Who We Are
Since 2020 a partnership was formed between Earth Charter Indiana and Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission to work on Indiana’s first ever regional greenhouse gas inventory in 2021 and to develop a regional climate action plan framework in 2022. In 2023 it is our intention to engage more individual communities with the framework to help ensure they are prepared to create their own version that is appropriate for their area with NIRPC continuing to provide technical assistance (continuing on with a ClearPath license through ICLEI for the whole region, for example) while Earth Charter Indiana takes the lead on equity and inclusion to ensure as many voices are heard as possible.

POSITION SUMMARY

The McKinney Climate Fellow will primarily report to Kathy Sipple, Senior Resiliency Coordinator with Earth Charter Indiana 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 public engagement opportunities.

Duties will include:
- 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
- Participating in strategic plan for engagement
- Conducting outreach and follow up to select contacts in various communities throughout the region (provided by ECI/NIRPC), examples:
  - Monthly Zoom meeting to engage identified leader within individual community where progress and best practices can be shared
  - Help distribute information about relevant grants communities may wish to apply for that are in alignment with their reduction goals
  - Invite and engage community leaders to participate in Earth Charter Indiana’s 8th Annual Climate Leadership Summit, to be held at Indiana University Northwest in September 2023
- Participating in planning meetings with NIRPC/ECI team, to be held via Zoom unless mutually agreed on by all parties to do otherwise (hybrid and/or in person)

Qualifications
- Detail oriented, experience and/or coursework in sustainability studies, experience working with Microsoft Office products, effective verbal and written communication, self-motivated, ability to prioritize and manage multiple ongoing tasks
- Prior knowledge, experience or coursework in greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies desirable but not required.
• Prior knowledge or experience related to event planning, project management and/or meeting facilitation all helpful but not essential.
• 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 June 5 and ending August 11th. We are willing to work with the right candidate if a different schedule is desired, i.e. the work can be stretched out over a longer time with less than full time commitment.

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 Schaut, Resilience Implementation Manager, at dschaust@iu.edu, or the MCF Project and Outreach Coordinator. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Friday, January 13, 2023.