



Roots 2Empower

Environmental Justice Intern Summer 2025

Roots 2Empower (Roots) is seeking an Environmental Justice Intern (EJ Intern) for a 12-week position, approximately June 2nd to August 22nd.

The EJ 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 compile research on workforce opportunities in the clean energy and sustainability industries to support underserved individuals to access family-sustaining careers in these sectors. This position will also support other equity and justice initiatives more broadly, conducting research and producing educational material that contextualizes the transition to clean energy within systemic injustice. 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 EJ 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 a Just Transition to a clean energy economy, including but not limited to circular economies, transmission, workforce development, pollution, the social and environmental impact of clean tech development, and environmental issues in prisons
- Work independently to analyze existing project data and survey results, identify trends, and develop effective communication tools
- Support community initiatives by promoting events, material development and preparation, taking notes, and tending to relationships
- Follow up with community members after events and connect them with resources
- 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 be 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.