



Earth Charter Indiana is a statewide non-profit, founded in 2001, dedicated to advancing a peaceful, just, and livable planet for all. Our main focus is **local, intergenerational climate solutions**, catalyzed by education and action.

First, our summer Climate Camp program amplifies and focuses our year-round strategy to educate youth, ages 9-17, about environmental challenges associated with carbon emissions, consumerism, waste, and harmful toxins. We focus on solutions, whether it's about changing personal behaviors, influencing communities to change (schools and neighborhoods), educating others (adults and youth) through presentations and workshops, or impacting policy, such as inspiring cities to pass **climate recovery-oriented resolutions** as we accomplished in three Indiana cities in 2017: Carmel, Indianapolis and Lawrence.

Our summer program has two main components: 1) our own **Climate Camps**; 2) enhancement/embedding in other camps. For our own Climate Camps, we are fortunate to partner with the Peace Learning Center (PLC) and HEART.

Our Climate Camp is two consecutive week-long, immersive day camps focused on human impact and solutions: our general activities include hands on science, nature hikes, field trips to view sustainability in the built environment, vegan eating, and art-making. We consider ourselves unique in this region for combining science, civics, arts and nature connection, into an empowerment program for youth.

The second component of our work with youth involves adding enhancement activities to other organizations' summer programs. We use hands on/minds on science and art as we "guest program" in other camps, with a goal of attending multiple times. When we enhance another's camp, we aim to establish a recycling program (which we did at St. Joan of Arc's summer program), or something similar. We encourage campers to return to their respective schools to share what they learned or start similar projects.

Our other principle program for local climate action is with direct interaction with municipalities. With IU's Environmental Resilience Institute, we created the **Resilience Cohort** that provides tools to towns and cities to accomplish greenhouse gas inventories. Thus we end up working directly with city officials, such as city planners, architects, etc., but also elected officials such as city councilors and mayors.

Another aspect of this municipal work can result in Climate Recovery Resolutions, youth-led climate policy committing a city to climate action.

## **Job Description**

### **Position**

- Assist in the development and implementation of our Climate Camps, including working directly with youth.
- Assist in the development and implementation of Resilient Cohort actions, including potentially collaborating with ISDP Externs based in Indiana municipalities.
- Assist in research for, construction, and maintenance of an app to share with cities, residents, and organizations.
- Bring your own talents and passions into our organization.

### **Expectations**

- Extern will report to ECI Executive Director Jim Poyser and Assistant Director Shannon Anderson, and may also work directly with ECI staff and volunteers such as John Gibson and Rosemary Spalding.
- An understanding of the basic functions of municipal government.
- A basic understanding of climate change impacts on Indiana cities, towns, and residents.
- An interest in public policy, policy implementation process and/or environmental law.
- A career trajectory in urban sustainability and/or politics.
- Skills to develop presentations, write reports, create social media posts, and use Google Drive.
- Ability to travel to other areas of Indiana, on own if necessary.
- Experience working with children is a plus.

### **Compensation and timing**

- Compensation will be in the form of a stipend through the Indiana Sustainability Development Program.
- The intern will work full time (35 to 40 hours week) for 10 to 12 weeks from late May to late August. Exact beginning and end dates are negotiable.
- Interns will be required to attend the ISDP bootcamp.

### **Contact information**

Jim Poyser  
jimpoyser@earthcharterindiana.org  
317-529-6667