

Community Engagement Manager/Director

Blackland Community Development Corporation

Building community and improving lives through quality affordable housing services in the Blackland neighborhood

About Blackland CDC

Since 1983, Blackland Community Development Corporation has been a powerful story of community resilience—born from residents with low income pushing back against displacement and fighting for dignity and justice in the form of affordable housing. We serve over 1,100 households in central Austin, with 80% of our residents earning less than 30% of the area median income. We are currently completing the pre-development phase of the Austin Art Village, an innovative tiny home community that will provide permanent supportive housing solutions. Nearly 80% of our budget goes directly to program services, ensuring that resources reach the families who need them most.

The Role

We're seeking a strategic and community-centered **Community Engagement Manager/Director** to strengthen relationships across all stakeholder groups—residents, volunteers, funders, partners, and the broader Austin community. This role is essential to advancing our mission and ensuring that the voices of those we serve remain at the center of our work. You'll serve as a bridge-builder and storyteller, mobilizing resources and community support to Keep Austin Affordable.

Key Responsibilities

Volunteer Coordination & Community Mobilization

- Develop and implement a comprehensive volunteer engagement strategy that honors community members as partners in our work
- Recruit, train, and support volunteers for programs, events, and community initiatives
- Create meaningful volunteer experiences that connect people to our mission and the Blackland neighborhood
- Build and maintain a volunteer database and tracking system

Grant Writing & Development Management

- Lead grant research, writing, and submission processes to secure funding from foundations, government agencies, and corporate partners
- Manage grant calendar, deadlines, and reporting requirements
- Collaborate with program staff to gather data, stories, and outcomes for compelling grant narratives

- Develop case statements and funding proposals that authentically reflect our community's needs and strengths

Funder Relations & Development

- Cultivate and steward relationships with existing and prospective funders
- Coordinate site visits, tours, and opportunities for funders to connect with residents and programs
- Provide timely updates and impact reports that demonstrate accountability and community outcomes
- Identify and pursue new funding opportunities aligned with organizational priorities

Social Media Strategy & Production:

- Develop and implement organic content strategies to drive audience growth, engagement, and conversions.
- Collaborate with the Director to scale and systematize a high-volume content engine.
- Manage and optimize publishing schedules, content calendars, and account performance across platforms (e.g., TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube).

Communications & Storytelling

- Develop and execute communications strategy across multiple channels (website, social media, newsletters, community events)
- Craft compelling stories that center resident voices and community impact
- Manage organizational messaging to diverse audiences—from funders to neighbors to policy makers
- Coordinate public-facing events, including open houses, community meetings, and awareness campaigns
- Serve as a spokesperson for Blackland CDC when appropriate

Qualifications

Required:

- 3-5 years of experience in community engagement, nonprofit development, communications, or related field
- Demonstrated success in grant writing with a track record of securing funding
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills with ability to adapt messaging for diverse audiences
- Experience coordinating volunteers and building community partnerships
- Deep commitment to racial equity, housing justice, and centering the voices of communities most impacted by displacement

- Strong project management skills with ability to manage multiple priorities and deadlines
- Proficiency with communications platforms including social media (Facebook, Instagram, Ticktock), databases, and donor management systems
- Bilingual (English/Spanish) strongly preferred

Desired:

- Knowledge of Austin's affordable housing landscape and community development sector
- Experience working in or with communities experiencing housing insecurity
- Background in storytelling, journalism, or strategic communications
- Familiarity with foundation and government funding landscapes in Texas
- Connections within Austin's social impact and philanthropic communities

What We Offer

- Opportunity to contribute to meaningful, community-driven work in one of Austin's most historic neighborhoods
- Collaborative team environment with commitment to staff well-being
- Professional development opportunities
- The chance to be part of transformative projects like the Austin Art Village

To Apply

Please submit a resume, cover letter describing your connection to our mission, and two writing samples (one grant proposal or case statement, one communications piece) to [contact email].

Blackland CDC is an equal opportunity employer committed to building a diverse team that reflects the communities we serve. We strongly encourage applications from people with lived experience of housing insecurity, BIPOC individuals, and residents of East Austin.