



Friends Committee on National Legislation

A Quaker Lobby in the Public Interest

Quaker Field Secretary Friends Committee on National Legislation

The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) is seeking a spiritually grounded Friend to nurture, expand and deepen FCNL's relationships with Friends across the United States. Quaker meetings and churches faithfully give input to establish the legislative priorities and policy that are the foundation of FCNL's lobbying in Washington, DC and Friends are the governors of the organization. We seek an individual who can build on these strong relationships. We expect that the Quaker Field Secretary will develop new ways to engage individuals both within the Religious Society of Friends as well as individuals who are seekers for the Quaker way of living faith into action.

The Organization

FCNL works for social and economic justice, peace, stewardship of the environment, and good government. Since 1943, the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) has brought Quaker values to bear on national policy through congressional testimony, Capitol Hill visits, grassroots lobbying and long-term campaigns. We accomplish this work through focused legislative campaigns, educational activities, publications, email and social media and a robust web site, among other tools. FCNL witnesses from a basis of spiritual and ethical purpose and seeks to change government policy and practice for the better.

In the last decade, tens of thousands of new people have been drawn to join the FCNL network to learn more about federal policy issues, lobby their elected representatives and help to rebuild our democratic system. Today, our nationwide network of some 60,000 includes people from many different faiths and backgrounds. Headquartered on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, FCNL is governed by a General Committee of about 190 people from across the country and employs a staff of 43.

In 2011, FCNL launched an initiative to grow our engagement with young adults, expand our lobbying across the country and re-establish a program to tap the energy, expertise and wisdom of experienced Friends through the Friend in Washington Program. Our on-going Capital Campaign funds this work and the Quaker Field Secretary will help the organization build on the opportunities created through these initiatives.

The Position

The Friends Committee on National Legislation is a Quaker organization deeply grounded in the Spirit-led discernment of members of the Religious Society of Friends. The Quaker Field Secretary is responsible for guiding and growing opportunities for Friends to participate in FCNL. This will include

qualitative work to enrich the depth of spiritual grounding of our work and quantitative measures that increase the number of people who help grow FCNL's presence among Friends and in our advocacy.

The Quaker Field Secretary will report to the Associate Executive Secretary for Strategic Advocacy.

Key Priorities and Responsibilities

- Increase the number of Quakers participating as advocates and donors in the FCNL community;
- Nurture and strengthen FCNL's ties to the existing network of approximately 600 meetings and churches that have identified FCNL contacts in their communities;
- Expand the participation of Friends in our annual events, including our Quaker Public Policy Institute and Lobby Day, the Annual Meeting and Spring Lobby Weekend;
- Strengthen the engagement of FCNL's governing body, the General Committee;
- Help Friends understand how FCNL's advocacy can be a manifestation of their spiritual lives;
- Guide FCNL staff in interpreting our work to the broader Religious Society of Friends;
- Increase the number of Meetings and Churches that participate in the Priorities and Policy making process;
- Organize the FCNL's participation and presence at Yearly Meetings and other major Quaker gatherings;
- Provide staff support for the FCNL Visiting Friend Program, which organizes volunteers to visit other meetings and churches, and other initiatives to reach out to Quakers;
- Assist in interpreting FCNL's grounding among Friends to others in our network;
- Staff the Nominating Committee and assist with staffing the Field Committee;
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Member of a monthly meeting or church in the Religious Society of Friends;
- Significant experience and participation with Friends' worship and in the life of the Religious Society of Friends; experience with the diversity of Friends worship and spiritual practice would also be a plus;
- Leadership responsibilities that demonstrate effective organizational, communication and spiritual gifts. For instance, committee service, clerk or recording clerk;
- Experience within the Religious Society of Friends beyond monthly meeting or church and/or with other faith communities;
- Willingness to talk about your Spiritual journey;
- A deep commitment to engaging in the political and legislative process as a way of addressing social justice;
- Willingness and ability to work in a fast paced environment, set priorities and work independently as well as be an effective team member;
- Demonstrated ability to be decisive and persistent while making good judgments about program and people;

- Enjoyment in meeting new people and building relationships; willing to spend 3-4 hours per day on the phone or in-person with constituents;
- Willingness to travel extensively around the country; about 30% of this job will involve travel; evening and weekend work is an essential part of this position;
- Demonstrated ability to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing.

Remuneration

Salary: depending on experience.

Work Week: This is a full-time exempt position, based on a 37.5 hour work week, with significant travel. Some compensatory time will balance evening and weekend work and travel.

Benefits: Health insurance; disability insurance; life insurance; paid holidays; vacation; sick leave; maternity/paternity leave; retirement plan.

Apply

Send cover letter and resume to jobs@fcnl.org by July 10, 2015. (only electronic submissions will be accepted).

FCNL seeks to create a diverse workplace. We are actively soliciting applicants from different ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds.