



## STATE INNOVATION EXCHANGE AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

### **Request for Proposals Agriculture & Food Systems Consultant**

#### **About the State Innovation Exchange**

We are a national resource and strategy center that collaborates with state legislators to improve people's lives through transformative public policy. SiX works in close coordination with legislators, advocacy groups, think tanks, and activists to provide the tools and information legislators need to be successful. We provide policy support, communication products, research, trainings, convenings, technical assistance and strategic advice with a particular focus on the dynamics in each state. We are committed to building progressive power at the state level by providing lasting and personalized support for state legislators.

#### **About the Agriculture and Food Systems Program**

In 2020, SiX formally launched the Agriculture & Food Systems program with the goal of emboldening state legislators and partners to cultivate healthy rural communities and a more equitable, accessible, ecologically responsible food and farm system through transformative public policy. We are proud to have launched the Cohort for Rural Opportunity and Prosperity (CROP), which is a cohort of state legislators. The goal of the CROP is to support policy makers as they work to move policies forward that promote healthy and thriving rural communities through ecologically-responsible agriculture and local, direct market food systems.

#### **Position Summary**

We are seeking a talented senior consultant to support the Agriculture & Food Systems program. The ideal candidate will be committed to racial equity and progressive values while being passionate about local food, family farmers, and rural communities. This person should have a deep knowledge base of the food and agriculture partner landscape and of the variety of issues in the food and farm policy space with demonstrated success in community and legislative organizing, coalition building and exceptional research and writing skills. This individual should also be comfortable on the phone and cold-calling legislators and their staff. The Agriculture and Food Systems consultant will work with national staff at SiX as well as in-state partners to support legislators in their roles to promote progressive agriculture policies at the state level.

We anticipate that the objectives of this contract position will take 20-30 hours to complete per week. This is a six-month contract with the potential for renegotiation at the end of the contract.

**Objectives and high-level activities all to be worked on in coordination with the Agriculture and Food Systems Team:**

- Staff Advisory Committee of partners;
- Conduct outreach and recruitment to legislators/staff to broaden engagement in the CROP;
- Conduct ongoing bill tracking and prepare updates for movement partners;
- In consultation with movement partners, create, schedule and coordinate issue briefings, webinars and trainings for legislators interested in working on specific policies related to food and agriculture;
- Curate and create website and database content that can serve policymakers' needs during legislative sessions;
- Contribute content to newsletter, social media, blogs and other communications forums on an as-needed basis;
- Respond to legislator requests or research needs in a timely manner.

**Skills and Qualifications**

- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent work experience;
- A minimum of 10 years of work experience in policy, campaigns, and/or advocacy in the food, agriculture and environmental space;
- Excellent organizational skills with the ability to work independently to drive projects to completion;
- Ability to work quickly under pressure and juggle several projects at once;
- Understanding of state policy and legislative process;
- Ability to read and analyze policy language;
- Ability to work in a team and/or independently and
- Have a good attitude and sense of humor.

**Priority Application Deadline:** January 19th but please submit earlier if possible. (*Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.*)

**Pay:** \$4,000-\$6,000/month

**How to Apply**

Please send a cover letter and resume to [kendra@stateinnovation.org](mailto:kendra@stateinnovation.org) and please include: Agriculture & Food Systems Consultant in the subject line. You will receive notice that your RFP is received. No phone calls please.

*The State Innovation Exchange is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and encourages applications from all qualified individuals including women, people of color, persons with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) individuals.*