

Job Title: RHA Director

**Employment Status:** Full-time Regular or Contract

Location: Durango, Colorado

**Organization:** Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County (RHA)

# **About the Organization:**

The Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County (RHA) is a collaborative organization dedicated to addressing the housing needs of the region. RHA works with local governments, non-profits, and the private sector to create and sustain affordable and workforce housing solutions. Our mission is to facilitate and support the preservation, rehabilitation, and development of appropriate affordable/attainable housing for the workforce essential to the long-term economic sustainability and resiliency of La Plata County and its communities.

#### **Position Overview:**

The RHA Director is responsible for the overall leadership, management, and operation of the organization. This role requires a visionary leader who can work collaboratively with various stakeholders, including government officials, community members, and housing advocates, to develop and implement strategies that address the region's housing challenges. Director shall perform said services under general direction of the RHA Board of Directors, and La Plata Economic Development Alliance (LPEDA) Executive Director.

# **Key Responsibilities:**

Strategic Leadership

- Develop and implement the strategic plan to advance the mission of the RHA.
- Lead initiatives to increase the availability of attainable and workforce housing in La Plata County.
- Foster partnerships with local governments, community organizations, and the private sector to promote housing development.

# Fundraising and Resource Development

- Lead tax campaign to establish a sustainable funding source as a top priority in year 1
- Identify and pursue funding opportunities, including grants, donations, and partnerships.
- Develop and implement fundraising strategies to support the organization's programs and initiatives.
- Cultivate relationships with donors and funders to secure ongoing support.
- Manage the DOLA Local Capacity Grant, in conjunction with LPEDA, awarded to the Town of Ignacio on behalf of the Regional Housing Alliance (RHA) and its four government partners.
   Ensure compliance with grant requirements and alignment with Proposition 123's affordable housing goals.
- Collaborate with La Plata County's jurisdictions to increase infrastructure and capacity, supporting the alignment of affordable housing strategies. Utilize the one-time DOLA funds effectively to fast-track projects and meet community housing needs.

# Community Engagement

- Serve as the primary spokesperson for the RHA, representing the organization at public meetings, conferences, and in the media.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with key stakeholders, including local government officials, community leaders, and residents.
- Engage with the community to identify housing needs and develop programs that address those needs.

### Advocacy and Policy Development

- Advocate for policies and funding at the local, state, and federal levels that support attainable housing development.
- Work with policymakers and community leaders to develop and implement housing policies that benefit the region.
- Stay informed of trends and developments in housing policy and funding and apply that knowledge to RHA's work.

### Organizational Management

- Oversee the day-to-day operations of the RHA, ensuring effective and efficient management of resources.
- Provide leadership and direction to a small contracted team of staff that includes administrative
  and operational capacity regarding the services in the LPEDA's Professional Services
  Agreement with the RHA, to assist with staffing gaps during a time of employee transitions.
- Develop and monitor the organization's budget, ensuring financial sustainability and accountability.

#### **Qualifications**

- Bachelor's degree in public administration, urban planning, business, or a related field (Master's degree preferred).
- A minimum of 5 years of experience in housing development, public administration, or a related field, with at least 3 years in a leadership or management role.
- Strong understanding of attainable and workforce housing issues, particularly in rural and mountain communities.
- Proven track record of successful strategic planning, project management, and team leadership.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to build relationships and work collaboratively with diverse stakeholders.
- Experience in advocacy, policy development, and fundraising.
- Ability to manage multiple projects and priorities in a fast-paced environment.

#### Compensation

The salary for this position is competitive and commensurate with experience within the range of \$100,000-\$120,000 annually plus benefits and relocation stipend.

#### **Application Process**

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to rha@yeslpc.com by November 25, 2024. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

The Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from individuals of all backgrounds.

The Regional Housing Alliance (RHA) of La Plata County is a multi-jurisdictional agency created in 2004 by an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between La Plata County, City of Durango, Town of Bayfield, and Town of Ignacio. The RHA's mission is to facilitate and support the preservation, rehabilitation, and development of appropriate affordable/attainable housing for the workforce essential to the long-term economic sustainability and resiliency of La Plata County and its communities.