



**Open Buffalo - Job Posting
Manager of Issues and Projects
Date of Posting: February 10, 2014**

Open Buffalo is a new civic initiative with a mission to create an equal, just and free city driven by a united and empowered community open to full democratic participation by all its residents, open to innovative ideas and policies; open to new leaders from diverse communities; and open to meaningful economic opportunity and sustainable wealth creation for all.

As a successful recipient of a major grant from the Open Society Foundations, Open Buffalo will be a powerful agent for change in the region, while building civic capacity amongst its partners and networks. By tackling systemic causes of oppression and inequality, Open Buffalo will make major, long-term improvements in justice and equity. The collaborative effort will build on and leverage an incredible breadth and depth of support throughout the city and region.

Open Buffalo is hiring a talented and dedicated team of proven champions for progress. This team will work as part of an unprecedented collaboration among a diverse group of partners to turn a community-driven plan into action, and to help bolster the capacity of current allies while developing a new cadre of leaders for the next generation of change.

By focusing on **systemic change** within Economy for the Common Good, Equal Justice and Equal Opportunity, and Open Governance, Open Buffalo will win early victories in:

- **Restorative Justice**, working with the Buffalo Public Schools and the criminal justice system to develop practices in which all the stakeholders affected by an injustice discuss its effects and decide what should be done to repair the harm, offering more satisfying resolutions to victims and better results for offenders and communities.
- **Worker Equity**, addressing poverty, inequity, and training needs among workers, particularly minorities, refugees, youth, and ex-offenders, with a special focus on those working temporary and contingent jobs.
- **High Road Economic Development**, ensuring that the community benefits from economic development programs and projects through quality jobs, education and training, local and minority business opportunities, and green design and operations.

In addition, Open Buffalo will increase Buffalo's **civic capacity** to effect systemic change through four strategies:

- **Mobile Democracy Center** will engage at least 1,000 residents per year with voter registration, information about equity issues, and advocacy tools to increase individual engagement and action while overcoming geographic and cultural divides.
- **Emerging Leaders** will train over 100 residents per year to mobilize their communities around equity issues and to take on leadership roles in community, nonprofit, and government sectors.
- **Innovation Lab** will build Buffalo's capacity to generate new ideas, do original research, draw more effectively on local and national best practices, share information more broadly, and draft new laws and policies.
- **Open Buffalo Arts Network** will mobilize arts groups to aid in mobile democracy and emerging leaders projects, to contribute creativity to issue-based work, and to change the stories Buffalo tells itself and the world.

Job Description

The primary responsibilities of Open Buffalo's Manager of Issues and Projects include, but are not limited to, coordination of work and responsibilities of the partner organization's community organizers dedicated to Open Buffalo issues and programs; issue-tracking to monitor and evaluate progress of

organizers' work and individual campaigns; development and management of Democracy Centers project; act as liaison between core organizations, OB and community partners on issues-based campaigns; supporting the Open Buffalo leadership development program; providing technical assistance to community partners as directed by the Director of Civic Capacity. This position reports directly to the Director of Civic Capacity.

About the Open Buffalo Manager of Issues and Projects:

- Experience with and understanding of the tenets of community organizing and civic engagement, at least three years of relevant community organizing experience strongly preferred
- Demonstrated commitment, through work or volunteer experience, to social justice
- Experience working with coalitions of community members and community-based organizations in the context of advocacy campaigns
- The energy and drive to effectuate challenging campaigns
- Strong writing, organizational and public speaking skills
- Demonstrated examples of flexibility, creativity and initiative
- Ability to work collaboratively and independently and to juggle multiple tasks under time constraints

Application

Open Buffalo values diversity and inclusion throughout our city and within our organization. People of color, women, LGBTQ individuals, people with disabilities and formerly incarcerated people are encouraged to apply.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please submit a cover letter and resume to:

Open Buffalo Search Committee
c/o Partnership for the Public Good
237 Main Street, 12th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14203

[Or via e-mail to jobs@openbuffalo.org](mailto:jobs@openbuffalo.org)