

# Congressional Advocate on Native American Policy

The Friends Committee on National Legislation is seeking candidates for a 27-month paid professional fellowship – the Congressional Advocate on Native American Policy –based in Washington D.C. American Indian and Alaska Native tribal members are strongly encouraged to apply. FCNL’s Congressional Advocate on Native American Policy receives one-on-one training from an FCNL lobbyist with deep experience on Native American policy issues and participates fully in the organization on the Domestic Policy Team. The Congressional Advocate works with both Native and non-Native partners to advance Native policy. The ideal candidate would have the desire to continue advocating for Native issues/policies once the fellowships ends. As an FCNL employee, this position receives professional level salary and benefits.

At FCNL, we embrace having a multitude of voices and talents working together to strengthen our impact in the world. In keeping with the Quaker testimony of equality, we strive to be an organization that welcomes, values and respects the different perspectives of every individual.

## The Organization

FCNL lobbies from a basis of spiritual and ethical purpose and seeks to change government policy and practice for the better, playing a key role in lobbying initiatives on Capitol Hill that focus on racial and economic justice, peace, stewardship of the environment, and election integrity.

FCNL’s lobbyists build extensive connections with congressional offices and conduct focused legislative campaigns on the following current priorities: peacebuilding, human rights, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, curtailing endless war, cutting Pentagon spending, criminal justice reform, immigration reform, gun control, solutions to climate change, economic justice and Native American issues. FCNL and Friends approach each of these priorities by identifying, exposing and working to eliminate institutional racism, sexism, and militarism in order to promote genuine equality of opportunity and communities in which everyone can safely live, learn, work, worship and love.

FCNL’s dedicated grassroots network brings constituent perspectives into congressional offices—both in Washington at two major lobbying events each year, and in local district offices. FCNL informs and educates its network through newsletters and collateral materials and activates its grassroots network through a robust website, email, and social media outreach.

FCNL’s national network includes people from many different faiths and backgrounds who are activists and donors. The organization is dedicated to growing the network with a particular emphasis on building effective relationships as a path to policy change. In the past three years, FCNL increased the number of in-person visits from its constituents to legislators by 50 percent. Headquartered on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, FCNL is governed by a General Committee

of 190 Quakers from across the country and employs a staff of about 55, including 20 registered lobbyists.

FCNL has brought Quaker values to bear on national policy throughout its 77-year history through congressional testimony, Capitol Hill visits, grassroots lobbying, and educational initiatives. Its strategic direction in the coming years is to create a bigger presence for FCNL — through media and marketing, as well as through its growing and vibrant network of activists.

### **Expectations of the Congressional Advocate**

- Manage the lobbying program on Native American issues covering areas such as:
  - Addressing the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women by reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act
  - Increasing tribal access to broadband
- Create and implement realistic, achievable strategies to influence legislation to support Native American priorities
- Coordinate a working group of national advocates representing faith groups with an abiding concern for Native American rights
- Collaborate with FCNL's communication and organizing staff to share policy updates and program activities with our network of 50,000 activists around the country
- Establish continuity of program with the next Advocate during the last three months, to train and orient a successor

### **Basic Qualifications**

- Tribal experience, preferably in tribal programs, education, or governance
- An undergraduate or graduate degree or at least 3 years' equivalent experience
- At least a year of professional work outside of the school environment
- Excellent research and writing skills, with a commitment to accuracy
- Strong outreach, networking, and partnership building skills
- Ability to connect with constituents and bring their stories to the Hill
- Experience with public speaking and event planning
- An abiding passion for Native issues and for public policy change
- Comfortable working in an office environment that reflects the Quaker testimonies of peace, equality, simplicity, and truth; and working within the Quaker process of FCNL.
- Commitment to involving, promoting and respecting participants from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives.

### **Salary and Benefits**

Salary starts at \$50,000 and is negotiable based on experience. Robust benefits package includes health/dental/vision insurance; disability and life insurance; paid leave plus holidays; parental leave; generous employer contribution to a retirement plan; public transit benefit, and more. This is a full-time exempt position, based on a 37.5-hour work week.

### **Application Information**

For more details and to apply, visit [fcnl.org/congressional-advocate](https://fcnl.org/congressional-advocate). A completed application includes a cover letter, resume, answers to short essay questions and at least three references. Applications will be accepted until March 17, 2021. The Advocate will be appointed by mid-late April to begin work and training in May. Due to COVID-19, the fellowship may begin virtually until staff can safely return to the office. But because of the focus on Congress, the expectation is that this position is headquartered in Washington, D.C.