

Organizer Position Announcement

The Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance (OREPA) seeks applications for the position of Organizer. The position will be open in the fall of 2021.

Brief overview of OREPA

(www.orepa.org)

OREPA is a collection of eternally hopeful souls who believe that we have the power to create the world in which we hope to live. For more than thirty years, OREPA has worked for a world free of nuclear weapons. Locally, our work focuses on halting the production of nuclear weapons components at the Y-12 Nuclear Weapons Complex in Oak Ridge, Tennessee and protecting the environment threatened by its legacy and ongoing activities.

Founded in 1988, OREPA is a grassroots organization committed to utilizing nonviolence and to using every tool in the toolbox to create change. We educate, organize, and mobilize. We do sophisticated policy analysis, participate in public hearings, make giant puppets for street theater, demonstrate and march and sing and write letters—we are serious, and we believe in having fun. We support people who choose to get arrested in civil resistance actions. We collaborate with organizations nationally and internationally through the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability (ANA) and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) to address the threat of nuclear weapons.

We believe the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) which entered into force on January 22, 2021, is an important tool; it provides an opportunity for a new movement to abolish nuclear weapons, and we are incorporating it into our work.

We operate through a working Board of Directors. Board members serve on committees that create the organization's vision and plan the organization's agenda. The Board of Directors has the final approval for that agenda including but not limited to legislative actions, events, finances, fundraising, programs, and supervision of staff. We use a consensus model to make decisions.

Here are some examples of our activities:

1. We vigil every Sunday afternoon at the entrance to the Y-12 plant in Oak Ridge as a continual witness for peace and have done so for over 21 years without interruption.
2. We are the only public group that watchdogs the Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration activities in Oak Ridge, sharing information about operations with members of Congress, at the United Nations, at meetings in Germany, and in hundreds of public meetings.
3. We help plan, prepare materials, and participate in the annual DC Days event through the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, a gathering of dozens of activists from around the country to Washington, DC.

4. We filed a federal lawsuit challenging the government's failure to prepare adequate environmental impact analysis for its Enriched Uranium Program—and we won.
5. We have opposed the construction of the Uranium Processing Facility bomb plant in Oak Ridge for more than 15 years.
6. We have organized the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Conversation for over 10 years as part of Knoxville's annual calendar of commemorative events, and our giant puppets of nonviolent practitioners have been prominent in the annual MLK parade.
7. We have supported over 200 people in their commitment to nonviolent direct action/civil resistance and their subsequent arrest since OREPA's founding in 1988.

The Position

The organizer will have a heart-felt passion for social and environmental justice and be willing to mold that passion toward the abolition of all nuclear weapons. This candidate will commit to building a new generation of activists who will work for a world free of nuclear weapons.

We are seeking a person who will work to expand the constituency of OREPA through outreach, events, and education. These activities will focus primarily on organizing a rising generation of nuclear abolition activists—people under 30. As an organizer, this person will be a vital component in the ongoing life of OREPA and will be expected to participate accordingly.

The successful candidate will bring a unique set of gifts and skills to the work. We expect to complement those skills by offering opportunities for additional experience and growth.

The organizer will work under the direction of the coordinator and be accountable to and supported by the OREPA Board of Directors. Organizer's location will be flexible with work-from-home (WFH) possibilities. The position will be based in Knoxville, TN or surrounding communities.

Responsibilities

1. Expand the participant base of OREPA with the support of the Board and coordinator, emphasizing an under-30 demographic.
2. Staff the Action & Events Committee
 - a. Maintain communication with other staff, committees, and the Board.
 - b. Prepare the agenda for Action & Events meetings in collaboration with the committee chair.

- c. Provide the Action & Events committee with resource materials.
 - d. Ensure that logistics for actions and events are sufficiently addressed.
 - e. Attend Action & Events committee meetings and other meetings, as necessary.
3. Make presentations about nuclear weapons issues and OREPA's activities to college, university, or community groups.
 4. Coordinate with other staff in producing content for the OREPA newsletter, website, and social media; prepare other materials for publicity and information for OREPA programs and events.
 5. Along with other staff, represent OREPA at the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability while maintaining relationships with other long-term collaborators.
 6. Attend OREPA sponsored actions, events, and programs.
 7. Fulfill other staff functions as negotiated with the Board.

Qualifications

Education: Bachelor's Degree from an accredited educational institution or comparable work experience

Experience: One-two years of work experience preferably with non-profit organizations

Specific skills:

Preference for person with community organizing skills and/or experience

Excellent written communication skills

Experience with public speaking and presentations

Fluency with social media

Sufficiency with word processing, database management, spreadsheets; graphic design helpful

Understanding of and openness to intergenerational organizing

Personal characteristics:

Must be a self-starter.

Must work well independently and collaboratively.

Must be a problem solver.

Must be conscientious, imaginative, honest, dependable.

Must have a sense of humor.

Benefits

Salary: \$35000-40000 depending on experience

OREPA has a generous benefit package which includes employee health insurance, contributions to an employee retirement fund, vacation and sabbatical, personal/professional growth leave, comp time, and maternal/paternal parental leave. Support for staff and self-care routines are critical to maintain healthy employees and avoid staff burnout.

For more information about OREPA: www.orepa.org

Resume review will begin September 10, 2021. Preferential application deadline is October 31, 2021. However, applications may be accepted until the position is filled.

Send cover letter and resume including contact information for 3 references to:

Kevin D. Collins, Chair of Organizer Search Committee at: orepa.hire@gmail.com

Only digital correspondence will be accepted. No telephone calls please. No application form is necessary but resume, cover letter, and references are required to be considered for this position.

***Knoxville, Tennessee:** Knoxville is nestled in the Great Valley of the Tennessee River within easy driving distance of the Great Smoky Mountains. It has multiple arts, music, dining, museum, theater, and outdoor recreation resources which are easily accessible. Knoxville boasts an urban wilderness with bike and hiking trails as well as several miles of greenway. It is the home of the University of Tennessee--Knoxville in addition to several smaller institutions.*

EEO Statement: All employees will be recruited, hired, assigned, advanced, compensated, and retained based on their qualifications and abilities. Employees will be treated equally in all respects without regard to race, color, creed, gender, age, marital status, national origin, handicap, religion, sexual orientation, or union affiliation. OREPA will act affirmatively to advance and enact this policy of equal opportunity.