

street roots

Job Announcement:

Executive Director

Established in 1998, the award-winning Street Roots newspaper is published weekly in Portland, Oregon, and has become one of the most successful street newspapers in the world.

Are you an experienced leader interested in working with passionate people fighting systemic poverty and oppression?

As our next executive director, you will champion our mission, cultivate our unique organizational culture, and serve as our primary public policy advocate and spokesperson via the newspaper, social media, outside media, legislative activities, political gatherings, and community events. You also will actively participate in fundraising and help lead strategic planning and equity initiatives.

Mission: Street Roots creates income opportunities for people experiencing homelessness and poverty by producing a newspaper and other media that are catalysts for individual and social change.

Salary and Benefits Information:

- \$60,000 annual salary
- 100% coverage of health insurance premiums for employee and employee's immediate family
- Annual paid time off (vacation and holidays) with ability to carry over one week each year: 1st and 2nd years, 22 days; 3rd and 4th years, 26 days; 5th year and after, 30 days
- Sick time: 12 days per year

Link to Full Job Description and Requirements: www.streetroots.org/ED-Job-Description

Link to Home Page: www.streetroots.org

Awards

Street Roots has received dozens of awards over the years. Here are some examples:

- Society of Professional Journalists — Multiple first place awards for journalism (Environmental reporting, Social Issues reporting, Excellence in Journalism, Arts Reporting) (Joanne Zuhl, Emily Green)
- Two Skidmore Prize winners — Israel Bayer, Cole Merkel (2010, 2016)
- Emily G. Gottfried Human Rights Award / Portland Human Rights Commission (2015)
- Humanitarian Award — Willamette Writers Guild (2015)
- Two Spirit of Portland Awards from the City of Portland

Snapshot of Street Roots' Operations and Culture

- Current budget: \$1 million.
- Employees: 4 full-time and 4 part-time staff members, a full-time Jesuit Volunteer Corps member, multiple interns, and a number of free-lance workers
- The ED directly supervises 3 staff (Operations Director, Development Director, Vendor Program Director) and occasional interns.
- Street Roots has a current strategic plan that guides the organization's work.
- The board of directors is highly engaged in governing and the policy-level work of the organization, not management issues.
- There is a "fire wall" between the journalism department and the executive director and board of directors in order to maintain the integrity of Street Roots' well-respected journalism. The executive editor reports to the board, not the executive director.
- We are independent, social-justice-minded, hard working, progressive, irreverent, and funny. We are a strong team, and we also operate independently. We work very closely together, literally and figuratively.

About the Transition

Israel Bayer, executive director for 15 years, is leaving to write a book and seek his next venture. Israel and the board have created a thoughtful transition plan.

How to Submit an Application

- Send a cover letter and chronological resume to our search consultant, **Kathy Kniep**, at kathy@kkniep.com, by **September 20, 5pm**. In your cover letter, please tell us **how you heard about the position** and answer these questions, supplying a one-paragraph answer to each:
 1. **As the executive director of Street Roots, you will have regular contact with vendors who are dealing with issues around substance usage. How would you approach your relationships with people with substance use issues considering that Street Roots represents one of their income sources?**
 2. **Tell us about your public policy advocacy experience or, if you don't have direct experience, why you'd be a good public policy advocate as the new ED of Street Roots.**
- An email acknowledgement will be sent to all applicants within two business days. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within that timeframe, please contact Kathy Kniep: kathy@kkniep.com / 503-309-3433.
- Applications received after September 20, 5pm, may not be considered.
- All inquiries will be handled confidentially.

Equal Opportunity Employer

At Street Roots, we believe we can meet the organization's mission only with a diverse board and staff who actively cultivate a culture of equity and inclusion.



Over 160 active vendors sell Street Roots in the Portland metropolitan area.

More than 500 vendors sell the newspaper during the course of a year.

Collectively, nearly 35,000 newspapers are sold each month.