

UUCSH Director of Religious Education Job Posting

Name of Congregation or Employer: Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Somerset Hills
Address: 123 East Cliff Street, Somerville NJ 08876 United States

Time Requirement: 1/2 time

Time Requirement Details: This opportunity is a 20 hours per week position. Schedule is flexible, but requires commitment to Sunday morning activities (with one Sunday per month off*), with some Sunday afternoon and/or evening hours for meetings, as scheduled.

*We are willing to consider the hiring of a religious professional who currently holds and plans to maintain a part-time DRE position with a local UU congregation, if such a relationship may be fostered with transparency, shared collaboration and covenant between each congregations' professional and lay leadership. In this case, we would expect a DRE to be present at UUCSH Sundays 2x/month.

Compensating at UUA Fair Compensation Guidelines: Yes (see below)

Status: Permanent

Contact Name: DRE Search Committee

Contact Email: uucsh.jobs@gmail.com

Application Deadline: 04/30/2017

Date of Posting: 04/06/2017

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Somerset Hills (UUCSH) is a vibrant, liberal religious community in Somerset County, NJ committed to exploring spirituality, engaging our community and transforming the world. We are dedicated to the spiritual growth of our members and friends, and acting on our values of love, equity and compassion both in the congregation and in the broader community. For more information about our congregation and its history, please visit our website at www.uucsh.org and our FaceBook page: Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Somerset Hills (UUCSH) <https://www.facebook.com/UUCSH.NJ/@UUCSH.NJ>.

We are seeking a professional director of religious education who can function as a member of our ministry team, in partnership with our minister. Our Religious Education Vision Team, volunteer leaders, and our professional staff are excited to support and work collaboratively with our incoming DRE. The religious education director will inspire and manage a team of volunteer teachers and committee members who currently serve approximately forty children and youth in the program. A qualified candidate for this position would enjoy and have experience working with people of all ages, particularly children and youth. They would also have an interest in the religious/spiritual/moral development of children and youth; therefore, they would be comfortable in facilitating exploration of a wide variety of religious views and perspectives.

Our current Religious Exploration program includes:

- Weekly Sunday religious education experiences for preschool through middle school
- Weekly Messages for all Ages during Sunday Service
- Regular youth group meetings and regional youth conference participation as well as an annual bridging ceremony for high school youth (led by a team of youth group advisors in collaboration with youth members in consultation with DRE and Minister)
- Multi-Generational worship, including youth-led services
- Social Action projects
- Seasonal Children's Chapel and Holiday Activities (Halloween parade, winter pageant, spring egg hunt, etc.)
- OWL programming on alternate years for middle school youth, in collaboration with two neighboring UU congregations
- Coming-of-Age programming on alternate years and ceremony for middle school youth, including the Heritage Trip to Boston, MA
- Nursery care on premises, with paid child caregivers

We envision and desire a Religious Education Director who is:

- Committed to modeling and promoting Unitarian Universalist principles, UU sources of faith formation and the congregation's mission
- Accessible to and supportive of our members of all ages, with emphasis on children's learning development
- Able to foster our congregation's collaborative shared ministry with dedicated and enthusiastic lay leaders and UUCSH staff
- Able to develop and empower teams of volunteers
- Eager to form positive relationships within our congregation and with the local community
- Innovative and with a shared vision in our expanding the depth of participation in our children's RE and youth group programs
- Compassionate and creative
- A good story teller
- A healthy and productive communicator, using demographically appropriate methods (in person, phone, email, text, social media, etc.)
- Able to prioritize and manage work independently
- Organized, with an attention to detail
- Conversant in, or willing to become trained and familiar with, UU curricula and its implementation
- Spiritually mature and dedicated to personal growth and continuing education
- Connected with area colleagues, already holds or will obtain membership in the Liberal Religious Educators Association (LREDA), and has a commitment to uphold the LREDA Code of Professional Practices (<http://www.lreda.org/code-of-professional-practices>)
- Capable of coordinating and supervising our paid nursery care staff
- Comfortable with basic computer programs, to perform administrative tasks related to the RE program including applicable updates on the congregation's social media channels of communication

Supervision:

The Director of Religious Education will report directly to our Minister, The Reverend Jennifer Kelleher and be expected to maintain a strong, mutually supportive, and collaborative relationship with her and the entire staff team, our congregation's RE Vision Team, elected lay leadership, and volunteer teachers and youth advisors.

Additional Information:

Typical hours: 20 hours per week, on average. On a weekly basis, approximately 3 hours per Sunday (roughly 9am to 12 noon) and approximately 1 hour per week in staff meetings and/or direct supervision (typically on Tuesday afternoons). This will leave approximately 16 hours per week for managing, in a prioritized manner, the other responsibilities of directing the RE program.

Compensation, Benefits, and Time Off

We are committed to fair compensation for our staff. Salary will be based on credentials and experience, using the UUA's Fair Compensation salary recommendations for GeoIndex 5: http://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/salary_recs_17-18_geo_5_final_012017.pdf. Because of the wide variety of possible credentials and experience, the recommended salary range for this half-time position is \$18,000-\$28,725.

We also offer benefits including health insurance (40% of health insurance, as a part-time employee, in the UUA Health Plan), pension plan (10% of salary through the UUA Pension Plan), life and long-term disability insurance (through the UUA insurance plan), and professional expenses (at 10% of salary).

Start Date: July 17, 2017 (tentative)

Contract terms: The position will be initially offered on a one-year contract basis, subject to mutual review regarding fit and suitability. We hope that our successful candidate would be one that we could develop a long-term relationship.

UUCSH is an equal opportunity employer and we encourage all to apply regardless of race, creed, cultural background, spiritual beliefs, gender identity or sexual orientation. Please send your resume to: uucsh.jobs@gmail.com

Applicants should send a resume and a letter of interest to:
DRE Search Committee: uucsh.jobs@gmail.com

-OR-

DRE Search Committee
UU Congregation of Somerset Hills, 123 East Cliff St.
Somerville, NJ 08876

Application materials will be reviewed as they are received. Successful applicant must pass background check.