. The CC will be an outgoing, creative self-starter that will spend most of his/her time in the Southwood neighborhood connecting with neighbors. The CC will creatively utilize various methods to connect frequently with residents including door knocking, organizing community events and activities, conducting home visits, greeting parents and children at bus stops, flyering, walking the neighborhood, text/telephone outreach and social media communication.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Conduct persistent and frequent "street outreach" in the neighborhood to develop relationships and build rapport with Southwood residents
- In partnership with the Community Engagement team, plan, advertise, conduct outreach and host virtual and in-person events for Southwood residents, fostering relationships with and between residents
- Work with the Community Engagement team to respond to family requests for support in connecting with community services and resources.
- Reach out to community members to check in on them and encourage engagement in community events, redevelopment planning activities, community leadership opportunities, etc.

- Document notes about your interactions in a case management database.
- Identify members of the community that are natural leaders and invite them to serve in leadership roles in the community and act as Community Ambassadors who will help you connect with residents, run events and spread the word on redevelopment activities and future housing opportunities in Southwood.
- Work collaboratively with the Advancement and Communications team to connect staff with residents that are willing to provide their inspiring stories for Habitat newsletters, impact reports, grants and media events
- Work together with the rehousing and homeownership services teams to help them connect with residents who are in the path of redevelopment and need to be rehoused
- Provide direct services and supports for residents as well as connection to resources in the community
- In collaboration with the ACDP, work to engage and recruit residents to serve on a Community Advisory Committee that will provide Habitat with input on key redevelopment decisions and grow a body of future Southwood community leaders
- Help support the planning/delivery of Southwood redevelopment meetings including flyering, recruiting resident planners, child supervision, material prep, group facilitation/interpretation at meetings, etc.
- Provide translation/interpretation support as needed for documents, meetings, trainings, classes, etc.
- Perform other duties as assigned by ACDP

Requirements

- Bilingual fluency required: English and Spanish.
- Current resident of Southwood strongly preferred
- Outgoing personality and unwavering, positive attitude, with the ability to comfortably engage with others through multiple mediums - in person, video conference, social media, over the phone, etc.
- Ability to listen and to create a safe space for others to share their thoughts and experiences.
- A love for building relationships and networking and a knack for motivating and influencing different types of people.
- Ability to learn quickly and take initiative with limited direction while functioning within a collaborative, team environment
- Ability to remain positive and focused in a constantly changing environment
- 1-3 years of experience living in a similar community, performing community outreach, or working in a social services/non-profit setting
- Ability to build strong relationships with community members guided by deep respect for them as equal partners who need space to exercise their own agency
- Comfortable working independently with strong initiative
- Aware of and sensitive to a diversity of cultures, life experience, power/privilege and backgrounds
- A passion for helping people and serving others
- Ability to manage confidential materials and conversations
- Flexibility to work regular evening hours and some weekends
- Driver's license and insurable driving record

Habitat for Humanity is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, status as a veteran, basis of disability or any other federal,

state or local protected class. Women, minorities and protected individuals such as those covered by Section 3 are encouraged to apply.