

JOIN OUR TEAM

NOW HIRING HOMELESSNESS OUTREACH SPECIALIST

The Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) is currently seeking energetic, self-motivated, and detail-oriented candidates for the position of **Homelessness Outreach Specialist**. Situated in the beautiful rolling hills and mountains of western North Carolina, WPCOG is a regional governmental agency owned by the 28 local governments in the region and organized in 1968 to provide long-range planning, technical assistance, and regional delivery of services. Our organization is one of 16 regional councils in North Carolina formed under NC General Statutes 160A 470-478. Local governments eligible for WPCOG membership include Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba Counties located in Western NC and the 24 cities and towns within those counties. WPCOG is organized into seven departments including: Administration; Area Agency on Aging; Community and Economic Development; Community and Regional Planning; Finance; Regional Housing Authority; and Workforce Development.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Community and Economic Development Department assists local governments in providing affordable, decent, and safe housing, and infrastructure improvements for residents of the Western Piedmont through application preparation and administration of local and State grants and serves as a catalyst for job creation by assisting local industries through building reuse grants.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The **Homelessness Outreach Specialist** is responsible for providing outreach efforts by interacting with those experiencing homelessness to effectively impact the chronic homeless challenge in Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba Counties. Position will work in collaboration with community partners, social service providers, governmental agencies, faith-based groups, business, and other potential partners. Additionally, the Homelessness Outreach Specialist will do the following:

- Provide outreach services to the homeless population in Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba counties by serving as a bridge between those experiencing homelessness and the service providers in the region.
- Implement the WPCOG action plan on the homelessness challenge in conjunction with other homeless related initiatives.
- Report required statistics to measure the WPCOG's progress on the homeless initiatives.
- Attend public meetings of various boards, commissions, and committees, presenting reports on assigned projects and activities and also explaining the specific homelessness response developed and implemented by the WPCOG.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Associate degree is required, but a Bachelor's degree preferred in Social Work, Counseling, Business or Public Administration, or Non-Profit related field.
- Or the equivalent in education, training, and experience, which would provide the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities.





SALARY & BENEFITS

The starting salary for this position is **\$45,578**. New hires are eligible for up to a 5% increase with the successful completion of probationary period.

- We offer **13 hours of remote work per week** (after probationary period has ended).
- WPCOG is a member of the North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System. This entitles vested employees with at least five years of employment to a defined benefit at the time of retirement. Members contribute 6% of gross compensation each month. This is a before-tax deduction. Western Piedmont Council of Governments contributes an actuarially determined percentage of the gross payroll of members each month.
- The Western Piedmont Council of Governments will contribute 5.2% of each employee's salary and match 4%, for a possible total of 9.2%, to either the NC 401k or the NC 457.
- WPCOG pays 100% of an employee's health and vision coverage. The current plan is a high deductible health plan with a Health Savings Account (HSA). Contributions to the HSA are made pre-tax through payroll deduction.
- WPCOG pays 100% of the following premiums:
 - » Life Insurance - \$100,000
 - » Accidental Death & Dismemberment
 - » Dental Insurance - Employee and Family
 - » Short-Term and Long-Term Disability
- WPCOG provides for the following payroll deduction and retirement options:
 - » NC 457 Plan
 - » NC 401(k) Plan
 - » Voluntary additional life insurance
- WPCOG provides for the following paid leave options:
 - » 12 Paid Holidays Per Year
 - » Annual Leave earned on a sliding scale based on years of service (credit for previous government service upon approval)
 - » 12 Sick Leave Days Per Year
 - » Longevity Pay

APPLICATION PROCESS

This position is open until filled. Please submit a cover letter, resume, references, and WPCOG application to HR Specialist, Tasmin Mack, at WPCOG, P.O. Box 9026, Hickory, NC 28603. Emailing application materials is acceptable, tasmin.mack@wpcog.org. Questions should be directed to Tasmin at (828) 485-4275. Final candidates will be subject to an interview process. The WPCOG is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Western Piedmont
Council of Governments

Creative Regional Solutions Since 1968

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