

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT



Provincial Assistant for Social Ministry Organizing Jesuits West

The Institution

The Society of Jesus, the largest men's religious order in the Roman Catholic Church, assigns some 17,000 priests and brothers to ministries worldwide. In pastoral, educational, and other ministries, our priests and brothers collaborate with laymen and women, civic organizations, local dioceses, and other religious orders. As catalysts for change, we invest personnel and funding in those “turning points” in society where we believe the greatest good can be achieved. Our ministries express the power of faith doing justice by combining belief in fundamental human dignity with advocacy for the poor and marginalized.

Jesuits West supports a 10-state region that includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. Jesuits West is led by Father Santarosa as its Provincial with an 11-member executive team overseeing an approximate staff of 30 with offices in Los Gatos, California and Portland, Oregon.

Position Concept and Basic Function

VISION

What if the universities, high schools, and parishes of Jesuits West align along major social issues which affect a given region in the western 10 states of the U.S.? What if a Province staff member built relationships with key persons of each Jesuit work, and learned the issues most affecting them, and helped them to organize more effectively within their work and with other Jesuit works to advocate for these issues?

The Provincial Assistant for Social Ministry Organizing (PASMO) advises the Provincial and Province leadership team on matters related to regional, national, and international issues of social justice. The PASMO helps to imagine how the Province can organize itself and its works to address these issues. The PASMO will implement initiatives through developed Jesuit networks (regional, national, and/or international) as appropriate. To ensure attention to and success of initiatives, the PASMO develops and fosters relationships amongst Province leadership and key staff at Jesuit works and ministries. Works closely with the Provincial Assistant for Planning in developing, strategizing, and implementing plans.

The Provincial Assistant for Social Ministry Organizing responsibilities will include:

- Animate the Province, including works in all sectors, around common social priorities, issues of social justice, and legislative advocacy.
 - a. Coordinate legislative advocacy on priority issues of the Provincial and the Jesuit Conference for the Province, including sending advocacy alerts and writing letters to elected officials.
- Serve as the Province liaison for the social works of Jesuits West (such as Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative, Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative: NW, Homeboy Industries, Proyecto Pastoral at Dolores Mission, Faith in Action, JVC Northwest, Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center, and others as they develop.).
 - a. Represent the Province, at the Provincial's request, in Jesuit and other social ministries, including serving on boards of directors.
 - b. Communicate regularly with Jesuits and lay partners in the Province working in the social apostolate, engaging in periodic visitations, and being available for collaboration, consultation, and organizational support.
- At the Conference Level:
 - a. Serve as a representative on the Jesuit Committee on Investment Responsibility and carry out at the Province level decisions made by this group, including filing resolutions, attending annual meetings, and arranging and participating in dialogues.
 - b. Represent the Jesuit Conference (JCU) on any Conference issues that arise from investment responsibility. Currently the Jesuits West PA for Social Ministry Organizing represents the Conference in dialogues with Geo Group (for-profit prison company).

Other Responsibilities:

- Build relationships with volunteers, clergy, and staff within Jesuits West and its many ministries across the Province, supporting them to work together on common social issues.
- Provide or arrange for training, education, and networking in the Province on current issues of social justice and different aspects of social ministry.
- Attend Jesuits West Province Cabinet Meetings.
- Attend PICO/Faith in Action trainings and meetings to stay current on ways of organizing and on social issues. Work closely with a Faith in Action supervisor/mentor to support the social ministry organizing work.

Necessary Qualifications

- Minimum two years' experience in community organizing, preferably with PICO/Faith in Action, with proven track record.
- Exceptional verbal and written communication skills.
- Proven track record of successful collaboration in addressing social issues.
- Imaginative and creative in finding new ways to address social issues.
- Proactive and positive self-starter.
- Ability to travel the 10 western states as well as to other locations in the US and abroad.
- Ability to work with diverse religious, racial, and geographic communities.
- Driven, self-disciplined and flexible; able to work independently and on a team.
- Group development skills; experience nurturing, managing, and guiding multiple teams of people successfully toward shared goals.
- Facility working with clergy and people of faith, in traditional and non-traditional spaces.
- Cultural competence and emotional intelligence to support and nurture a culture of belonging and anti-racism in multi-racial and interfaith spaces.
- Excellent interpersonal and relational skills; self-reflective.
- Able to facilitate challenging group conversations and create meaningful learning experiences for groups.
- Able to prioritize and set goals and to design work plans.
- Experience effectively managing team member(s).

Desired Qualifications

- Experience working in policy on the issues of housing, homelessness, immigration, criminal and/or restorative justice or immigration.
- Bachelor's degree required, advanced degree(s) a plus.

Hours

- Full-time. Significant travel involved.

Requirements and Application Procedure

Salary is commensurate with experience. Comprehensive benefits are included in the overall compensation package.

Applicants must submit a cover letter and resume to UWEjobs@jesuits.org. Review of applicants for employment will begin immediately and continue until the position has been filled.

Jesuits West makes employment decisions without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, marital status, age, and disability unrelated to job performance. The Province hires without regard to religion when Catholic faith is not a job requirement, and welcomes people of all faiths.