



## **Communications Director Solidarity Center**

The Solidarity Center, founded in 1997 by the AFL-CIO to tackle the enormous challenges workers face in the global economy, now works with union and community group partners in more than 60 countries through a network of 24 field offices throughout the world. This not-for-profit organization offers education, training, research, legal support, and organizing assistance to help build strong and effective trade unions and more just and equitable societies. Its programs promote respect for workers and worker rights; raise public awareness about abuses of the world's most vulnerable workers; and above all, help the world's workers secure an authentic voice—one free of both employer and government domination—in the developing global economy and in their own distinct national political contexts.

The Solidarity Center seeks an accomplished communications/public relations professional to create and manage a robust program to raise the profile, understanding, and influence of the work of the Solidarity Center and its (global/world-wide) partners. This position is responsible for the strategic direction, leadership, and management of the Solidarity Center's public relations and communications work.

The Communications Director reports directly to the Solidarity Center's Executive Director, serves on the management team, and works in close partnership with the Solidarity Center's senior staff as well as with AFL-CIO international and public affairs staff. The Washington, DC based Solidarity Center has a staff of 200, seventy (70) of whom work in the DC headquarters, and an annual budget of \$30 million. Currently, the Communications Department has a communications staff of 2.5 FTE's. The position requires residency in the area.

### **Responsibilities**

- Working with the Executive Director and management team, lead the process of articulating core goals for the communications/public relations program. Develop and manage strategy and work plans to assure that these goals are achieved.
- Also with the Executive Director and management team, clarify the Solidarity Center's central messages and key audiences; develop language to communicate these messages effectively to each audience and the general public.
- Evaluate current Communications Department activities against newly developed strategy and work plans and reshape the department's work as needed. Create communications policy and processes for the Solidarity Center that balance the need for timeliness with the realities of operating in a complex political environment.
- Lead and manage the Communications Department. Maintain the high quality of the Solidarity Center's communications work while broadening its tools, scope, and productivity. Assure ongoing consistency of message, integration of all Solidarity Center communications, and ongoing collaboration with program, government relations, and development directors as well as with the AFL-CIO in order to meet both the Solidarity Center's program deliverables and its wider

### Position Announcement

communications goals. Share with the communications team in the execution of work plans while effectively managing and leading their work.

### **Qualifications**

- A minimum of 10 years' relevant public relations and communications work; experience managing a complex communications program of national and international scope; familiarity with national and international media with relationships already developed with key national and international media outlets strongly preferred.
- Proven leadership, strategic, and analytic abilities as well as the ability to initiate and lead collaborative analysis and planning. Familiarity with all aspects of contemporary public relations and communications work.
- Outstanding communications skills; the ability to reach many and varying U.S. and international audiences; the ability to communicate ideas and information to shape thinking and achieve goals.
- Labor movement, not-for-profit, and international experience are all critical; international labor experience is highly preferred, as is experience working as part of a dynamic team.

### **Personal Qualities**

The successful candidate will be an aggressive collaborator, deeply committed to the Solidarity Center's goals and eager to work with the Solidarity Center's team of international labor experts to help achieve them. She or he will welcome the challenge of effectively telling the stories of workers in the global economy, will have good judgment in political environments, will enjoy managing and building a diverse communications team, and will possess the confidence, tenacity, energy, patience, and drive to work with others in this multi-layered international organization to advance the cause of workers around the world.

The duration of this position, as with all positions at the Solidarity Center, is contingent upon continued grant funding.

If interested, please send cover letter and résumé to:

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*The Solidarity Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and minority candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.*

Only short listed candidates will be contacted for an interview.  
Closing date of application: When filled.