Equity & Health Planning Intern

Closes: Open until filled with applications reviewed beginning March 26, 2021.
Status: Temporary part-time position up to 32 hours per week and up to 3 months; nonexempt FLSA status.
Salary: $21 per hour with limited benefits.
Timeline: Position to begin June/July 2021.
Location: Puget Sound Regional Council, Downtown Seattle, Washington

ABOUT PSRC:
The Puget Sound Regional Council is the regional transportation, growth management and economic development planning agency serving Seattle and the central Puget Sound. PSRC brings together the region's diverse counties, cities and towns, native tribes, ports, the state of Washington and civic interests to help the region thrive, now and into the future. The agency serves as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization and is the regional leader for growth management, transportation, and economic development under state and federal laws. PSRC seeks to support an inclusive region and build a work culture which embraces diversity and promotes equity. Visit www.psrc.org to find out more. PSRC is an equal opportunity employer.

THE INTERNSHIP:
Planning policies, regulations and government practices have perpetuated historic inequities and resulted in discrimination and reduced access to opportunity. While discriminatory laws have been overturned, aspects of systemic racism persist, and inequitable outcomes continue. VISION 2050, the region's long-range plan, works to address current and past inequities and improve public health, particularly among communities of color, people with low incomes, and historically underserved communities. PSRC is collaborating with its members and community partners to develop a regional equity strategy and is addressing equity and health through its regional planning efforts.

PSRC is seeking an Equity & Health Planning Intern to join its Planning Department this summer to aid in the development and implementation of the Regional Equity Strategy and to advance health equity. Qualified candidates will have excellent analytic and communication skills, as well as a keen interest in advancing racial equity and regional planning policy. Depending on qualifications and interests, the successful candidates may support Planning and Data departments and work on a range of data analysis and planning activities, including research on the state of the art of health equity and how equity can be integrated into transportation and growth management planning.

The Equity & Health Intern will work with Planning and Data staff to provide research and evaluation of equity practices and engage staff from allied agencies and partners. The intern will also conduct and synthesize research and data analysis and support evaluation of equity policies and practices. The intern will support efforts to convene partners and facilitate conversation, exchange, and collaboration to increase consistency and coordination across equity planning efforts.

THE CANDIDATE:
The ideal candidate is passionate about working to advance racial and social equity in the Puget Sound region and has demonstrated an interest in equity and health policy through lived experience, coursework, or past professional experience. This is an opportunity to grow and learn as an emerging planning professional.
The ideal candidate will have the ability to:

• Analyze planning policies, strategies, and implementation actions developed under state planning legislation and federal requirements.
• Assist with research related to equity and health best practices in the central Puget Sound region and peer regions.
• Familiarity with commonly used demographic, land use, and other planning datasets is a plus.
• Provide support for events, committee, and board meetings by organizing logistics, preparing materials and assisting in registration and conduct of meetings.

Successful candidates should also possess:

• Excellent attention to detail, organization, and problem-solving skills, as well as aptitudes to work independently and as part of a team.
• Effective oral and written communication abilities to work with the general public, professionals, and agency staff.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION:

• Enrollment in a Bachelor’s/Master’s degree in urban planning, public health, community development, sociology, geography, public administration, or related field.
• Or, at least one-year experience in planning, health, or related field.
• Or, any combination of education or lived experience in a related field that would provide the applicant with the desired skills, knowledge, and ability required to perform the job.

TO APPLY:

• To be considered, applicants must submit a cover letter, resume, and completed, signed PSRC application.
• The voluntary and confidential Equal Employment Opportunity, Applicant’s Invitation to Self-Identify – Veteran Status, and Voluntary Self-Identification of Disability forms are appreciated for applicant tracking purposes.
• For application materials, please visit https://www.psrc.org/about/careers.
• Completed materials can be emailed to hrdept@psrc.org, faxed to 206-587-4825, or mailed to: Puget Sound Regional Council, attn.: HR, 1011 Western Ave., Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104