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2011 Volunteer Environmental Justice Research Training Academy Coordinator

Time period: August 01-Octo 31, 2011

Hrs/wk: 10 hours/week (schedule & work location flexible except 2 dates of the Academy, dates TBD)

Compensation: Pro Bono (expenses and transportation stipend provided)

Description:

The DataCenter is seeking a volunteer to support the 2011 Environmental Justice Research Academy. The Coordinator will play the important role of assisting with organizing all aspects of the academy logistics, outreach, program development, and training.

About the position

This exceptional professional development opportunity will provide the Coordinator with a chance to network with an array of Bay Area Environmental Justice groups, work with seasoned investigative researchers, build their portfolio by developing a popular education curriculum and training resources as well as making a lasting contribution to future environmental justice academies at the DataCenter. **This position is unpaid.**

About the DataCenter

DataCenter believes in advancing the concept and strategy of Research Justice — a theory and practice for social change that validates all forms of knowledge, and puts information in the hands of communities organizing for justice. We know that communities are experts about the problems and solutions affecting their lives. DataCenter helps surface that knowledge in ways that develop leadership, increase community power, and generate momentum for social change. As marginalized communities take the tools and power of research into their own hands, they can articulate the urgent and pressing conditions of their lives on their terms, and encourage others to do the same. With over 30 years of experience in Research Justice, the DataCenter has been providing critical research support for the Environmental Justice movement in the Americas since the movement's inception.

About the Environmental Justice Research Training Academy

The DataCenter believes that research is a key element in the struggle for environmental justice as research helps ensure that communities can effectively access knowledge, leverage that knowledge to make their voices heard, and turn research into informed, calculated and strategic action to build their own political power grounded in the strength of their own culture and community — to create positive social change.

The annual **Environmental Justice Training Academy** began in 2007 and is designed to:

- Increase the effectiveness of community based organizations working to improve the environmental health in low income communities in the Bay Area
- Building research capacity and support critical data-collection skills.
- Facilitate equitable research collaborations between low-income communities and research institutions.
- Train organizers and community members to conduct their own research.

Past participants in the Academy include the Asian Pacific Islander Environmental Network, representatives of the Winnemem Wintu tribe, Youth United for Community Action, Greenaction, the Pacific Institute and the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Impact Project. This year's Academy will take place in late October.

Position Qualifications:

- Have a working knowledge of the Environmental Justice Movement and critical issues in Environmental Justice today.
- Highly organized and attentive to detail.
- Ability to commit 10 hours per week from August 2011 through October 2011.
- Ability to work in a team.

About the team

The Coordinator will work closely with the Project Team Leader and the Training Director to develop critical pieces of curriculum and resources, secure guest trainers, and finalize the program as well as providing logistical support. The Project Team Leader will facilitate a weekly check-in team meeting which the Coordinator required to attend. The team reports to the ED.

To apply for the internship, please submit cover letter and resume to Jay Donahue, Program Manager at jay@datacenter.org or call 510-835-4692 ext 307.

Women, people of color and queer identified individuals are especially encouraged to apply.