



- Employment Contract Opportunity -

Project Director, Prosperity's Front Door Network

The Prosperity's Front Door Network seeks a skilled and dynamic leader to expand and mobilize a multi-sector coalition of public and private sector organizations actively engaged in addressing Minnesota's housing crises, by making housing a priority for Minnesota communities, increasing the supply of housing of all types for all incomes, and increasing awareness and understanding of housing as essential to Minnesota's economic competitiveness.

Prosperity's Front Door is a network of business, government, and nonprofit leaders seeking economic prosperity for all by advancing recommendations developed by the Minnesota Task Force on Housing in 2018. We believe achieving sustained and comprehensive advances in our housing production system requires expanding the network of housing champions and partners to include new and diverse voices, including employers, civic and community organizations and persons with lived experience.

PFD's activities will help create the conditions for policy and practice change by identifying solutions to a wide range of housing challenges, including housing production costs, resource limitations, regulatory issues, development capacity, labor shortages and the need for new building technologies.

Front Door will also highlight the profound impact stable housing has on individual and social outcomes — in health, education, and economic mobility, and build urgency around the message of homes as central to economic prosperity for all Minnesotans. The project will create mechanisms to track and evaluate progress toward shared housing goals to improve accountability and foster collaborative solutions that no single organization can solve alone.

Are you the ideal candidate?

- We're looking for a leader who can work with other leaders and build deep relationships both inside and beyond the natural constituencies of housing. We want to engage partners who have often been on the periphery of housing conversations, but who deeply feel the impact of our need for homes—employers, school district superintendents, health care providers, city and county officials, and more.
- Housing is a complex area with a great many moving pieces – we need a project manager who can take a strategy and act on it and who is comfortable moving forward in the face of ambiguity. This is an entrepreneurial role, guiding a new organization with the support of a core advisory group. We need a go-getter, someone who can keep all the balls in the air and leverage the strengths of others.
- Coalition-management and political savvy will be a critical skillset in the leader we are looking to hire. Moreover, this will require an innovative approach, closer to equipping and enabling a portfolio of partners than it is to mobilizing a defined coalition. We want to find good partners and embrace and amplify their efforts in a bipartisan way and build a sense of alliance between non-traditional partners. We are looking for someone who can 'fit the pieces together' strategically, remove obstacles for partners, and praise the successes of others more than claim their own victories.
- There is a timely opportunity to capture the public imagination, and effective and creative storytelling and messaging will help us capitalize on this. We have brought on board partners and consultants who can help with the full range of media savvy and creative communications, but an ear for a good story, the ability to look across partisan and urban/rural divides to the shared human story, the inclusion of diverse voices and lived experience, and a strategic approach to evaluating communications strategies will help enable success.

What does the day to day look like?

The Director will have responsibility for the direction of Prosperity's Front Door and the lead in building relationships with new champions for housing. This means the Director will plan and lead regular advisory group meetings which steer the course for Front Door and work with sponsor organizations to leverage. The advisory board is a highly engaged group of leaders, and the Director will need to be comfortable managing up and effectively engaging these leaders in advancing the work.

The Director will oversee contracting relationships, including with a strategic communications firm and other potential consultants.

The Director will oversee both grant writing/reporting and grantmaking exercises. Strategic communications is key to the work of Prosperity's Front Door, and the Director will be expected to lean in for creative communications.

The Director will correspond with and regularly engage members of the Front Door network.

The Director will identify opportunities to engage a growing Front Door speaker network which will include diverse group of individuals to speak on the critical issues of housing, the importance of housing stability to healthy communities, production shortages and opportunities for growth to advance shared economic prosperity.

What are the role requirements?

Priority will be given to candidates with:

- Proven ability to work confidently and empathetically with diverse interest groups at various levels, including public, private and non-profit sectors and facilitate agreements among diverse industry segments and political affiliations;
- Track record of expanding coalitions, building trust in political and business settings, and developing and executing an effective public education campaign;
- Demonstrated success in providing high-level policy and strategic advice, developing and implementing effective projects, and meeting financial targets;
- Fluency in media relations and communications strategies, including the use of social media and online tools in an advocacy context; and
- Commitment to working towards systems change in the public interest
- Strong leadership and management skills and proven ability to conduct effective project management, meet deadlines, and produce high quality work products efficiently.
- Experience in housing issues and/or the Minnesota context are preferred, but not required.

What will be the compensation and nature of the contract?

This role is designed as a full-time contract position, for a starting period of 18 month because Front Door is a new initiative under a fiscal sponsorship. Compensation is competitive with senior non-profit leadership roles. The position will be provided office space at the Family Housing Fund, located in downtown Minneapolis, another convenient sponsor location. The final contract design and hours will be developed in consultation with the individual selected for the position.

How do I apply?

Interested applicants should send resume and cover letter to info@frontdoorcampaign.com and include "Project Director" in the subject line. Applications accepted on an on-going basis until position is filled.