Policy Counsel (posted May 1, 2012)

The Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) is a non-profit civil rights law and policy organization based in Washington, D.C. We are seeking a dynamic individual with experience in civil rights law or poverty law to join our team as Policy Counsel, working to advance civil rights in federal education, housing, and environmental health policy.

The Policy Counsel will work closely with the Executive Director and other PRRAC staff in develop detailed legal and policy analysis of federal programs, primarily in the area of education policy; drafting comments and advocacy letters in response to proposed rulemaking and sub-regulatory agency actions (NOFAs, notices, etc); drafting PRRAC reports and policy briefs; supporting legislative advocacy; working with the PRRAC Social Science Advisory Board and tracking new social science research relevant to PRRAC policy goals; and supporting PRRAC coalition work (including the National Coalition on School Diversity, www.school-diversity.org).

The ideal candidate for the Policy Counsel position would have excellent research and writing skills, an understanding of the appropriate uses of social science in policy advocacy, a strong interest in the minutiae of federal policy work, and a demonstrated commitment to civil rights, poverty alleviation, and racial and economic integration. Prior experience in education law and policy, environmental justice, or housing policy is a plus.

Minimum requirements: J.D., and at least 3-5 years of relevant experience in civil rights or poverty law. Salary consistent with public interest law positions in DC. Standard benefits.

Please submit resume and writing sample to Philip Tegeler (ptegeler@prrac.org). This position will remain open until filled.

Background on the Poverty & Race Research Action Council
Founded in 1989 by major national civil rights and poverty law organizations, PRRAC’s primary mission is to help connect advocates with social scientists working on race and poverty issues, and to develop innovative approaches to structural inequality issues. Our current work is focused in the areas of housing, education, and environmental health, with a particular emphasis on the causes and consequences of housing and school segregation, and appropriate remedial strategies. In addition to national-level law and policy research and advocacy, we are engaged in local technical assistance work in Baltimore and Hartford, in support of regional desegregation cases filed by the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the ACLU. PRRAC also supports public education efforts, including the bimonthly newsletter/journal Poverty & Race, and the award-winning civil rights history curriculum guide, Putting the Movement Back Into Civil Rights Teaching. For more on our organization, go to our website, at www.prrac.org.