



McKinney Climate Fellows Program 2022 McKinney Climate Fellow – River Hills Economic Development District

Who We Are

River Hills Economic Development District and Regional Planning Commission (RHEDD) is a five-county economic development organization that represents five counties in Southern Indiana. RHEDD serves Clark, Floyd, Harrison, Scott, and Washington Counties. Two of our five counties are within the larger Louisville, KY metropolitan statistical area (MSA). We assist our communities with all economic development needs but primarily focus on infrastructure funding assistance and project development.

We are designated as an Economic Development District by the Economic Development Administration (EDA). We work alongside all the EDA, other federal agencies, and state agencies.

POSITION SUMMARY

River Hills is looking for a Fellow to study, analyze, and report on the effectiveness of all regional and local projects that were construction on a basis of affecting quality of life and quality of place. So often, we hear our economic development experts and workforce development experts talk about the importance of these projects in order to grow and retain the workforce. As a region, we are currently trying to recruit and retain the future workforce. Having an in depth study of the effectiveness of these projects would help our region and local elected officials with their future policy making decisions.

We are looking for a Fellow that will work with local and regional leadership to determine what projects have been implemented, what projects are currently being invested in, and what projects are in the future. We are looking for the Fellow to quantify the implementation of the projects and the effect that they had on public health and workforce recruitment/retention.

He hope for the overall report to show the effectiveness on a county wide level and also a regional level. We hope that the report will show our success or failure compared to other MSA areas around the nation similar to ours.

The McKinney Climate Fellow will be an important part of our team and will be responsible for taking the lead on select initiatives and assist with sustainability, climate, and community resiliency projects. The Fellow will provide support for quality of life and quality of place investment analysis.

Duties will include:

- Study the current landscape of past, current, and future economic projects that are improving the quality of place and quality of life within the region.

- Working with community leaders, elected officials, economist, sociologist, and development experts to understand the public investment in past and future projects
- Analyze other regions similar in population for comparison.
- Attend the Boot camp May 16 – 20, 2022
- Attend weekly (virtual) “Lunch and Learns”, Wednesdays from 12:00pm-1:30pm
- Submit weekly Canvas reports over the course of the fellowship

Qualifications

- Good interpersonal skills. Ability to communicate to elected officials, community leaders, discipline experts, and coworkers.
- Above average ability to input data into computer software and produce comprehensible reports for stakeholders.
- Fellow must be able to view large data sets, determine trends, and produce a detailed analysis.
- Student must be knowledgeable, and/or have experience or coursework in data tracking of measurable outcomes on projects [such as: tracking greenhouse gas emissions reduction over time at the organization, or other similar quantifiable processes]
- Equity mindset/lens and other critical indicators related to DEI in climate work are preferred

Compensation

Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship through the Environmental Resilience Institute. The Fellow will work full time for 10 weeks, beginning May 16th to August 12th.

Feedback and evaluation

The Fellow will be given regular feedback from staff on progress and performance. Success in the fellowship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional and timely manner. The Fellow should learn how this organization identifies its sustainability priorities, effective principles of communication, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The McKinney Climate Fellows Program supports the continual advancement and development of diverse, inclusive, and equitable spaces. Indiana climate change solutions should be equitable in implementation, and projects with equity considerations are encouraged to reduce climate change impacts on marginalized communities in the state.

Application instructions

To apply for this position, complete an application on the Environmental Resilience Institute’s website. If you have questions about the program or any of the positions available, email Danni Schaust, MCF Program Manager, at danmcphe@iu.edu, or Sarah Miller, MCF Project and Outreach Coordinator at sjm8@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Monday, February 14, 2022.