



Job Description: Health Research & Education Coordinator

Reports to: Southwestern Medical District Project Coordinator
Classification: Full time permanent, non-exempt (hourly)
Supervises: N/A
Salary Scale: Salary is commensurate with experience
Location: Dallas, Texas

Position Description:

The Health Research & Education Coordinator position will be responsible for establishing a strategic plan that will support research and education that connects the benefits of nature to human health. Utilizing the Southwestern Medical District Streetscape and Park as a living lab the coordinator will identify existing and needed research, establish partnerships to execute that research and apply evidence-based design to mitigate urban health and environmental challenges and policies. The Coordinator will also synthesize and promote research results for education, policy development and programming. Texas Trees seeks to quantify nature as the equalizer that provides mental, physical, spiritual, and environmental restoration for all people. This position will integrate health and wellness educational programming into all the Foundation's services and projects and create awareness of the link between health and nature.

Organization:

The Texas Trees Foundation is a 501(c) 3 organization and serves as a catalyst in creating a new green legacy for North Texas through transformational research-based projects that educate and mobilize the public to activate the social, economic, environmental, and health benefits that trees and urban forestry provide for a better quality of life. The Foundation is currently sponsoring a premier project for the Southwestern Medical District and in partnership with the 3 world renowned hospitals in the District, The City of Dallas, NCTCOG, Dallas County, and private philanthropic foundations. The Foundation is leading the Urban Streetscape initiative through design and implementation, following the completion of our SWMD Urban Streetscape Master Plan. The initial projects include the transformation of the streetscape of Harry Hines Boulevard and the cloverleaf intersection at Harry Hines Boulevard and Inwood Road, creating a Medical District that can be studied and evaluated to discover the health of the natural environment, the health of thriving neighborhood systems, and the health of all employees, patients, residents and visitors. The results of these efforts will be a model 21st Century Medical District that integrates healthy spaces with innovative design and state of the art approaches to become a model for other medical districts.

Responsibilities and Activities:

- **Create a strategic plan that will act as a roadmap to:**
 - Identify critical partners who can provide support to create a multi-disciplined team to advance the research of human health using natures, trees, and landscape architecture.
 - Act as liaison to a Research Advisory Council, made up of leading researchers specializing in studies of nature experiences and human health outcomes.
 - Create a multidisciplinary health research team made up of individuals, institutions and stakeholders that will design, implement, and monitor controlled health research projects in the SWMD.

- **Responsibilities and Activities Cont.:**

- Lead collaboration between the health research team and the SWMD design team to model, optimize, and validate evidence-based design solutions that evaluate outcomes to achieve desired health and environmental impacts.
- Develop a framework for health and environmental research to conduct detailed assessments of changes in the environmental exposures and biological markers in a study population that is directly impacted by Texas Trees Foundation projects. Framework to include identification of project goals, research methods, variables, and other test parameters including how to collect and evaluate project data.
- Develop research schedules to coordinate with the SWMD design team processes
- Connect urban design and planning with public health processes to advance or change public policy, urban design, and public education
- Promote utilization of mixed methods research methodology, and support robust methods of data collection, analysis, and summarization of findings
- Create research graphics, collateral and presentations as needed for funding, advocacy, public education, and general information
- Facilitate routine communication within Texas Trees Foundation and with outside agencies, institutions, consultants, and partners that can contribute to the success of the research initiatives
- Provide planning, coordinating resources, organizing, scheduling and other task as necessary to ensure successful research deliverables

Qualifications:

- Masters or PhD in the fields of Landscape Architecture, Sustainable Development, Environmental Studies, Urban Planning with an emphasis on Public Health
- Prior experience conducting health research studies
- Demonstrated scientific publication experience
- Proficiency in technological skills of research design and analysis methods
- Strong knowledge base of biophilic elements and strategies for health outcomes that can be incorporated into an urban environment
- Understanding of the physical and psychological benefits of therapeutic landscapes and how they aid in restoration, rehabilitation, and wellness
- Applied knowledge of Post Occupancy Evaluation in health care, clinical and therapeutic situations
- Holistic and strategic critical thinker, self-starter
- Excellence in verbal, written and graphic communications
- Proven experience and solid understanding of working with the public sector, preferred
- Working knowledge of research grant sources, cycles, writing and reporting
- Ability to work independently, solve problems and collaborate with colleagues/peers
- MS Office Suite

Interested candidates may submit cover letter with contact information, resume and salary requirements to lannie@texas-trees.org. Only those whose applications are under consideration will be contacted. No phone calls please.