



POSITION OPENING: Affordable Housing Decarbonization Intern
LOCATION: Remote or Washington, DC
TO APPLY: E-mail resume and cover letter to jobs@sahfnet.org
No calls, please

SUMMARY: Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF) is seeking a talented intern to help direct and further our work in reducing energy-related carbon emissions, also known as decarbonization, in the affordable housing sector. SAHF and its members are longstanding leaders in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation. Building off the successes of our ambitious [Big Reach initiative](#), SAHF is beginning to explore pathways towards a low-carbon future. A key lesson from the Big Reach initiative that was the value of a time-bound portfolio-wide goal for achieving significant change in systems and practices around energy efficiency – members achieved 29% energy savings and 24% water savings in 2020 against their 2010 baseline. In 2022, SAHF will develop tools and methodologies for setting portfolio-wide carbon emission baselines and a decarbonization roadmap, so that SAHF members and affordable housing practitioners at large can set and achieve ambitious carbon reduction goals needed to ensure a healthy, equitable and climate-resilient future.

SAHF takes pride in tailoring meaningful experiences that help our interns learn about affordable housing development and operations, meet affordable housing leaders and contribute to our programmatic and policy work. During the 2022 spring semester (January – May), the anticipated workload is 15-20 hours per week. We prefer a team member who can join us full-time (40 hours per week) during the summer. Depending on the intern’s location, the work will either be performed remotely, or in SAHF’s offices, located near Metro Center Metro Station. Position begins in January 2022 and runs through July or August 2022.

ABOUT SAHF: SAHF is a collaborative of [thirteen exemplary multi-state nonprofit affordable housing](#) providers who own more than 149,000 affordable rental homes. SAHF members are committed to long-term affordability, sustainability and expansion of rental housing that makes a difference in people’s lives. SAHF’s mission is to lead policy innovation and advance excellence in the delivery of affordable rental homes that expand opportunity and promote dignity for residents. SAHF and its members apply on-the-ground experience to advance change in policy and practice. They leverage one another’s best practices and collaborate with one another and [National Affordable Housing Trust](#), a joint venture of SAHF and the Low Income Investment Fund, on business and mission opportunities. SAHF and its members are committed to scaling their successes through business innovations and policy change. Examples include SAHF’s work to improve health outcomes for low-income individuals and families through [thought leadership](#) and [best practices](#), [financing innovations](#) and [healthy building practices](#).

SAHF’s members provide resident services in many of their properties and are deeply committed to identifying those services that can most effectively make a difference in people’s lives. As a collaborative, they are committed to working both independently and together on resident services, housing policy, housing operations and management, healthy building practices and active design, and energy and water conservation. SAHF members are also committed to [measuring their impact](#), leveraging data to evaluate outcomes to foster new partnerships and collaborations.

JOB DESCRIPTION: SAHF’s interns make meaningful contributions to our work by conducting research and analysis that relates directly to SAHF initiatives and members’ on-the-ground experiences. Decarbonization is a rapidly evolving topic area within the larger field of environmental sustainability that directly impacts affordable housing properties and historically disadvantaged communities. SAHF has identified the following projects as distinct projects that would

further our work on decarbonization and is prepared to work with the right candidate on alternative projects addressing energy-related carbon emission in a manner relevant to multifamily affordable housing.

- **SAHF Carbon Emission Baseline Portfolio Methodology and Analysis.** SAHF members currently track energy and water usage and through that, have established portfolio baselines. Recently, some SAHF members have internally begun the process of establishing carbon emission baselines for their portfolios. The intern would research and review their methodologies, as well as guidance and methodologies from other national programs and initiatives, like the U.S. Department of Energy's [Better Buildings Challenge](#) and [Better Climate Challenge](#). The intern would work with the SAHF Energy & Sustainability team to create (or modify) SAHF's methodology to measure portfolio-wide carbon emissions baseline. The intern would then apply this baseline to at least two SAHF member portfolios that have not yet conducted an internal baseline.
- **Digital Storytelling of SAHF Carbon Emission Reduction Efforts.** Upon completion of the SAHF Carbon Emissions Portfolio Methodology and Analysis, the team will have a wealth of information and research that will be valuable to share externally with the affordable housing sector. The intern will combine this information, along with other internal and external resources, to share the start of SAHF members' journey to decarbonization through digital storytelling. The digital story could include, but is not limited to the following:
 - Key information on the importance of energy-based carbon emission reduction in the affordable housing sector.
 - Highlights of SAHF members' energy and water conservation journey, and its' applicability to decarbonization. This could include data from the Big Reach, new or existing case studies that exemplify decarbonization best practices.
 - An overview of SAHF's carbon baselining methodology as well as the basis for assumptions.
 - Challenges and opportunities in decarbonizing affordable housing.
 - Resident voice and agency in decarbonizing the affordable housing sector.
 - It is anticipated that the intern will create an ArcGIS StoryMap for digital storytelling, but the SAHF team is open to other web-based formats (e.g., Tableau).

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree required;
- Background in policy, law, architecture, engineering, environmental science or urban planning with an emphasis on sustainability or real estate;
- Interest in affordable housing, low-income communities, and equity;
- Excellent written communicator;
- Analytical thinker with the ability to research and synthesize topical information, draw connections between topic areas, and assess policy implications for a specific sector;
- Data analysis skills and proficiency in manipulating data sets in Excel or ArcGIS preferred;
- Familiarity with utility benchmarking and/or carbon accounting (e.g., Greenhouse Gas Protocol, SBTi, etc.) a plus.
- Experience with SharePoint, Tableau, website population, social media, or design software a plus.
- Experience working with a remote supervisor a plus.

This is a temporary, non-exempt paid position. No vacation or other benefits are offered with this position. The intern will be paid hourly at a rate of \$20 to \$25 per hour commensurate with education and experience.

SAHF is committed to a diverse and inclusive workforce and encourages all candidates, especially those who have been historically underrepresented based on race/ethnicity, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, socioeconomic status, citizenship status, or religion, to apply. On a daily basis, we are committed to our core values of Respect, Diversity and Inclusion, Collaboration, Stewardship and Integrity. You can learn more about us on our [website](#).

Please submit a resume and cover letter which addresses the required qualifications to jobs@sahfnet.org. **Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.** Due to the volume of applications usually received, we regret that we cannot individually respond to all candidates.

SAHF is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.