



**NETWORK is rooted in Catholic Social Justice and the lived experience of real people.
We are open to all who share our passion.**

Director of Government Relations

Start Date: January 2021 (remotely until safe to be in the office)
Permanent, Full-Time, Based in D.C. | \$70,000, plus generous benefits

About NETWORK: A national network of social justice advocates – and the organization behind Nuns on the Bus – NETWORK educates, organizes, and lobbies for economic and social transformation. Founded in 1971 by Catholic Sisters in the progressive spirit of Vatican II, NETWORK works to “Mend the Gaps” in income and wealth disparity and works to create a society and economy of inclusion. We value women’s leadership, we appreciate people from religious and secular backgrounds, we affirm members of the LGBTQ+ community, and we engage in the ongoing work to become a multicultural, anti-racist organization.

Why this position matters: As a Spirit-filled national network of 90,000 justice-seekers, NETWORK lobbies for economic and racial justice, and works to shape federal policies to be consistent with Catholic Social Teaching. The Director will work side-by-side with our Chief Lobbyist to make sure NETWORK has relationships and clout with federal policymakers, that our policy strategies are clear and effective, and our Government Relations team works effectively. NETWORK’s GR Team amplifies the voices of marginalized communities in policy conversations and represents NETWORK in a way that forwards NETWORK’s mission, projects our views effectively, and establishes us as the leading voice at the intersection of Catholic Social Justice and public policy.

You could be our next Director of Government Relations if you have:

- 10+ years of progressive professional experience in lobbying, advocacy, policy, or politics, including seven or more in federal government relations or issue advocacy.
- Strong knowledge of and experience with at least two of the following policy areas (additional multi-issue experience preferred): income/wages, jobs/labor, housing, immigration, or appropriations – as well as their intersection with structural racism.
- The ability to create legislative strategy, effectively advocate, lead a lobbying team, and integrate with field and communication teams/strategies.
- Experience with faith-based advocacy, and working in faith-based and secular coalitions.
- A commitment to the principles of Catholic Social Justice and racial justice.
- A track-record of leadership of government relation teams and strategies.
- Experience in a detail-oriented position that required a high level of organizational skills.
- A commitment to creating a multicultural, anti-racist organization.

What you are great at:

- Creating focused issue agendas/goals and strategies to achieve them
- Working under pressure, independently and on a team, meeting deadlines, and managing multiple projects
- Being an excellent communicator, an analytical strategist, an organized collaborator, and a persuasive leader
- Developing strategy, lobbying, advocating, collaborating, relationship-building, and organizing
- Fluency in Spanish and/or databases (e.g. Engage, Salesforce, CQ) preferred

What you'll do in this role:

- *Strategist (with the Chief Lobbyist)*
 - Develop and implement legislative strategy to create an effective intervention to pass (or block) federal legislation
 - Identify key Members of Congress and Administration to move our economic and racial justice agenda forward
 - Coordinate the multitude of strategies stemming from the complexity of a multi-issue advocacy organization
 - Together with other teams, create campaigns that engage our Spirit-filled network of justice seekers
 - Strategically utilize elections as a means to bring attention to the issues – or to target our efforts for electoral impact

- **Issue Leader**
 - Lead the organization's policy work for a set of issues within NETWORK's agenda (tax justice, living wage, family-friendly workplace, access to democracy, access to healthcare, access to citizenship, and access to housing)
 - Analyze legislation and issues through the lens of Catholic Social Justice principles and collaborate with team to determine positions, arguments, talking points
 - Research background on issues, and direct staff and volunteers in research projects
 - Educate policymakers so NETWORK messaging is echoed in the public arena; find opportunities to raise NETWORK profile and messaging on the Hill and in the Administration
- **Relationship Builder**
 - Develop and cultivate relationships with policymakers who are strategic in promoting NETWORK's agenda
 - Build relationships with the Administration, Hill leadership, and key caucuses
 - Establish and meet Hill meeting goals, securing those "with us," and building relationships with other Members and their offices
 - Strengthen reach through coalition participation/leadership – and identify potential new partners – with an eye toward diversity and unlikely partners
- **Management and Staff Commitments**
 - Manage the administration of the Government Relations Team, including all internal and external reporting
 - Oversee, in collaboration with the Chief Lobbyist, the development and implementation of NETWORK's issue agenda
 - Collaborate with other NETWORK teams on implementing strategy and achieving organizational buy-in
 - Supervise/mentor staff or student volunteers
 - Keep records on lobby activity
 - Participate in organizational activities: planning, evaluation, development

What it's like working at NETWORK:

Rooted in Catholic Social Justice, NETWORK is open to all who share our passion for justice. Staff and members are people from a variety of religious and nonreligious backgrounds. As an organization and workplace, NETWORK values work-life balance and strives to be a supportive workplace environment where staff embrace the "Sister-Spirit" of our foundresses by rooting our understanding in encounter, not ideology; prioritizing the well-being of others; seeing everyone as people first, not just roles; and using humor and being feisty in order to be bold and do the unpopular. [Read More.](#)

Note on Current Reality:

Due to the pandemic, NETWORK has encouraged everyone to work from home and only commute to the office if absolutely necessary and if it can be done safely. Because we expect to be in this work-from-home mode when this position is hired, applicants will begin this job working remotely, but this is not a remote position. Once it is safe to commute, the expectation is that this position will need to be present in NETWORK's D.C. office on a daily basis.

Benefit details:

- Starting salary: \$70,000/year
- Additional \$1,200/year to help cover commute costs
- Generous time off: 2 weeks paid vacation, Christmas week off, 12 additional holidays, 2 personal days
- Platinum level health plan – as well as dental and vision – at no cost to you
- Generous retirement plan and parental leave after one year
- Four staff retreat days; an organizational commitment to professional development and wellness

How to apply:

Cover letter: 2-3 paragraphs in an email (not attached, but written in the body of the email) telling us why you're interested in this position, why you are qualified, why you want to be a part of the NETWORK team, and where you found us. Give us a sense of the level of responsibility, complexity, and creativity of the lobbying work you've engaged in.

Resume: Attach a resume. While you may focus on lobbying/strategy experience, please include all experience so we get a good picture of what you've been up to.

Email: Send materials to Paul Marchione, Managing Director, at employment@networklobby.org. Please include "GR Director" in the subject line.

Timing: This position will stay open as long as needed – until we find the right candidate. We'll be screening candidates on a rolling basis so please apply promptly. You will receive an automated reply right away, and we anticipate contacting all candidates again before the end of the year to let them know their status in our process.

It is the policy of NETWORK to conduct all personnel activities in a manner that will ensure equal opportunity for all persons without regard to religion, race, creed, gender, color, age, national origin, marital status, veteran status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Every employee has the right to work in dignity in an environment free from all forms of discrimination or harassment.