Director for Outreach

Organization Summary:

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) is a national faith-based organization with an 80-year history, a budget of approximately $45 million per year, and 80 headquarters staff.

For several decades LIRS has developed a widely-recognized expertise in implementing federal programs on behalf of refugees and migrants living within the borders of the United States. Working with and through partners across the country, LIRS resettles refugees, reunites children with their families or provides loving homes for them, leads national policy advocacy, and pursues humanitarian alternatives to the immigration detention system.

Position Summary

Reporting to the Vice President for Development, the Director for Outreach will lead and create LIRS’s national outreach strategy and efforts. The Director will develop a strategic and dynamic program for engaging Lutherans, migrants, and refugees in work to build a broad-based movement for change that will positively affect the lives of migrants and refugees and the communities in which they live in. The Director for Outreach will work in the field to create long-term grassroots capacity and constituency work that supports refugee and immigration-friendly programming and policies in the U.S.

Key Areas of Responsibility:

- Work with and through key faith leaders and organizations to build awareness, engagement and support for the work of LIRS, with a primary emphasis on Lutheran, other faith, migrant and refugee community leaders.
- Increase collaboration between LIRS service partners and Lutheran churches around priority LIRS issues/campaigns.
- Develop and execute campaigns for outreach; create and drive campaign activities. Create an outreach constituency working with LIRS- Lutherans, migrants, refugees and others into a singular voice who champion the rights of migrants and refugees, measured by the creation and successful execution of plans, as indicated by benchmarks toward outcomes.
- Develop, direct, and lead convenings and outreach trainings in strategically targeted areas with key grassroots leaders. Oversee events organized as a result of resource development and promotion that increase Lutherans’ support of LIRS deepen their commitment and call to ministry to migrants and refugees.
- Working in close collaboration with the Development and Communications units as well as the Programs and Advocacy departments, ensure that strategies are aligned, relationships collectively managed, and resources used as efficiently and effectively as possible.
Qualifications and Requirements:

- Undergraduate degree required. Graduate degree preferred.
- At least 5-7 years’ experience in outreach, fundraising or organizing.
- Demonstrated ability to build strong relationships with strategically-identified community leaders.
- Ability to connect and inspire donors and potential donors to partner in our mission.
- Highly skilled in coalition building.
- In depth knowledge of the structure, policies, and teachings of the Lutheran church strongly desired.
- Track record of synthesizing -- in writing and verbally -- and communicating complex issues and policies in a clear and appealing message to mobilize diverse groups, particularly migrant and church-going groups.
- Professional understanding of the policy issues that affect or can potentially affect migrant and refugee communities in the United States.
- Strong and evident ability to assess demographics and strategize ways to efficiently and effectively reach the most Lutherans, migrants, refugees, and other key constituents to engage in advocacy and awareness-raising.
- Strong commitment to engaging Lutherans and migrants and refugees as first-tier constituents.
- Highly efficient in time management with an ability to multi-task and work in a fast-paced and deadline-driven environment.
- Excellent verbal and written communications skills; strong presentation skills -- both in developing and giving professional presentations. Experience and exceptional ability to mobilize people through powerful story-telling and sharing.
- Ability to meet deadlines and to make good decisions in a timely fashion under pressure.
- Computer proficient and savvy in Microsoft Office.
- Comfortable with fundraising.
- Deep commitment to LIRS’s core values and ability to model those values in relationships with colleagues and partners.
- Experience with and commitment to working in a very diverse workforce.
- Active listener with an inquisitive mind and relevant problem-solving skills.
- Travel up to 50% of the time.

LIRS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND COMPLIES WITH ALL FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL EMPLOYMENT LAWS.