



Roots 2Empower

Community Climate Resilience Intern Summer 2025

Roots 2Empower (Roots) is seeking a Community Climate Resilience Intern (CCR Intern) for a 12-week position, approximately June 2nd to August 22nd.

The CCR Intern will support Roots 2Empower's Energy and Environmental Justice program, which focuses on building relationships in Rhode Island's environmental justice communities, sharing information about a Just Transition to clean energy, and facilitating dialogues to support a community-centered vision for climate resilience. As part of that program, this position will research climate resilience models, present them to the Roots team, and make recommendations for focus areas in our programming and community outreach. Towards this goal, the CCR intern will synthesize data from policy research, ongoing climate justice movements, and information about what climate impacts present the greatest threat to RI's environmental justice communities to ensure recommendations are informed by the lived experience of the people we serve. Additionally, the CCR intern will attend virtual statewide coalition meetings and assist with the planning and execution of community events.

This is a hybrid position. The CCR Intern will work remotely approximately 80% of the time with some field work and in-person meetings, events, and educational opportunities.

Job Duties

- Conduct research on climate resilience strategies that have been successfully implemented in collaboration with community members in other cities or states
- Conduct policy research and comparative analysis of best policy and community mobilizing practices for environmental justice issues
- Make recommendations for community climate resilience projects
- Support community initiatives by promoting events, material development and preparation, taking notes, and tending to relationships
- Design presentations, reports, and memos to summarize research findings
- Other administrative and supporting duties as assigned (like helping out at our community garden in Pawtucket!)

Qualifications

- A. Education:** We welcome applicants from various backgrounds and levels of experience for this role. Whether you're a college undergraduate (sophomore or higher in an Associates or Bachelors program) or a graduate student, pursuing a degree in science, environmental studies, business administration, public policy, economics, public health, environmental justice, or any related field, we encourage you to apply. What matters most to us is your passion for equitable clean energy development, racial and economic justice, community resilience, environmental sustainability, and a desire to contribute meaningfully to our initiatives.

B. Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- a. Familiarity with or interest in climate change, clean energy, community organizing, and/or environmental justice-related issues
- b. Ability to apply systems thinking and an intersectional lens to synthesize information and develop cohesive strategies and plans for future programming
- c. Strong recordkeeping, observational, and organizational skills with an attention to detail
- d. Excellent written and verbal communication and presentation
- e. Fluency with Google Workspace and Microsoft Office Suite
- f. Proficiency in non-English languages commonly spoken in Rhode Island, including Spanish, Portuguese, French, Haitian Creole, and Mandarin or Cantonese (preferred but not required)
- g. Capacity for humor, creativity, courage in challenging situations! (preferred but not required)

Timing

Roots is looking for an intern who can start in early June and continue full-time through late August. Applicants should be available to work at least 25 hours per week and up to 40 hours per week. The number of hours worked per week may vary throughout the internship based on the applicant's schedule.

Supervision

The intern will work under the supervision of the Program Manager.

Salary

The intern will earn \$15 per hour and is eligible to work up to 40 hours per week. This is a temporary, seasonal position and does not come with health, retirement, or other benefits.

About Roots 2Empower

Roots 2Empower is a nonprofit organization focused on social and environmental justice issues in Rhode Island's urban core and to an extent across New England. Our mission is to foster an equitable, community-driven transition to a regenerative future through public education, skills-building, and environmental connection.

We believe that as society transforms to address the intersecting climate, health, and economic crises, low-income and underserved communities must be at the table, shaping the solutions. We envision a region where all families have access to the healing power of nature, sustainable energy, dignified housing, and nutritious food without the systemic barriers of racism, poverty, and mass incarceration. To learn more about us, visit our website at www.Roots2Empower.org.