

Updated: April 25th, 2024
Position Title: Congregational Life Field Staff
Staff Group: Congregational Life, MidAmerica Region
Reports To: Regional Lead, MidAmerica Region
Location: MidAmerica Region
Grade: 13, full-time
Hours/Week: 35

Applications for this position are considered by invitation only, as there is a strong internal candidate.

Purpose

To provide support and resources for congregations, missional communities, and Unitarian Universalist religious professionals, as well as for the organizational development and expansion of our faith for the MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Principal Responsibilities

1. Serves the Unitarian Universalist faith and values, our congregations, members, and other constituencies in the MidAmerica Region of Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). With the regional and staff group, determines staffing and service priorities consistent with our UUA Mission.
2. Works in covenant as a team member of Congregational Life and the MidAmerica Region of the UUA.
3. Provides direct support to congregational, covenanting community, and regional leaders through coaching, companionship, connecting, and challenging.
4. In collaboration with other Congregational Life staff, supports vital, innovative, covenantal, purposeful congregational and cross-congregational ministries by providing or arranging for appropriate consultation and programming, including webinars, workshops, and conferences.
5. Guides congregational leadership toward training in a variety of skills conducive to faithful, vibrant ministries.
6. Along with other regional staff, actively encourages collaboration among congregations to share resources and strategies; helps to organize cross-congregational learning communities both by geography and affinity; and facilitates and advocates covenantal support and accountability between congregations.
7. Organizes resources from the region and the UUA to meet congregational and covenanting community needs. Draws on congregational, cluster, regional, and national resources to provide a predictable and valued set of learning opportunities.
8. Serves as or ensures a representative of the region and/or the UUA will be present for ceremonial functions, interfaith efforts, and to ancillary organizations.
9. Participates actively in the UUA Congregational Life and regional staff teams, including retreats or other staff meetings. Prioritizes participation in activities offered to UUA staff, such as UUA All Staff and the learning and practice community.
10. Works with other UUA staff and UU leaders to imagine and evolve towards the future of Unitarian Universalism.
11. Performs additional duties as requested by the supervisor, the Director of Congregational Life, the Executive Vice President, or the President.

Qualifications

This is a Grade 13 position (expected hiring range of \$56,000 to \$71,500 commensurate with experience). Note that qualifications may be met as a result of lived experience, volunteer work, professional experience, and/or formal or informal training.

Requirements include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- In-depth knowledge and understanding of Unitarian Universalism; ability to speak and write confidently about Unitarian Universalism.
- Commitment to our Unitarian Universalist Association.
- A minimum of ten years' active involvement with Unitarian Universalist congregations and organizations.
- Personal religious depth.
- Ability to work flexibly and collaboratively as part of a regional staff team; proven track record as a good team member.
- Ability to take initiative, to be self-directing, to set priorities and to manage time well.
- Ability or willingness to learn how to be proactive for racial justice and/or advocacy for other justice-related matters.

- Work or lived experience with communities of color or Indigenous peoples is of particular value.
- Eagerness to work in an organization in which the dismantling of white supremacy is a high priority.
- A commitment to and understanding of organizational development.
- Ability to teach Systems Thinking.
- Knowledge and experience of group and organizational change dynamics.
- Excellent communications and public speaking skills, including use of presentation technologies and social media.
- Knowledge or willingness to learn the use of emerging communications and remote learning technologies.
- Knowledge of volunteer organizations.
- Significant travel required; agreeable to travel across regional boundaries.
- Must live in or be willing to relocate to the MidAmerica Region.

How to Apply

People with disabilities, people of color, Indigenous people, Hispanic/Latinx, and LGBTQ candidates are encouraged to apply. The UUA is committed to developing a diverse and talented staff team. If you are excited about this role, but are unsure whether you meet 100% of the requirements, we encourage you to inquire and/or apply. Send cover letter and résumé—indicating “Congregational Life Field Staff—MidAmerica Region” in the subject line—via email to careers@uua.org, via fax to (617) 948-6467, or to Human Resources, UUA, 24 Farnsworth Street, Boston, MA 02210. E-mail submissions preferred.

About the UUA

The Unitarian Universalist Association is a progressive religious denomination headquartered in Boston’s waterfront Fort Point Innovation District. Our faith community of more than 1,000 self-governing congregations brings to the world a vision of religious freedom, tolerance, and social justice.

We offer an excellent benefits package: We pay 80% contribution towards health insurance premiums, 10% towards retirement (after one year), and have generous paid time-off policies. We are a great place to work and we value diversity. The UUA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to the full inclusion of all. As part of this commitment, the UUA will ensure that applicants and staff with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodations. If reasonable accommodation is needed to participate in the job application or interview process, to perform essential job functions, and/or to receive other benefits and privileges of employment, please contact the Office of Human Resources at (617) 948-4648 or humanresources@uua.org. For more information on the UUA, visit us online at UUA.org and uworld.org.

About the Congregational Life Staff Group

The Congregational Life staff group is made up of our UUA’s field staff consultant teams divided into five collaborative regional teams (<https://www.uua.org/regions>). The core purpose of the Congregational Life staff team is to cultivate connections between congregations, to inspire and coach new and innovative models of “doing church,” and to companion and empower existing congregations and their leaders to their next level of impact. Put simply, “We serve interconnection, innovation, and impact.”

About the MidAmerica Region

For information, visit us online at <https://www.uua.org/regions>.

Support for the Mission and Values of the Association

The Unitarian Universalist Association is a progressive and historic religious denomination. While it is not generally required or expected that an applicant/employee identify as a Unitarian Universalist (UU) or be a member of a UU congregation in order to work at the UUA, all UUA staff members are expected to perform their job duties in accordance with the UUA’s values, principles and mission. In particular the following points, drawn from the Seven UU Principles, are of particular importance for the UUA’s work environment and staff culture:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every human being: We affirm the need for a human-centered workplace that allows our diverse staff to flourish. We also understand that our wider culture and society oppresses and denies human dignity, and we seek to counter the effects of that oppression in our hiring and workplace culture so that each person feels whole and valued.
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all: We speak openly and publicly of our support for social and political issues, including LGBTQ equity, racial justice, climate justice, gender equity, and reproductive justice.

- The interdependent web of existence: We recognize that the liberation of all people is interwoven, and we work to counter patriarchy, white supremacy, colonialism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, environmental exploitation, and other interrelated systems of marginalization.