Mel King Institute
Community Engagement Fellow
Fellowship Description

The Community Engagement Fellow will support two programs at the Mel King Institute: the Alliance for Racial Equity and the Public Housing Training Program. The Mel King Institute is a program of the Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations (MACDC).

This position is a collaboration with the Merrimack College Community Engagement Fellowship. Fellows must apply and be accepted through Merrimack College and matched with the Mel King Institute (MKI). The program allows students to earn a Master's degree in Community Engagement with a full-tuition scholarship and gain real-world experience at sites like the Mel King Institute. For more information, contact Audrey Falk at falka@merrimack.edu or visit this website.

Program Description

The Mel King Institute advances the skills, knowledge and leadership ability of professional practitioners and volunteer leaders in the community development field. The Community Engagement Fellow will support two programs at the Mel King Institute: the Alliance for Racial Equity and the Public Housing Training Program.

The Alliance for Racial Equity is a coalition of community development organizations and practitioners dedicated to increasing racial equity with the leadership of the professionals in the community development field. The Alliance believes in addressing racism, as it is a principal issue within community development history. By focusing on increasing racial equity and access, we aim to foster positive work environments in which all employees are understood, recognized, valued and reach their full potential. The Fellow will also work with MKI’s Public Housing Training Program (PHTP). This program is designed to help public housing residents meaningfully participate in the oversight of their housing authorities. The program works with a coalition of six partner organizations and offers three trainings and a variety of ongoing learning opportunities for residents.

Fellowship Activities

- Coordinate the Alliance / Undoing Racism partnership including: partner meetings, ReGroup sessions, forums and communications
- Coordinate the MKI Intern Network program, providing learning opportunities for interns at CDCs and other organizations
- Participate in and support other Alliance activities as needed
- Support a statewide network of public housing residents by providing learning and networking opportunities online and in-person
- Help manage communications for the Public Housing Training Program
• Conduct outreach for PHTP trainings
• Provide administrative support to the PHTP
• Pursue additional projects in racial equity and/or MACDC’s organizing work as needed

Requirements and Qualifications

• Acceptance and participation in the Merrimack College Community Engagement Fellowship and masters program (see above)
• Strong commitment to social and racial justice
• Ability to work with diverse, low-income, and elderly populations
• Strong communications skills, both written and verbal
• Bi-lingual and bi-cultural skills a major plus
• Attention to detail and self-motivated
• Database and/or story-telling skills a plus, including video or other media

Additional Benefits

• Free access to Mel King Institute trainings, which cover a variety of topics in the community development field
• Attend the Undoing Racism training in September, long considered the gold-standard in racial equity training nationwide

How to Apply

Contact Audrey Falk at falka@merrimack.edu or visit this website.