

**Job Description: Maternity Cover Community Organiser - New Economics Foundation (NEF)**

**Organisational Overview:**

NEF is not your typical think tank. We are an organisation that generates bold ideas and takes decisive action - with the people most impacted by inequality and the crisis of power - to make change happen. At NEF, we are committed to reshaping the economy for the betterment of people and the planet. Our Community Power Department focuses on leveraging the strength of community power, empowering people to shape their local economies, and driving positive social and economic change. As the Maternity Cover Community Organiser, you will play a crucial role in empowering communities, fostering collective action, and driving social change at the grassroots level.

**Position Overview:**

As the Maternity Cover Community Organiser for South Yorkshire, you will work closely with the Senior Organiser and colleagues in the Community Power department to put people and communities at the centre of addressing social, economic, and environmental challenges. Reporting to the Senior Organiser, your focus will be on building the power of marginalised communities in South Yorkshire impacted by the issues we’re campaigning on, including the housing, cost of living and climate crises. Alongside the Senior Organiser, you will deliver NEF’s community organising strategy and maintain the momentum of our ongoing initiatives, supporting community groups, leaders, and activists. Your work will be instrumental in promoting community power and driving positive transformation in local economies and regions.

**Responsibilities**

Community Organising Strategy

* Collaborate with the Senior Organiser to execute NEF's community organising strategy in South Yorkshire, aligning with NEF's mission and Community Power goals.
* Cultivate strong relationships among residents and leaders from the community, diverse civil society organisations, including BME organisations, trade unions, tenants’ unions, faith groups, and businesses, in South Yorkshire to build powerful collaborations for change.
* Provide training and coaching to grassroots groups and leaders in South Yorkshire, enhancing their organising and campaigning skills.
* Design and execute organising campaigns with South Yorkshire communities to improve lives and achieve fair and just economies.
* Collaborate with South Yorkshire communities and allies to develop clear roadmaps for building power and achieving campaign success on specific issues in the region.
* In dialogue with local people, reflect on and learn from the organising work, and with the Senior Organiser, use these learnings to review and improve the community organising strategy.

Leadership Development and Coaching

* Apply knowledge of community organising to develop the leadership of everyday people to make change happen.
* Run group training sessions and provide one to one coaching to develop the agency and organising skills of local leaders and residents.

Local, regional and National Coordination

* Collaborate with NEF's organising team to connect local actions in South Yorkshire to national systemic change efforts.
* Work with NEF colleagues to integrate organising with research efforts, ensuring impacted South Yorkshire communities influence policy change - through our Regional Action Plan.

Communication and Advocacy

* Develop skills in writing articles, blogs, social media content, and communications to promote NEF's campaigns and organising work in South Yorkshire.
* Utilise digital organising tools effectively to scale campaigns and facilitate communication with organising partners in the region.
* Influence politicians and decision-makers across the political spectrum through strategic engagement and actions in South Yorkshire.

Events, Actions, and Fundraising

* Plan and execute actions and events in South Yorkshire to advance campaigns and contribute to campaign development.
* Facilitate empowering community meetings and events which develop the agency and leadership of local people.
* Assist Senior Community Organiser with fundraising efforts for South Yorkshire campaigns by contributing to bid-writing, research, and partner relationship development as needed.

**Person Specification (Essential requirements in bold)**

**Knowledge and Experience**

* **Demonstrable commitment to Equality and Diversity: deep understanding of working with diverse individuals and communities, promoting inclusivity, reflecting on your own power and privilege, and ensuring diverse representation in campaigns and partnerships.**
* **Experience of effective conflict management: ability to manage conflicts within groups constructively, promote open dialogue, and find resolutions aligned with NEF's values and mission.**
* **Community Organising Experience: proficiency in community organising leadership practices, including experience of training and coaching others in both group and one to one settings to develop their leadership abilities.**
* **Facilitation skills: experience of designing and running collaborative meetings and actions, including with people who have little or no experience of activism or community action, and using these skills to encourage trusting community relationships and positive group dynamics**
* Familiarity with Marshall Ganz’s organising framework.
* Grassroots Campaign Management: proven success in designing and executing grassroots campaigns for impactful change in collaboration with communities.
* Advocacy and Influencing: experience working with local people to influence political leaders through collective action on social, economic, and environmental issues.
* Organisational Skills: a proven ability to manage competing priorities, manage your own schedule and maintain a good a volume of 1-2-1s on a weekly basis.
* Digital Organising: an awareness of how to use digital organising tools, such as Action Network.

**Skills:**

* **Strong empathetic, motivational leadership skills to foster collaboration, encourage creativity, and drive positive change.**
* **Self-Starter and Can-Do Attitude: proactive, self-motivated approach to overcoming challenges, problem-solving, identifying opportunities, and driving projects with optimism in South Yorkshire.**
* **Excellent written and verbal communication skills.**
* **Commitment to Learning and Coaching: a growth mind-set, willingness to learn, and ability to coach and mentor staff for their growth and development.**
* **Positive Relationship Building: commitment to building positive relationships with team members, community partners, and stakeholders in South Yorkshire.**
* Self-awareness: able to reflect on your own needs, abilities, areas for growth and dynamics within the relationships you hold, with a view to taking care of your own wellbeing and developing as an organiser.
* **Emotional intelligence: excellent listening and conversational skills, and the ability to understand people’s needs and motivations, and read and interpret group dynamics.**
* **Empathy and Cultural Sensitivity: understanding of challenges in diverse communities, respect for diverse perspectives, and commitment to inclusive practices in organising.**

 **Motivation:**

* **Commitment to NEF's Mission: Alignment with NEF's values and mission, demonstrating commitment to social justice, environmental sustainability, and equitable economic transformation.**