Greenleaf Correspondent

Greenleaf Gardens is a DC Housing Authority property currently slated for redevelopment. Several past public housing redevelopment efforts have failed to take the perspectives and needs of residents into account, resulting in community distrust of development throughout the city. DCHA has made new commitments for Greenleaf with a goal of having this redevelopment be more successful for residents and the public.

Greater Greater Washington (ggwash.org), a widely-read news and advocacy organization covering housing and transportation in DC, Maryland, and Virginia, has received a grant from the Lenfest Institute & Facebook Journalism Project’s Community Network for a freelance journalist to intensively cover the Greenleaf redevelopment over the next six months.

The reporter will focus on experiences of residents of Greenleaf Gardens, to amplify their voices through in depth reporting in partnership with the organizations that serve them. We aim to help the broader community understand the experiences and concerns of public housing residents, while empowering residents to lead the redevelopment of Greenleaf. We will provide in-depth and insightful coverage of a community that is typically left out of news about new developments and the housing crisis in the region.

The reporter will use Solutions Journalism principles to create articles that both increase public understanding and also aid residents and DCHA and developers in building common ground to maximize the chance of a successful redevelopment which meets residents’ needs.

Responsibilities

- Write three short articles (approximately 500-800 words) and one long article (approximately 1,500 words) per month for publication on Greater Greater Washington over a six-month period.
- Take photographs during the course of reporting as appropriate.
- Submit pitches to the editorial staff and participate in periodic phone calls to discuss the direction of reporting.
• Make edits to articles as requested by the editorial staff.

About you
• You are interested and committed to a vision of a District of Columbia which is inclusive of all residents including long-time public housing residents and new residents.
• You are committed to a “solutions journalism” approach
• You have 2+ years of experience as a professional journalist including at least 1 year working in a written digital medium and at least 1 year writing about issues in the District of Columbia.
• Experience reporting on housing and development issues, particularly in partnership with residents of low incomes with awareness and sensitivity around the subjects of reporting, is strongly preferred.
• You are able to find, pitch, and execute reported stories. You are self-directed and driven, capable of maximizing performance and operating with significant autonomy.
• Proficiency with social media is a plus.

People who reflect underrepresented voices within the journalism, urban planning, and/or transportation professions are encouraged to apply, including people of color, women, and/or non-gender conforming individuals, and people from or who currently live in areas that are under-resourced or have been negatively impacted by historic urban planning policies.

Compensation will be according to a schedule per story totaling $800 per month for four stories, plus reimbursement for direct travel and meal expenses of up to $200 per month incurred during reporting or other required tasks.

The position requires a flexible schedule to work a combination of time during the business day and evening or weekend time for reporting. Access to a car is not required.

Correspondents are independent contractors who will utilize their own equipment and set their own schedules to fulfill the job requirements.

Greater Greater Washington provides equal employment opportunities to all applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, or disability.

To apply, please send the following to jobs@ggwash.org with “Greenleaf Correspondent” in the subject line. Please include all below materials as PDF or Word documents as attachments (rather than only as links or in the body of the email).
• Your resume
• Three clips
• A personal statement up to one page explaining your interest in the position

Applications will be accepted until 5:00 pm on Wednesday, February 12.