

**Community Development Strategist
Job Description**

Job Summary:

The Community Development Strategist is the lead architect of the foundation's rural community development strategy, convening stakeholders, facilitating shared engagement around bold vision and building bridges across sectors, stakeholders and geographies. The Strategist facilitates dialogue, mobilizes resources and equips change agents with the tools to build community wellbeing. The Strategist guides a portfolio of social innovation initiatives from visioning and strategy development through execution and evaluation to support economic resilience, inclusive and equitable development, job and talent growth and civic infrastructure including access to affordable housing and quality childcare.

Reports to: Chief Impact Officer

Who You Are:

- **An Effective Collaborator.** You've successfully worked across agency lines, and you can operate in complex situations. You can easily gain trust and are known for supporting change leaders to ensure they are set up for success. You're not afraid to ask questions.
- **Facilitator.** You recognize that a well-prepared and supported community can achieve far more than a single, highly talented individual. You bring together thought leaders and facilitate conversations to identify the most effective ways to build community prosperity and wellbeing.
- **Integrator.** You help changemakers establish a common agenda and align actions between local, regional, state and national actors.
- **Resource Mobilizer.** You leverage partnerships and grant opportunities to secure and mobilize talent, financial, social and intellectual resources.
- **Project Manager.** You effectively manage day-to-day activities to ensure that deliverables, budgets, and timelines are met.
- **Capacity Builder.** You contribute to knowledge development about policies, practices and systems that promote community prosperity and wellbeing in rural communities. You equip changemakers with the information needed to align resources, measure results and continually improve.
- **Flexible.** You can manage a diverse set of needs and aren't afraid to step outside your job description or comfort zone to help the team reach its goals.
- **An Abundant Thinker.** You believe that we are living in a world of abundant resources and that the right team of partners can make incredible things happen. You bring relentless curiosity and creativity to every task, project, and engagement.
- **Committed to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.** Experience leading collaborative efforts to examine power structures, engage marginalized groups and ensure all people have access to systems of support.

Your Skills and Competencies:

This work is analytical, collaborative, and challenging. You are a self-starter who is committed to learning and growth and possess the following skills and competencies:

- **Strategic Thinking:** You're a strong conceptual thinker who can quickly grasp and navigate a range of abstract concepts, relate them to one another, and translate those concepts into strategies and actions.
- **Accountability for Results:** You leverage strong data/analytical skills, business acumen and understanding of community systems to convert bold vision into action that produces measurable results
- **Self-motivation:** You proactively take initiative, identifying problems and opportunities across your portfolio, developing recommendations, and acting on those recommendations.
- **Learning Mindset:** You desire continuous improvement, have an innate sense of curiosity and create a culture of continuous learning.



- **Written and Verbal Communications:** Your written and verbal communication skills are excellent, with an ability to independently create original public content and deliver verbal presentations in multiple settings.
- **Passion for Social Change:** You are driven by the desire to make a change in our society, making the economy work for all people. You're interested in system integration and social change theories and putting those theories into practice.

What You'll Need

- Track record for identifying high leverage opportunities and success with implementing strategies at the local, state and/or systems level.
- Strong understanding of the economic policy environment and navigating systems of support for rural communities.
- Grant writing and grant administration experience.
- B.S. in public or business administration, planning, community development or other applicable field. Master's Degree preferred.

The Details

- **Travel:** Local travel to various worksites is required. Driver's license required.
- **Work Environment:** While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works in an office setting.
- **Physical Demands:** The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands and fingers to handle, feel or operate objects, tools or controls, and reach with hands and arms. The employee is frequently required to stand, talk and hear. The employee is occasionally required to walk, sit, climb, balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl.
- **Other Duties:** This job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities and activities may change at any time.

About Us:

The Greater Watertown Community Health Foundation is a catalyst for positive, lasting and measurable health improvement across the region. Our vision is a thriving community where *everyone* enjoys good health and wellbeing.

Our Mission: To inspire collaboration, mobilize resources and encourage innovation that measurably contributes to the wellbeing of our community.

Big challenges demand big solutions

GWCHF is a connector – bringing together the people, organizations and resources needed to create lasting change. We believe that transforming community health requires more than just writing a check. It requires listening. Engaging. Empowering the "doers" of our community to apply their talents to create a healthier tomorrow.

GWCHF strategically focuses resources to "move the needle" on community health indicators. We value collaboration, maximizing community assets and improving health over the long-term. We invest in *root cause solutions* to create sustainable change.

To apply, please email a cover letter and resume to Chief Impact Officer Kim Melcher at kmelcher@watertownhealthfoundation.com.