Southwest Pennsylvania Environmental Health Project
Environmental Health Fellowship
Summer 2020

Job Description

The Southwest Pennsylvania Environmental Health Project (EHP) is a non-profit organization located in McMurray, PA, whose mission is to defend public health in the face of oil and gas development. EHP provides frontline communities with timely monitoring, interpretation and guidance. We engage diverse stakeholders: health professionals, researchers, community organizers, public servants, and others, because knowledge protects health.

EHP conducts air emissions monitoring, data analysis, and health assessments, and provides guidance for health protective measures and educational presentations. EHP is expanding our efforts in data analysis and visualization and EHP is looking for a fellow to champion this effort.

EHP is offering a full-time 12-week Environmental Health Fellowship beginning in May or June 2020. The Fellowship will give the successful candidate the opportunity to apply his/her skills in environmental education, project management, and research to the topic of Unconventional Oil and Gas Development (UOGD) and its impacts on human health and the environment. The Fellow will directly support the Environmental Health Educator in the expansion of EHP's analysis and visual tools to better help community members who are concerned about their health. Throughout the summer, the Fellow will learn about EHP’s Community Science efforts through direct involvement in an initiative taking place in Allegheny County, Washington County, or southwest PA. With their understanding of EHP’s work, the fellow will summarize EHP’s findings to date and build materials for sharing these summaries to the general public. A key outcome of the fellowship is research on new ways for EHP to share our findings about health and related air quality exposures.

The Fellowship offers the successful candidate the opportunity to:
- Become familiar with human health impacts of air, water, soil, noise, light and other community-based exposures from UOGD;
- Acquire first-hand knowledge about these health impacts and exposures to toxic emissions through interactions with residents and community-based organizations (CBO);
- Build experience working with environmental and health data simultaneously to answer important public health questions;
- Prepare for future employment in CBO, academic, governmental employment or private sector environmental monitoring, to promote the protection of residents’ health in UOGD areas.
He/she will contribute to EHP’s:

- Execution of a Community Science monitoring effort in Allegheny County, Washington County, or southwest PA;
- Summarization of past data sets and analytic planning for data collection moving forward;
- Educational presentations to community members and community organizations;

**Qualifications**

The ideal applicant will have completed their masters or PhD program by December 31, 2019, but students in final stages of graduate study will be considered.

**Appropriate academic backgrounds:**
- Public Health/Environmental Health
- Environmental Studies/Environmental Sciences
- Computer Science/Programming
- Sustainability

**Relevant skills and experiences:**
- Completed or undergoing an undergraduate and/or master’s level research project;
- Proficient in R or Python computer programming tools;
- Familiarity with a variety of statistical tests;
- Self-motivated and ability to work independently;
- Have a high attention to detail;
- Excellent written and oral English communication and research skills.

**Application Process**

Qualified applicants should email a letter of interest, resume, and contact information for 2 references to Hannah Blinn, Environmental Health Educator, at hblinn@environmentalhealthproject.org. Questions about the position can be directed to her by email or at 724-260-5504. Review of applications will begin on or about March 1, 2020, but applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Salary for the position is $10,000 over 12 weeks. There are no insurance benefits associated with the position. Time off includes paid time off for 4 vacation days and 1-2 holidays over the 12 weeks.

This position is made possible by funding from the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies.