

Joint Position on Poverty Reduction

The McMaster Community Poverty Initiative (MCPI) and the Hamilton Roundtable on Poverty Reduction (HRPR) are partnering to hire one individual to undertake two distinct but parallel part-time jobs that focus on poverty reduction. By partnering, the organizations seek to strengthen their collaboration and also to provide the equivalent of one full time position.

Below are listed the two job descriptions. MCPI is seeking a person for three days per week and HRPR for two days per week. This will be a joint hiring process and the positions will have some flexible overlap, especially given that the HRPR position begins in July and the MCPI position in August. Hours and arrangements are negotiable.

To apply for the combined position, please send a letter of application which speaks to your community organizing skills, project management skills and your experience in both community and university settings; a resume and two letters of reference to the search committee by **Monday, April 13, 2015** at the following email address:

MCPI.HRPR@gmail.com

McMaster Community Poverty Initiative Development Coordinator

The McMaster Community Poverty Initiative is a group of students, faculty and staff dedicated to research, advocacy and education and action related to poverty reduction. Together with our partners in the Hamilton community, we strive to use knowledge for social change. MCPI's work is focused in three areas: research, education and advocacy. Research projects are undertaken as a collaborative effort between the university and communities, building on existing strengths, skills and resources. Education efforts include classroom presentations on issues related to poverty, community panels and presentations on poverty reduction issues as well as participatory activities such as student participation in Do the Math campaigns. Advocacy work is undertaken on behalf of social justice and social change and has most recently focused on implementing a Living Wage in Hamilton and at McMaster University.

The development coordinator for MCPI coordinates the work of the initiative and acts as a liaison both within the university and between the university and the community.

Candidates are sought who have the following qualifications/attributes:

- A commitment to reducing inequality and poverty through research, education and advocacy.
- Project management skills including event coordination and preparation of funding proposals, and record of successfully securing and using funding from government and other sources.
- Skill in forging partnerships, engaging diverse constituencies (community groups, mainstream organizations, governments, students, educators) in work on issues of shared concern.
- Ability to envision creative ways of using the resources of the university to enhance community capacity for research, education and knowledge exchange on poverty reduction.
- Ability to increase the profile and visibility of poverty reduction and the work of MCPI at McMaster and in Hamilton.

- Well established connections in the Hamilton community and knowledge of a university environment.
- Ability to supervise work study students.
- A Master's degree in a related field is preferred.

The job is for around 20 hours a week for 9 months of the year, with configuration of hours negotiable. Start date is August 1, 2015.

Position type: Part-time/contract

Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction Job Opportunity:

The Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction (HRPR) is looking for a highly-motivated individual with extensive policy and community development experience to help organize community meetings, engage local residents and highlight poverty reduction priorities with a focus on helping to make poverty a key local issue during the 2015 Federal Election. Following the election, the organizer will work with the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction on key action plan items described at www.hamiltonpoverty.ca. This position will be hired in conjunction with the McMaster Community Poverty Initiative coordinator (the hours combined would equal a full time contract position).

Who are we looking for:

The campaign organizer will have the experience, skills, energy and initiative needed to organize and support volunteer activists in Hamilton to make poverty reduction an important election issue. The organizer will be committed to social justice and diversity and have a good knowledge of income security, housing, child care, transit and food security issues. Experience with issue-based or political campaigns, and a strong comfort-level in working with a steering group including neighbourhood groups, students and individuals with the lived experience of poverty is an asset. The organizer will know how to manage a campaign effectively with limited financial resources. The organizer will have excellent communication and media skills, including an excellent understanding of how to use social media.

Major Responsibilities:

- Collaborate with community partners and supporters
- Mobilize groups to help promote poverty issues during the election
- Help produce campaign documents and materials
- Use web-based tools and social media to do outreach and maintain communication
- Support and promote local campaign events
- Some administrative work, scheduling calls, minutes, etc

This position will be 15 hours a week from July, 2015 - June 2016 and based in Hamilton