Position Opening: Energy & Sustainability Associate

Location: Atlanta, GA or Washington, DC (hybrid remote/in-person)

To Apply: E-mail resume and cover letter to jobs@sahfnet.org

No calls, please

Summary

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF) is seeking a talented Energy & Sustainability Associate to help direct and further our work in decarbonization and sustainability in the affordable housing sector. SAHF has long recognized the importance of building and operating housing that is energy- and water-efficient and provides a healthy living environment. SAHF’s work in this area has a heavy emphasis on energy and water conservation as well as approaches to climate change mitigation, resilience, and healthy buildings.

Building on the successes of our ambitious Big Reach initiative and Bringing Sustainability Home initiative, SAHF and its members are exploring pathways towards a low-carbon future. In 2022, SAHF will start developing tools and methodologies for setting portfolio-wide carbon emissions baselines and a decarbonization roadmap, so that SAHF members and affordable housing practitioners at large can set and achieve ambitious carbon reduction goals needed to ensure a healthy, equitable and climate-resilient future. Additionally, the SAHF Energy & Sustainability Team will continue to support member adoption of broader sustainable building practices, resilience measures and resident engagement through tools, resources and guides.

About SAHF

SAHF is a collaborative of thirteen exemplary multi-state nonprofit affordable housing providers who own more than 149,000 affordable rental homes. SAHF members are committed to long-term affordability, sustainability and expansion of rental housing that makes a difference in people’s lives. SAHF’s mission is to lead policy innovation and advance excellence in the delivery of affordable rental homes that expand opportunity and promote dignity for residents.

SAHF and its members apply on-the-ground experience to advance change in policy and practice. They leverage one another’s best practices and collaborate with one another and National Affordable Housing Trust, a joint venture of SAHF and the Low Income Investment Fund, on business and mission opportunities. SAHF and its members are committed to scaling their successes through business innovations and policy change. Examples include SAHF’s work to improve health outcomes for low-income individuals and families through thought leadership and best practices, financing innovations and healthy building practices.

SAHF’s members provide resident services in many of their properties and are deeply committed to identifying those services that can most effectively make a difference in people’s lives. As a collaborative, they are committed to working both independently and together on resident services, housing policy, housing operations and management, healthy building practices and active design, and energy and water conservation. SAHF members are also committed
to measuring their impact, leveraging data to evaluate outcomes to foster new partnerships and collaborations.

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

This dynamic position allows for significant independence, creativity, and the opportunity to experience a wide breadth of issues impacting energy and sustainability in the SAHF portfolio. This position will support the Energy & Sustainability team on several key efforts related to energy, sustainability, and healthy housing:

1. **Best Practices & Innovative Models Tracking:** The associate will conduct outreach and research to stay current with best practices in energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, green building practices and healthy housing. In addition, the associate will engage with SAHF members, partners, and other stakeholders to track, identify, and lift up innovative practices supporting lower energy and water costs, carbon reductions, improved indoor environments and other owner and resident benefits that could be replicated and scaled by other practitioners.

2. **Tools and Resources Development:** Through daily activities, the SAHF Energy & Sustainability team will identify challenges faced by SAHF members that slow or prohibit adoption of practices listed above. The associate will work with the team, consultants, and a broader set of stakeholders to develop tools, resources, and guides to increase adoption of practices and remove barriers.

3. **SAHF Member Accomplishments Promotion:** The associate will identify, develop, and share energy, sustainability and healthy housing successes, best practices, and innovations that members have accomplished. Documentation will be through various forms of media, including but not limited to white papers, one-page case studies, blog posts, video, and social media.

4. **Practice-Informed Policies & Programs:** Information gathered through SAHF member’s best practices, successes and challenges provide valuable feedback to policy makers and program implementers. The associate will provide support in conducting research, reviewing current policies and programs to develop recommendations for policy and program improvements. SAHF leadership will use this information to communicate with federal agencies, utilities, state entities and other decision-making bodies to help shape future policy or regulatory recommendations.

5. **Peer Convening Facilitation and Support:** SAHF’s work is informed by the on the ground experience of our members. A keyway that we gather insights is by participating in and hosting regular peer exchange meetings and periodic topical convenings. Meetings may be held in-person and/or virtually. The associate will support SAHF’s leadership of robust peer exchange, including participating in and leading in meeting
and convening planning, participating in facilitation, and tracking and disseminating key learnings.

6. **SAHF Representation and Participation:** The associate will represent SAHF and our members perspectives and interests in a variety of national and regional coalitions, networks, convenings and peer exchanges. The SAHF Energy and Sustainability Team has representation in the following networks, and it is expected that the associate will participate in meetings and events: U.S. Department of Energy’s National Community Solar Partnership (NCSP), Better Buildings Challenge (BBC), Healthy Building Network’s Home Free Champions.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- Bachelor’s degree and minimum three years’ experience in energy efficiency, sustainability and/or green building efforts which could include working for or with energy service providers, green building consultants, utilities, or owners/managers of multifamily or commercial real estate with a focus on energy and/or sustainability.
- Strong analytic, project management, organization, and presentation skills.
- Excellent writer and communications skills.
- Experience providing training and/or technical assistance related to energy or sustainability.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively. Experience working with a remote supervisor a plus.
- Analytical thinker with the ability to research and synthesize topical information, draw connections between topic areas, and assess policy implications for a specific sector;
- Demonstrated interest in affordable housing, low-income communities, and equity;
- Committed to racial equity, collaboration, excellent customer service, and SAHF’s mission.

**COMPENSATION**

The target starting salary for this position is $60,000-$70,000 per year, depending on geographic location and experience. SAHF offers a highly competitive employee benefits package.

**SAHF is committed to a diverse and inclusive workforce and encourages all candidates, especially those who have been historically underrepresented based on race/ethnicity, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, socioeconomic status, citizenship status, or religion, to apply. On a daily basis, we are committed to our core values of Respect, Diversity and Inclusion, Collaboration, Stewardship and Integrity.** You can learn more about us on our [website](http://www.sahfnet.org).

**Please submit a resume and cover letter** which addresses the required qualifications to [jobs@sahfnet.org](mailto:jobs@sahfnet.org). **Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.** Due to the volume of applications usually received, we regret that we cannot individually respond to all candidates.
SAHF is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.