

Executive Director position available:

White Dog Community Enterprises is seeking an Executive Director to lead a new initiative in sustainable community economic development, while continuing the success and growth of existing programs in building a local food system.

Founded by entrepreneur/activist Judy Wicks to spread the business model of her successful White Dog Cafe, WDCE seeks to build a regional Philadelphia economy that is inclusive, just, environmentally healthy, and based on local business ownership. Its first program, Fair Food, began in 2001 to connect farmers supplying the White Dog to a larger market of restaurants and stores in the urban marketplace, and continues to expand its network of sustainable local farms, businesses, and institutions, which comprise the local food community.

The Executive Director will be responsible for overseeing an initiative to link promising minority entrepreneurs with business ownership opportunities in the emerging local green economy, as well as building access to capital.

Candidates with a background in economic development and/or entrepreneurship, and experience working in low-income communities will be highly desired. The qualified candidate must have a passionate commitment to WDCE's mission and vision, and a successful track record as CEO of a social purpose enterprise, either for-profit or not-for-profit, with strong business development skills.

Knowledge of food and/or fiber production and processing is preferred.

In addition, the following skills and experience are desired:

Proven skills in fiscal management and budget development.

Fund-raising experience, such as grant writing, donor solicitation, fundraising events and/or raising capital.

Team and organization building expertise.

Ability to develop and maintain excellent relationships with public and community leaders, government representatives, foundations, the media, staff, Board, volunteers, as well as networks of small businesses and independent local farms.

Ability to manage and grow programs.

Excellent inter-personal and communication skills, and a collaborative work style.

Ability to work with diverse communities and individuals, ranging from Lancaster County farmers to West Philadelphia small business owners to young people

learning job skills. Ability to build support and understanding across economic and cultural differences.

Computer knowledge and basic office management skills.

Ability to drive and implement a strategic planning process.

Public speaking skills and the ability to represent WDCE locally and nationally.

Salary scale (commensurate with experience): \$65,000 – 75,000.

Reporting to: Chair of the Board/Board.

Time-line: All applications must be received by June 30, 2008. The selection and interview process will take place in July. We aim to hire an ED to begin in August, 2008.

Application: Please send your resume (including references) and a 1-2 page letter detailing why you are interested, and what you bring to this position to:

Erin Wieand
Search Committee Chair
White Dog Community Enterprises
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WDCE is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes people of diverse backgrounds, be it class, race, ethnic, gender or sexual orientation.