

# Iowa Interfaith Power & Light Search for New Executive Director

## MISSION

The mission of Iowa Interfaith Power & Light is to inspire and equip people of faith to become leaders finding solutions to climate change. We inspire Iowa's faith communities to embrace environmental stewardship as central to their religious convictions. We work together as people of faith to address climate change and lead by example in reducing our individual and collective carbon footprints for the benefit of present and future generations.

## THE SEARCH

Iowa Interfaith Power & Light (Iowa IPL) seeks a new Executive Director to lead the highly regarded state-wide nonprofit, an affiliate of the national organization The Regeneration Project/Interfaith Power & Light. Since its launch in October 2006, Iowa IPL has worked with more than 350 congregations state-wide and has developed a monthly e-newsletter mailing list of more than 3,000 individuals.

Iowa IPL is a joint response of Christian, Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim and other faith communities to global climate change. It works to protect creation and safeguard society's most vulnerable by providing education about global climate change, helping individuals and congregations reduce their carbon footprints, advocating state and federal policy changes, and exploring the deeper values that animate environmental action.

For the pivotal position of executive director, Iowa IPL seeks a dynamic, innovative and experienced leader with vision, strategic agility, and deep passion for addressing the most critical, moral and complex challenge of our time: climate change. The position calls for a collaborative leader and inspirational spokesperson with proven skills in communication, fundraising and strategic outreach, as well as intellectual breadth, political savvy and an enterprising spirit. The ability to understand and effectively communicate the faith-based foundation for the work is essential.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The new executive director of Iowa IPL will inherit a respected organization with an impressive legacy and substantial strengths. (S)he will benefit from a unique mission and strong reputation: an outstanding, stable staff; a dedicated board; and an ever-widening community of supporters who resonate with Iowa IPL values. While these strengths will serve as the cornerstone for future success, the incoming director will be expected to do more than sustain good momentum. Working closely with colleagues and anticipating Iowa IPL's next five-year strategic plan, the director will bring new creative vision, break new ground, and help move the organization to its next level of influence and impact.

In addition to strategic leadership, the overarching challenge for the next director is to build on Iowa IPL's unique strengths and standing; to continue to elevate its profile; and to ensure that its funding resources match its accomplishments, ambitions and substantial potential. With a strong programming staff, the director will provide leadership, inspiration, strategic outreach and communications. The director reports to the board of directors.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Iowa IPL's executive director is responsible for leading, growing and managing Iowa IPL under the direction of its board of directors. Major responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- facilitating the Iowa IPL board of directors' development, strategic planning and program direction
- developing relationships with other faith-based organizations, non-profit organizations and utilities

- developing and carrying out fundraising and development plans in conjunction with the board of directors and ensuring that Iowa IPL is in compliance with all reporting requirements
- working with the treasurer to prepare an annual budget and manage income and expenses to assure fiscal accountability throughout the year
- overseeing and supporting Iowa IPL's programming
- developing and carrying out advocacy efforts in conjunction with the board of directors
- developing educational, communication, media and marketing efforts
- recruiting congregations and people of all faith traditions to develop a strong volunteer base that supports the work of Iowa IPL
- maintaining communications with the board of directors and supporters of Iowa IPL and supporting Iowa IPL committees and task groups
- representing Iowa IPL to the public and serving as Iowa IPL's primary press spokesperson
- recruiting, hiring, supervising and evaluating the work of staff and volunteers on a day-to-day basis

## **QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE**

Iowa IPL will search broadly for candidates that have a strong faith background and have a core knowledge of climate change. The ultimate candidate will have an appreciation for how religions shape decision-making and have experience working with a variety of faiths. While no one candidate will embody every quality, the successful candidate will bring many of the following professional qualifications and personal attributes:

- an informed passion for the mission of Iowa IPL and a sense of urgency about its goals with a desire and ability to apply religious and spiritual teachings and principles to climate solutions
- fundraising expertise that includes a strong track record of securing major gifts, access to a donor network and an ability to foster a culture of philanthropy
- exceptional strategic and intellectual abilities and the capacity to synthesize information; translate big ideas and ideals into hard, data-driven strategies and action; and contribute to public discourse; keen grasp of the scientific, political, economic and social issues that impact the Iowa IPL mission
- public presence and media savvy; outstanding written and oral communication skills; the ability to relate well to both religious leaders of all faiths and the complexity of science and faith as it relates to climate change
- outgoing, open personality; outstanding interpersonal skills; decisiveness, tenacity, flexibility and high energy
- experience with new media, social networking, and information and communications technologies
- willingness to travel around the state
- masters level education, leadership experience in a religious context and proximity to Des Moines are preferred but not required.

This is a full-time, salaried, executive position. Benefits include fully paid medical insurance and four weeks of paid time off per year.

All inquiries and applications may be directed in confidence to the Iowa IPL Transition Committee at [jobs@IowaIPL.org](mailto:jobs@IowaIPL.org). Applications should be submitted electronically and include a résumé and cover letter. Applications will be accepted until Jan. 20, 2018, or until the position is filled.

Additional information about the organization can be found at [www.IowaIPL.org](http://www.IowaIPL.org). Iowa Interfaith Power & Light is an equal opportunity employer. We welcome a diverse pool of candidates in this search.