## **KOUNKUEY DESIGN INITIATIVE | JOB DESCRIPTION**

**JOB TITLE: Planning Coordinator** 

**LOCATION: Los Angeles** 

**ORGANIZATION: Kounkuey Design Initiative (KDI)** 

CLOSING DATE: May 1, 2017

KDI is currently seeking a Planning Coordinator who is passionate about community-driven development to join our Planning Department to successfully implement community outreach, participatory design workshops, and program development. The position is based in our downtown Los Angeles office, but requires frequent travel to our projects in the Eastern Coachella Valley and other areas in Southern California.

### JOB DESCRIPTION:

The Planning Coordinator will work closely with the Planning and Design Departments to develop, implement, and lead our participatory design process, economic and social development programs, and site planning on various public space projects in the Southern California region. The Planning Coordinator reports directly to KDI's Planning Director.

#### **ABOUT KDI:**

Kounkuey Design Initiative (KDI) is a non-profit design and community development organization, that partners with underserved communities in the US, Africa, and Latin America to physically transform communities and in the process, improve environmental, economic, and social quality of life. KDI began in 2006 as a two-week independent research project between six students from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. Today, it is an innovative design and community development firm that partners with communities to design and implement projects that improve the physical environment and simultaneously introduce new economic activity and social development opportunities.

KDI believes participatory design and long-term investment are key to sustainable development. Working collaboratively with communities from conception through implementation, KDI enhances their ideas with technical knowledge and creativity, and connects them to extant resources. Through this process KDI builds networks of Productive Public Spaces (PPS) - high impact, low-cost environments - that individually and collectively, mitigate environmental hazards, provide needed amenities, build social networks, and generate micro-enterprise, at the neighborhood and regional scale.

We have been recognized for our innovative approach to poverty alleviation by notable institutions such as The Rockefeller Foundation, Ashoka Changemakers, American Express, Annenberg Alchemy, Smithsonian Institution, and Swiss Re Foundation.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Bilingual in English and Spanish (verbal and written) REQUIRED
- Masters degree in Urban Planning or related field
- 3+ years working experience in community development, economic development, or urban planning

- 1+ years working with underserved communities
- Proven track record of successful project management
- Excellent communication and public speaking skills
- Excellent writing and analytical abilities
- Strong graphic skills and command of Adobe Creative Suite and GIS preferred
- Strong commitment to social and environmental justice

# Salary commensurate with experience.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Send electronic copy of cover letter, resume, and writing sample - portfolio optional, but preferred - to Jessica Bremner, Planning Director at mail@kounkuey.org

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to their race, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status or medical condition.

For more information