Research Associate (posted April 2, 2015)

The Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) seeks a full-time Research Associate with strong quantitative, analytic and project management skills to assist PRRAC in data collection, quantitative and qualitative research, GIS mapping, and report preparation. The Research Associate will gather and manage data sets; conduct research and data analysis; work with government statistical agencies and private corporations to access relevant data; provide technical advice on research design; prepare data and data analysis/interpretation for inclusion in PRRAC publications; prepare literature reviews on race and poverty related issues; liaison with researchers working on PRRAC-supported research grants; and respond to and fulfill periodic data requests from reporters, agencies, government agencies, academics and others. The Research Associate will also help to train and supervise student research assistants.

Qualifications: A Master’s Degree or PhD in Statistics, Economics, Demography, Sociology, Planning, Public Policy or a related field that includes quantitative data skills. At least one year of related experience is preferred. The position assumes an interest in the public policy aspects of affordable housing, metropolitan development, education, environmental health and racial, ethnic and gender inequality. Analysis may encompass, for example, federal census data, HUD program data, federal and state education statistics, and state and local agency data. Applicant must have demonstrated ability to collect, analyze and interpret a range of large and small datasets. Expertise with statistical software programs (at least one of the following: Stata, R, SAS, or SPSS), experience with GIS mapping software, and facility with Microsoft Office required. We’re also looking for a team player with strong writing skills, and a commitment to social justice.

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to Philip Tegeler (ptegeler@prrac.org). Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. This is a full time position, but we would consider part time applicants with a demonstrated capacity in the field. Salary consistent with public interest research positions in DC.

Background on the Poverty & Race Research Action Council

The Poverty & Race Research Action Council is a non-profit civil rights law and policy organization based in Washington, D.C. 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.