



**Position:** Environmentalist

Date: 9/1/2009

**Reports to:** Asthma Program Director

The American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest is a voluntary health organization serving a seven state area including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Our mission is to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease. The ALA has been fighting for the lung health of all Americans since 1904. Today, the ALA fights to reduce smoking, clean the air we breathe, and find cures for lung disease.

**Position Description:**

The Environmentalist will develop and oversee activities within the Indiana Department of Health Asthma Program dealing with environmental asthma triggers. This position will serve as the resident resource and specialist for environmental asthma issues. Work is broad in scope involving complex program elements which require analytical, interpersonal and organizing abilities.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Acts as the technical consultant to program staff and partners on the environmental components of asthma management.
- Reviews existing state policies and suggests changes when necessary to reduce environmental health threats, including asthma triggers, to the public.
- Organizes programs to assess the environments where people live, work, learn, and play for asthma triggers.
- Provides training to partners on environmental asthma triggers and methods for reducing exposure
- Provides support to the Environmental Quality Workshop of the Indiana Joint Asthma Coalition and other workgroups as needed to implement activities within the State Asthma Plan.
- Represents the Asthma Program on other federal, state, and local advisory groups, coalitions, and/or focus groups, particularly with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and Lead Safe and health Homes Task Force.
- Performs related tasks as required to meet the established goals and objectives of the State Asthma Program, the Chronic Disease Division, and the Indiana State Department of Health.

**Difficulty of Work:**

Work assignments involve the development of new programs and procedures, and assessing and recommending whether to implement existing programs. While a thorough understanding of environmental health principles is fundamental to the position, the incumbent will also need considerable initiative, creative thinking, and decision-making abilities in the development and implementation of programs.

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelors Degree or equivalent experience in environmental health programs
- Broad knowledge of principles, practices, and theories of environmental hazards to children and the ability to apply these principles as they relate to planning for reducing and/or eliminating environmental hazards.
- Thorough knowledge of Indoor Air Quality principles.
- General knowledge of Outdoor Air Quality principles and impact on people with asthma.
- Ability to provide technical expertise and guidance to program partners to insure appropriate asthma environmental assessments are completed.
- Ability to develop and implement new training, educational outreach, and policies regarding the environmental components of asthma.
- Ability to communicate effectively, orally and written, with parents, families, community groups, and advocates;
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Ability to maintain effective working relationships with federal, state, and local agencies, medical and health organizations, community groups and associations, and other stakeholders.
- Ability to work independently with minimum instructions.

**Other Requirements**

- Hold valid driver's license and carry and maintain private automobile insurance
- Abstain from use of tobacco in any form
- Necessary to work evenings and weekends on an as needed basis
- Ability to lift and carry 25 lbs (event materials)

This is a grant funded position through August 2010. This description is intended to identify the kinds of tasks and levels of work difficulty being performed. The list of responsibilities is not intended to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required of this position.

*EOE/AA*

To apply send cover letter and resume to:  
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