

**Mill River Urban Waters Initiative**  
Community Outreach, Engagement, and Leadership  
Request for Applications – Community Leaders

**Background**

The project team for the Mill River Urban Waters Initiative requests applications from Fair Haven residents to serve as **Community Leaders**. In this role, Community Leaders will assist with general and specific outreach and engagement efforts associated with the **Community Outreach, Engagement, and Leadership project** from April 15 until project completion (estimated to be September 30, 2022). Individuals in this role will be integral to project success, and will develop specific ideas and deliverables to invite broad and meaningful engagement in the project from their fellow Fair Haven residents. Community Leaders will be contractors to the project team, and will be paid with grant funds administered by Save the Sound.

The Community Outreach, Engagement, and Leadership project will be administered by Save the Sound and contains three elements:

1. Contract two Community Leaders to provide sustained outreach to Fair Haven residents and invite robust engagement in all other aspects of the UWI project.
2. Conduct community-based participatory research on environmental hazards and assets in the lower Mill River watershed, using the PhotoVoice method. Work with 10 Fair Haven residents, to be trained in the PhotoVoice method and provided with cameras, to identify areas that require attention or action.
3. Conduct outreach to invite feedback on the PhotoVoice research results from other Fair Haven residents. Then, hold two project development charrettes where Fair Haven residents, with technical support from Save the Sound and other organizations, will refine ideas from the PhotoVoice project into actionable projects that will be presented to city staff, elected officials, the Mill River Watershed Association, CT DEEP, and environmental NGOs.

**Work to be Performed by Community Leaders:**

- Advise on the scheduling, messaging, and implementation of all major project elements (PhotoVoice, grassroots outreach, project development charrettes)
- Conduct timely and creative outreach to other Fair Haven residents to increase awareness of the UWI project and invite broad participation in the corresponding opportunities
- Coordinate between the two project teams of the Mill River UWI—the Community Outreach, Engagement, and Leadership project team and the Community Science project team
- Assist or lead in the planning and logistics of meetings and events, including PhotoVoice sessions, project development charrettes, and presentations of results to key stakeholders.
- Track outreach efforts and participation metrics
- Cultivate new partnerships and relationships around shared interest in the Mill River

Outside of these responsibilities, the Community Leaders will have opportunities to take a leadership role in project elements that most interest them, or that they feel will utilize their specific skill sets.

### **Eligibility, Qualifications, and Compensation:**

- Be current residents of the Fair Haven neighborhood
- Have experience with organizing, communications, and/or marketing—particularly if this work happened in Fair Haven
- Have a deep love and vested interest in the wellbeing of Fair Haven and its people
- Be confident and capable communicators, ideally in both Spanish and English
- Have the flexibility and space in their schedules to fully invest in the work of the UWI project
- Be highly organized
- Possess the ability to work as part of a team or alone—self-starters and folks with an entrepreneurial streak

Save the Sound will compensate selected Community Leaders as contractors to the Urban Waters Initiative project team. We anticipate that Community Leaders will each dedicate 6-8 hours per week to their UWI work. Each Community Leader will receive a stipend of \$6,000 paid in four equal installments based on progress against project deliverables.

### **How to Apply:**

To apply, please send the following to [ecojob@savethesound.org](mailto:ecojob@savethesound.org) with “Community Leader” in the subject line:

- A resume and cover letter **OR** a letter outlining your experience and why you would like to be a Community Leader for this environmental work
- Three references who can speak to your work in the Fair Haven community

Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and candidates will be selected by a committee comprised of representatives of project partners that are Fair Haven neighborhood groups and organizations. Save the Sound will receive applications and pass them along to the Selection Committee, but will not participate in the selection process.