McKinney Climate Fellows Program
2023 McKinney Climate Fellow – Earth Charter Indiana

Who We Are

Created in 2001 by John Gibson and Jerry King, Earth Charter Indiana is inspired by the Earth Charter declaration at the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands, in 2000. Our focus is on intergenerational action and education in the face of our climate crisis, what we can do to mitigate the crisis, and how we can adapt with dignity and resilience. Explore our site to discover individual programs and actions.

Earth Charter Indiana's mission is to inspire and advance sustainable, just and peaceful living in Indiana by promoting the values and principles of the Earth Charter. To serve our mission we support education of youth regarding climate impacts, and to support them in expressing themselves to make their voice heard. When youth lead, systems can change and a more just, peaceful and equitable world can be realized.

We are seeking a Climate Fellow to assist with summer youth programming focused on food justice within schools. The Indiana Thriving Schools Challenge (ITSC) is a project based learning grants program for K-12 Indiana Schools. This program is focused on bringing sustainability projects and education to youth through the lens of the climate crisis, civic engagement and the circular economy. The ITSC’s School Garden Liaison Initiative is a training and internship program for Indiana Youth ages 16-20.

Liaisons will be trained within the realms of environmental justice, the fundamentals of climate science, circular economy and civic engagement. They will then intern with local urban or smaller scale rural farmers, gaining real world experience prior to becoming a school garden manager in the summer.

When the school year begins, Liaisons will be able to assist educators seeking assistance with lesson plans facilitation, utilizing the nutrition and climate based curriculum guide ECI is creating with national and local partners. We are seeking a climate fellow to assist with bringing sustainability support for Indiana schools. As well as aid in the implementation of a new youth centered program tackling food insecurity.

POSITION SUMMARY
The McKinney Climate Fellow will be placed under direct supervision of our Director of Youth Programming and will be responsible for taking the lead on select initiatives and assisting with sustainability, climate, and community resiliency projects. The Fellow will provide support for Indiana Thriving Schools Challenge and USDA NIFA supported School Garden Liaison Initiative.

Duties will include:
- Report summary of 2 rounds of the Indiana Thriving Schools Challenge grant recipients
- Assist with hands on implementation of USDA NIFA supported School Garden Liaison Initiative on location at a Marion County school
- Assist with application, selection and grant distribution process for ITSC grant funding
- Assist with creation of summer programming school garden toolkit to be distributed across Indiana
- Assist with maintenance and transfer of school garden to host school
- Attend a weeklong training in May 2023
- Attend weekly (virtual) “Lunch and Learns”, Wednesdays from 12:00pm-1:30pm
- Submit weekly Canvas reports over the course of the fellowship

Qualifications
- Students will be subjected to background check, as they will be working directly with youth
- Gardening or farming knowledge beneficial
- Applicants must be comfortable interacting, teaching and leading discussions with BIPOC youth in underserved communities
- Knowledge and experience with spreadsheets, asset map creation, website maintenance a plus
- Student must be knowledgeable, and/or have experience or coursework in data tracking of measurable outcomes on projects utilizing SAVI and asset mapping
- Equity mindset/lens and other critical indicators related to DEI in climate work are mandatory

Compensation
Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship through the Environmental Resilience Institute/McKinney Fellows program. The Fellow will work full time for 12 weeks beginning May 30 through August 18.

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 the Environmental Resilience Institute at eri@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Friday, January 13, 2023.