### JOB POSTING: CLIMATE ADVOCATE

# Connecticut Fund for the Environment / Save the Sound www.ctenvironment.org • www.savethesound.org

Would you like an opportunity to harness your advocacy, leadership, communications, and citizen engagement skills to make Connecticut a regional leader in fighting climate change? Do you want to mobilize youth and enact laws and policies to ensure Connecticut slashes 45% of its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030?

If so, you may be the ideal candidate for the Climate Advocate position at our region's preeminent environmental nonprofit organization. Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound is seeking a dedicated, experienced organizer and communicator to help lead its climate program. You will have the opportunity to build on four decades of successful advocacy before Connecticut's legislature, state and federal agencies and courts, and local governments.

As the Climate Advocate, you will be part of a wider organizational team that employs a broad range of tools: not only legislative and legal action, but also community engagement, policy development, science, engineering, and public relations expertise.

Our staff's sustained advocacy campaigns, tenacious legal work, and engineered projects have proven highly effective in:

- Enacting laws and policies that help Connecticut lead the way to a clean energy future;
- Saving forests, wetlands, and fragile coastal areas from unwise development;
- Monitoring, identifying, and stopping water pollution so our beaches, rivers and Long Island Sound are becoming cleaner and healthier;
- Restoring rivers and marshes around Long Island Sound;
- Engaging thousands of citizens every year in cleaning up more than 60 miles of coastline; and
- Using and strengthening environmental laws to protect the greater Long Island Sound region's natural resources and residents' rights and health.

## **Position and Responsibilities**

Connecticut is at a crossroads in its fight for a healthier climate and cleaner air. A new state law mandates significant greenhouse gas reductions by 2030, but to hit that target, the state must ramp up the deployment of renewables, make substantial progress in eliminating transportation-related emissions, and increase investment in energy efficiency improvements within the next several years. The Climate Advocate is responsible for developing and implementing our youth engagement effort; providing communications support for the climate program; engaging in

community and legislative education, outreach, and grassroots activism efforts; assisting with coalition management; and supporting all elements of the climate program.

The Climate Advocate, with direction from our Chief Program Officer and Climate and Energy Attorney, will also plan, track, and report on progress in meeting CFE/Save the Sound's overarching climate and energy goals. Recent priorities include: (1) advocating for meaningful greenhouse gas emissions reductions at the Governor's Council on Climate Change, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the legislature; (2) promoting policies to promote clean transportation; (3) the Share the Sun campaign, which focuses on public outreach and education around shared solar in selected communities around Connecticut; and (4) removing regulatory barriers to deployment of clean and renewable distributed generation.

The position will involve working with the public, multiple stakeholders in the legislature, administration, regulatory agencies, and business and clean energy communities, advocacy coalitions, and others, including municipalities and other environmental groups. It will involve outreach, education, and mobilization across this spectrum.

The Climate Advocate opening is a full-time, exempt position in New Haven, CT with travel throughout the state, including Hartford. The Climate Advocate manages interns and volunteers, coordinates closely with our Chief Program Officer and development staff, and is supervised by our Climate and Energy Attorney and Director of Communications.

## **Qualifications**

Candidates must have a demonstrated interest in climate change policy, communications, and youth engagement and experience in propelling advocacy campaigns forward. The ideal candidate should have at least three years of advocacy or campaign experience, a demonstrated commitment to public interest environmental advocacy, and a background in climate law and/or policy. He or she should be highly self-motivated, capable of organizing and implementing campaigns, and a strong public representative of CFE/Save the Sound and its mission. Finally, he or she should be an experienced, dynamic self-starter with experience in, and understanding of, legislative and regulatory affairs involving climate and energy. Excellent research, writing, and communication (including comfort with public speaking) skills are required.

The position will begin January 2, 2019. Interested candidates should email a resume, cover letter, writing sample, and three references to climate@ctenvironment.org with "Climate Advocate" in the subject line. The application process will remain open until a candidate is selected; however CFE advises that materials be submitted before Nov 4, 2019. Candidates will be interviewed on a rolling basis.

CFE is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on any basis when considering applicants. Compensation is commensurate with relevant education and experience.

#### **Background**

Founded in 1978, Connecticut Fund for the Environment merged in 2004 with Save the Sound, a respected voice for the protection of Long Island Sound's shoreline, marine habitat and water quality since 1972. Linking CFE's legal, scientific, and policy expertise with Save the Sound's

proven stewardship, restoration, and community outreach capability has created one of the region's leading environmental organizations. Our mission is to protect and improve the land, air, and water of Connecticut and Long Island Sound. Our staff of 30 works with thousands of partners and stakeholders, including elected officials and community leaders, individual citizen activists (17,000), volunteers (2,500), and members (5,300).

#### Additional Duties of All CFE/Save the Sound Employees

All employees are expected to assist with execution of the annual development plan to support meeting the annual organizational and campaign budget. Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Playing a lead or support role in drafting content for grant proposals and funding requests;
- Participating in donor cultivation and solicitation activities in support of small donor development; and
- Supporting the execution of small fundraising events or donor cultivation events.

All employees must also maintain accountability to administrative systems and procedures, including but not limited to:

- Submitting expense reimbursements, credit card reconciliations, invoices, lobbying reports, etc. by the deadlines assigned, as well as submitting content for the outreach calendar;
- Plan, track, and report on individual and departmental work in support of organizational coordination:
- Contribute content for organizational communications and marketing materials.