



# Greater Boston Interfaith Organization

## Professional Organizers in GBIO

**WANTED:** Full-time professional organizer in Greater Boston, MA. A brief job description is below. Contact Kathleen.Patron, Organizer, at [Kathleen.patron.gbio@gmail.com](mailto:Kathleen.patron.gbio@gmail.com) with questions or to submit a resume and cover letter for consideration.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Under the supervision of the an organizer, identify, recruit and train volunteer leaders using the Industrial Areas Foundation's proven person-to-person organizing method and guide and support them in organizing to effect change on specific issues that impact them and their communities. GBIO offers a paid, 90-day try-out. Organizer candidates are given an organizing assignment to test their capacity and receive extensive training and supervision from the senior organizer.

**SPECIFICALLY**, the organizer focused in organizing would: 1) Work with leaders and GBIO staff to focus intensively in 3-6 institutions, allied institutions and perhaps other communities 2) Build organizing teams in member institutions, identify local leaders and issues for action, develop local leaders, and undertake and win on local action that addresses community issues.

## QUALITIES OF A SUCCESSFUL ORGANIZER:

*Native Intelligence* – not necessarily degrees, but the ability to think, reflect, communicate, challenge the conventional wisdom, make judgments in complicated situations, and show flexibility.

*Anger and Edge* – not temper, not ideological fervor, not an abstract commitment to “the people,” but a clear sense of what’s wrong, impatience in the face of that wrong, and a drive to address it.

*Willingness to Cross Race and Culture* – to be willing to work with people unlike oneself, people of other races, classes, orientations, faiths.

*Track Record* – some evidence, in high school, college, the local community, the workplace, of attempting to relate to people and to respond to situations that seemed to demand responses; and some success in whatever field or career or endeavor has occupied the individual’s time.

**COMPENSATION & BENEFITS:** Salary is commensurate with experience. GBIO provides excellent training and benefits (pension, health insurance, vacation, etc).

## The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization

*The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) is a broad-based organization that works to coalesce, train, and organize the communities of Greater Boston across religious, racial, ethnic, class, and neighborhood lines for the public good. Our primary goal is to develop local leadership and organized power to fight for social justice.*

*We strive to hold both public and private power holders accountable for their public responsibilities (see GBIO's successes on [issue campaigns here.](#)) as well as to initiate actions and programs of our own to solve community and economic problems.*

*GBIO was founded by a group of 45 clergy and community leaders who began meeting in January of 1996. What motivated this founding group to begin building GBIO was a common desire to transcend the historic divisions in Boston that existed between neighborhoods, particularly around race and class issues.*

*These founders aimed to build a new organization which could help form relationships across these divides and provide a new vehicle for different constituencies to act together on common interests in ways which would be powerful and effective.*

*The founding group raised seed money from ten different religious denominations and the first staff organizer was hired in August 1997. In November of 1998, GBIO held its founding assembly with 4000 people from across Greater Boston. This watershed event was the largest and most diverse meeting held in Boston in the past 25 years. Currently GBIO main issue areas include, Affordable Housing, Health care and Criminal Justice Reform.*