

January [REDACTED]

Re: NLIHC Housing Policy Analyst

To Whom It May Concern:

I was excited to see the opening for a Housing Policy Analyst at the NLIHC and would like to express my interest in being considered for the position. I have been following your website for over a year in the hope that an analyst position would open up, as both the mission of your organization and the responsibilities of the position fall in line with my professional skills and interests. I believe that the foundation for success, for both children and adults, is a safe, steady place to call home, and I am currently looking for an opportunity to directly advocate for socially just policy to assure affordable, safe and respectable housing for the low-income community.

I have experience in all steps of the federal policy process – from formulation, to legislation, to funding, to implementation.

- At ThirdWay, I participated in exploring issues with interest groups, brainstorming policy solutions, and offering specific proposals to Congressional staff. This work developed my ability to think creatively, consider various stakeholders, and synthesize large amounts of research into succinct proposals.
- While at NAFSA, I learned about the federal legislative process through tracking legislation and creating a database of Congressional members committees and interests.
- At OMB, I gained an in-depth understanding of how funding can be used to promote or prevent the functioning of a program. I witnessed funding discussions between the Executive Branch, federal agencies, and Congress. Through this work, I also gained a greater understanding of the various funding avenues used in urban development and housing policy.
- Through my current work at FHFA, I gained experience in implementing legislation as well as creating new regulations. I have seen first-hand and participated in the development of responses to the housing crisis and regulation changes to Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the Federal Home Loan Banks, through participation in discussions with the GSEs, and drafting memos and in-depth research papers. I worked on several aspects of the implementation of HERA legislation. I also created a database of press and Congressional questions and appropriate FHFA responses to be used by researchers to respond in a timely and consistent manner.

In addition to my professional experiences, while pursuing my MPP, my work included research on the mortgage interest tax deduction, mixed-income HOPE VI projects, a cost-benefit analysis of the Wheeler Creek redevelopment in Southeast D.C. and completion of a pro-bono program evaluation for Samaritan Ministries of Greater Washington, which aims to help the homeless find steady employment.

One of my greatest strengths is a natural aptitude for organizing and facilitating discussions between disparate parties, helping them see their commonalities and guiding them towards mutually beneficial solutions. This facility, combined with my ability to analyze data for use in making critical decisions on social policy give me a unique ability to handle both the softer, human side and the specific, data-driven aspects of the legislative process.

My passion and drive to improve and expand affordable housing for the low-income community is ultimately what has led me to apply for this position. My salary requirement is [REDACTED] per year and I would love to discuss with you the possibility of joining the team at the NLIHC. Please let me know if I can answer any further questions about my experience, skills and motivations.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@gmail.com