



Government Liaison
Albuquerque and Bernalillo County, New Mexico

Program Overview:

In Summer 2023, the Bezos Earth Fund (the Earth Fund) launched [Greening America's Cities](#) (GAC), a new, multi-year \$400M initiative to invest primarily in community-led environmental justice organizations through 2030. In 2023, \$50M was granted to 24 community based organizations and 6 national partners who provide technical assistance and support in the following US cities and their surrounding counties: Albuquerque, Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles, Wilmington. Each city will have a Government Liaison who will bring capacity to local government partners to ensure success of the community greening projects. Learn more about the Earth Fund Greening America's Cities initiative and the community grantees in the Albuquerque region [here](#) .

Position Overview:

The Government Liaison position is a unique opportunity for a person with passion for and commitment to sustainability and environmental justice, demonstrated excellence around the nexus of local government and community-building and engagement, and is excited to contribute creatively and strategically to the overarching mission and vision of the Greening America's Cities initiative. This position will report to the Development and Operations Director at the New Mexico Foundation and the Special Projects Manager at USDN.

The Government Liaison will serve in a coordination role working closely with the New Mexico Foundation, USDN and in partnership with local government departments in service of the Greening America's Cities initiative. This position will liaise with local, state, and federal government entities to expedite support for community-based organizations, including, e.g, ensuring policies are in place to implement community greening projects, supporting and increasing community engagement and access to community green spaces, supporting partners with technical assistance and training, and connecting with peers in other Greening America's Cities to share best practices and exchange resources. This role will work closely with the Earth Fund Community Fellow to establish quarterly goals and priorities based on the needs developed by the GAC cohort in Albuquerque and Bernalillo County. The Liaison will also work closely with two Regional Partner Networks - Coalition for Sustainable Communities New Mexico and Western Adaptation Alliance - on researching and sharing best practices for nature-based solutions.

Responsibilities:

Program Management & Delivery

- Serve as the primary liaison and relationship manager with multiple City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County departments and other local government jurisdictions as relevant, to support the current Earth Fund GAC grantees, and create a fertile environment for other community based organizations.
- Facilitate technical assistance support to the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County and community-based organization grantees through USDN staff and technical partners to ensure effective delivery aligned with grantee needs and goals of the initiative.
- Organize regular meetings and trainings that include local government and community based organizations in partnership with the Earth Fund Community Fellow.
- Attend in person meetings and convenings with local government partners
- Facilitate community engagement at local, county, state, and national levels in support of current and future project delivery.
- In partnership with Coalition for Sustainable Communities New Mexico (CSCNM) and Western Adaptation Alliance (WAA), compile research on best practices in implementing and maintaining greening projects, develop a collective urban greening vision for the Southwest, and support peer learning opportunities with the CSCNM and WAA networks.

Program Strategy & Development

- Collaborate with the Earth Fund Community Fellow to develop a shared vision for success of the GAC initiative.
- Build systems to ensure active information sharing between the grantees in the Albuquerque region and across the other GAC cities, identifying where possible common areas of interest for cutting edge implementation, policy options and/or collaborative problem solving.
- Commits to engaging in peer learning opportunities and sharing lessons learned with National and Regional Learning Networks.

Communications & Relationship Building

- Work alongside the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County and the Earth Fund Community Fellow to document progress and communicate successes and lessons learned, potentially including marketing support and amplification for greening projects and community-led dialogues with USDN and Regional Partner Networks - Coalition of Sustainable Communities New Mexico (CSCNM) and the Western Adaptation Alliance (WAA.)
- Contribute to written briefs, blogs, interviews, videos, and other educational materials that USDN, CSCNM and WAA may develop to broadly share and influence field knowledge.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Focus

- Cultivate and maintain professional competency in equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI). EDI is a central goal, fundamental value, and required competency for the practice of sustainability.

- Emphasize USDN’s adopted EDI principles in the design and delivery of programming and throughout the performance of job responsibilities. The position will advance EDI principles as a characteristic of responsible governance, where all levels of government have a fiscal and moral responsibility to address the long-term implications that inequity has on prosperity, health, and safety of residents.

Position Requirements:

- Bachelor’s degree required.
- Minimum five years experience working for or in close collaboration with local governments, understanding city processes and systems and delivering results with local government entities.
- A well-developed network of relationships and deep understanding of the City of Albuquerque and/or Bernalillo County environmental and climate justice and/or greening ecosystems, and knowledge of the region’s communities and their needs.
- Experience and working knowledge of climate adaptation and mitigation and green infrastructure and community greening projects.
- Experience working with diverse community-based organizations, community leaders, and associated stakeholders.
- Commitment to social justice and anti-racist principles.

Knowledge, Skills, And Abilities

- Demonstrated skills in facilitation, relationship building, partnership management and collaborative planning/delivery, especially with diverse community stakeholders.
- Ability to manage multiple complex programs and projects and multiple deadlines simultaneously.
- Ability to work independently and with partners in a collaborative and dynamic environment.
- High level of communication skills - interpersonal, written and verbal - and strong relationship-development skills.
- Commitment to the benefits of peer learning networks
- Proven project management skills – from conception to design to implementation - and demonstrated capacity for strategic thinking and problem solving.
- Commitment to and experience with collaboration, teamwork and personal growth.
- Strong orientation and commitment to racial equity, equitable results, and community voice.

Terms of Employment

Job Classification: Regular, Full-time, Exempt

Work Location: Hybrid / Multi-location

Salary: \$75,000 - \$80,000

Term: This is a grant funded position through June 30, 2026.

Benefits Package: Includes vacation and sick days, health insurance, life insurance, and short and long-term disability insurance. Vision and dental insurance is also included along with a 401(k) Plan.

Reports to: This position will report to the Development and Operations Director at New Mexico Foundation and the Special Project Manager at USDN.

Closing Date: Monday, September 23 at Noon MT.

About New Mexico Foundation

Since 1983, New Mexico Foundation has worked to improve the quality of life for all residents of New Mexico. New Mexico Foundation's mission is to steward community resources, build partnerships, and create opportunities that transform lives throughout New Mexico. New Mexico Foundation envisions a state where every New Mexico community has access to resources that support their ability to enjoy a better quality of life. Through new and established partnerships with leaders in the communities we serve, we support effective strategies to address statewide issues together.

About USDN

Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) supports local governments to implement bold change in pursuit of equitable and sustainable communities. USDN builds the capacity of local governments to act, scaling promising practices and solutions, and harnessing data and insights to advance and influence the field. The heart of USDN's work is a network of local government sustainability professionals from over 300 cities and counties across the United States and Canada dedicated to creating a healthy environment, advancing racial equity, and building thriving and resilient communities. USDN believes that a diverse, inclusive, and equity-centered climate movement is essential to achieving our ambitious goals for just, resilient, carbon neutral communities. Our work prioritizes those who experience the most vulnerability to climate change, disproportionate exposure to environmental injustice, and the biggest barriers to benefiting from climate solutions.