



MILWAUKEE
COMMUNITY LAND TRUST
Affordable Housing for Everyone, Forever

Executive Director Search Opportunity Profile
Tentative Start Date: October / November 2021
Application Deadline: August 23, 2021

MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST OVERVIEW

Housing is an issue that impacts us all. Everyone needs a safe place to live, and not since the Great Depression have so many Americans struggled to afford their housing, let alone purchase a home. The Milwaukee Community Land Trust (MCLT) makes home ownership a reality for those who otherwise could not afford it.

Through its ownership of land, and support of homeowners that occupy that land, the MCLT creates permanently affordable housing, community control over real estate, and development without displacement. It is a powerful tool for wealth creation as well as reversing poverty and blight. This work connects neighborhood residents, neighborhood organizations and other key partners around a common goal: affordable housing for everyone, forever.

MCLT is a nonprofit membership organization led by a board of directors. It is funded by Milwaukee residents concerned about affordable housing issues, as well as foundations, government, businesses and real estate transactions.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY LAND TRUST?

Community land trusts (CLTs) are nonprofit organizations governed by a board of CLT residents, community residents and public representatives that provide lasting community assets and shared equity homeownership opportunities for families and communities.

CLTs develop affordable housing, commercial spaces to serve local communities, and conserve land or urban green spaces. The heart of the work for many CLTs is the creation of homes that remain permanently affordable, providing successful homeownership opportunities for generations of lower income families.

There are over 225 community land trusts in the United States.

FUTURE LEADERSHIP AT MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE INAUGURAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Milwaukee Community Land Trust is currently run by the Board of Directors — all who volunteer their time to ensure, create and maintain affordable homes and commercial property for the community.

While the Board has been successful in fundraising and community outreach to date, they believe an Executive Director will increase impact and grow the organization.

The Board is committed to ensuring the new Executive Director succeeds in this newly created role and will see that needs of the new Director are met while also establishing clear expectations to help the finalist thrive in this new environment.

QUALITIES AND TRAITS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

The MCLT Executive Director is the Trust’s primary representative and liaison between the Board, members, partners, neighborhood residents, funders, governments, developers and contractors. Responsibilities include financial management, member relations, management and stewardship of leasehold and rental properties, and general operations of the organization.

The Executive Director must demonstrate the values embodied in the Trust’s vision and mission: equity for all, democratic participation, community ownership and environmental sustainability.

The ideal candidate for this position will have at minimum an associate degree and five years of experience – relevant experience per the listed qualifications and responsibilities can be substituted for education.

The Executive Director must be able to handle highly sensitive, confidential information. The person filling this role must pay attention to detail and possess the ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, with colleagues, clients, and the community.

Residency in the City of Milwaukee is preferred.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

Program and Service Delivery

- Develops and leads property acquisition strategies and negotiates, reviews, and signs all contracts and grants as authorized by board policy.
- Provides education and support for potential homeowners and renters.
- Administers reserve funds for home repair.

Board Administration & Support

- Supports all board activities, including fundraising activities, policy development and special events.
- Collaborates with the board and board committees, leads ongoing strategic planning and is responsible for the effective implementation of the plan itself.
- Assures the implementation of the Board policies governing the operations of MCLT.
- Assists the Board of Directors in board recruitment, orientation, education, development, and evaluation of new members.

Financial and Human Resource Management

- Develops and recommends yearly budget for Board approval and prudently manages organization’s resources within those budget guidelines according to current laws and regulations.
- Responsible for hiring and leading staff and consultants.

Community and Public Relations

- Ensures that the MCLT engages its voting membership.
- Advocates and builds community awareness and support for permanently affordable housing.
- Maintains strong positive relationships with all partners including the City of Milwaukee, funders, other housing organizations, neighborhood organizations, developers and lenders.

Fundraising

- Supports the Board’s fundraising planning and implementation, including identifying resource requirements and establishing strategies to approach funders.

Membership Support and Development

- Leads the development and support of a broad-based membership including MCLT residents and supporting donor members.

SUMMARY OF THE SEARCH PROCESS

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

This is a direct-hire, full-time opportunity with the Milwaukee Community Land Trust. MRA – The Management Association is assisting in the facilitation of this recruitment.

A complete application should include a resume or CV, a letter of interest or cover letter and salary expectations. Please send to: Kathy.Seidel@mranet.org

For any questions or accommodations during the application process, please contact Rusty Borkin, MCLT Board President, rlborkin@gmail.com.

FLOW OF THE PROCESS

