



The Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund (FSC/LAF) is a regional cooperative association and rural development organization serving a membership of Black farmers, landowners, cooperatives and other low-income rural people in the Southeast. We are seeking a full time **Land Retention Specialist** to support our outreach efforts for limited resources farmers and landowners as well as supporting the strategic goals of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund's Regional Heirs Property and Mediation Center. This position will report to the State Coordinator.

Job Summary

The Land Retention Specialist will work under the direction of the State Coordinator as part of a team as well as with the Director of Land Retention and Advocacy to develop and deliver high quality outreach, education and technical assistance which supports heirs' property issues, estate planning and helping African American landowners develop alternative ownership models such as corporations, cooperatives, trusts, limited liability companies and intra-family buyouts to ensure land retention and wealth creation. The ideal candidate should have a demonstrated commitment to social justice and community organizing in addition to a passion for building relationships and confidence with members of FSC/LAF. This role will also partner with community leaders to advance the Federation's overall mission of being a catalyst for the development of self-supporting communities through cooperative development, land retention and other initiatives that increase income and build wealth.

Essential Job Function

Develop and coordinate outreach, education, and technical assistance for heirs' property landowners.

Develop and distribute educational materials for property owners, nonprofits and municipalities about heirs' property challenges.

Prepare and deliver formal presentations about heirs' property before both professional and community audiences.

Work with the Director of Land Retention and Advocacy to coordinate Heirs Property workshops, Wills Clinics, community events and other initiatives.

Serve as a liaison to partners, stakeholders and community leaders in organizing programs and activities. Establish sound working relationships and cooperative arrangements with community organizations.

Represent the FSC/LAF at community events, meetings, conferences and seminars.

Identify and refer property owners in geographic focus areas who need services and technical assistance.

Build knowledge of other community services and resources to make appropriate referrals for members.

Provide support to farmers, landowners, and FSC membership with non-legal aspects of land cases, including development of family trees and facilitation of family meetings.

Assist with organizational communications, including social media, website updates and periodic newsletters.

Organize and maintain member information in case management database.

Title search experience

Other Responsibilities

Performs other duties as assigned

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Ability to meet attendance requirements.

Ability to read, write, and communicate the English language effectively.

Must be able to travel as needed for organization events and staff meetings

Must have a professional appearance.

Ability to effectively communication with our membership partners and as staff as needed

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Ability to listen and translate communication into the appropriate course of action

Must be comfortably working in and understanding rural communities understanding their special values and challenges

Ability to work as part of a team in a professional and collaborative manner

Ability to set priorities and meet deadlines

Ability to conduct basic research, write and analyze correspondence and data, exercise organizational skill

Ability to prepare and analyze reports and data

Ability to operate office tools, i.e. computer, word processing, spreadsheets software and general office equipment

Ability to travel (some overnight) extensively across a wide rural area

Education and Experience

Minimum of 2+ years of community organizing experience preferred

Demonstrated commitment to social justice and education community is required

Public speaking and community education experience required

Bachelor's degree or higher; preferably with a specialization in legal studies, business, economic and community development or a related field preferred; or and equivalent combination of experience and training.

Licenses and Certifications

State issued driver's license

Physical Requirements and Working Conditions

Duties are usually performed by combinations of sitting, standing, and walking on a frequent change basis. Always present a positive and professional image (communication and work attire) of The Federation of Southern Cooperatives / Land Assistance Fund. Limited physical effort required associated with sitting, walking, standing, lifting, bending, reaching, twisting, pushing, pulling, typing, 75% to 95% of the work time and carrying light objects (less than 25 lbs.) 5-25% of work time. Work is performed in a normal office environment where there may be physical discomforts associated with changes in weather or discomforts associated with noise, dust, dirt, and the like.