

Job Title: District Director

Location: Northeast Louisiana

Job Description:

The District Director will be a dynamic and visionary leader responsible for driving economic growth strategies and plans, enhancing strategic initiatives, and fostering community development within a political subdivision in Northeast Louisiana. The ideal candidate will have a proven track record in economic development projects, strategic planning, and public administration, with a deep understanding of the local economic landscape.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Leadership and Management:

- Provide visionary leadership and direction to various strategic initiatives produced from grant-based projects and the mission of the District.
- Develop and implement strategic plans, policies, and initiatives that align with the District's economic goals and objectives.
- Manage day-to-day operations, ensuring efficient and effective execution of programs and activities.

2. Economic Development:

- Identify and pursue opportunities for projects to stimulate economic growth.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with local, regional, and national businesses, investors, and stakeholders.
- Oversee the development and implementation of economic development programs, including research and studies, infrastructure improvement opportunities, and community revitalization projects.

3. Strategic Planning:

- Lead and maintain long-term strategic plans that address the District's challenges and opportunities.
- Facilitate research and analysis to inform decision-making and policy development.
- Collaborate with government officials, community leaders, and other stakeholders to align the District's strategic initiatives with regional goals.

4. Community Engagement:

- Act as the primary spokesperson for the District's efforts, promoting a positive image and fostering public support.
 - Engage with community members, civic groups, and local organizations to gather input and build consensus around project development strategies.
 - Organize and participate in public meetings, forums, and events to communicate progress and gather feedback.
5. Resource Management:
- Develop and manage the annual budget.
 - Secure funding through grants, partnerships, and other revenue-generating opportunities.
 - Ensure responsible stewardship of financial and human resources, maintaining transparency and accountability to the board of directors and other governing stakeholders.
6. Regulatory and Compliance:
- Ensure compliance with all local, state, and federal regulations.
 - Prepare and present reports to the board of directors, governing bodies, regulatory agencies, and other stakeholders as required.

Desired Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Economics, Urban Planning, Public Administration, or a related field (Master's degree preferred).
- 3-5 years of experience in economic development, strategic planning, or a related field
- Proven track record of successfully leading economic development initiatives and strategic planning efforts.
- Strong understanding of local, regional, and national economic trends and issues.
- Excellent leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to build and maintain strong relationships with a diverse range of stakeholders.
- Demonstrated ability to manage budgets, secure funding, and oversee complex projects.
- Knowledge of regulatory requirements and compliance related to economic development.

Skills and Competencies:

- Strategic thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Ability to analyze economic data and trends.
- Strong project management and organizational skills.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite.
- Public speaking and presentation skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively and build consensus.

Work Environment:

- Primarily office-based with frequent off-site meetings and events.
- Ability to remotely work with the understanding of frequent travel in and to the District's 4 parishes with at least one day per week worked within the District
- Interaction with a wide range of community members, business leaders, and government officials.

Application Process:

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to chairman@darsd.org.

Equal Opportunity Employer:

The District is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from all qualified individuals. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.