Professional Development Detail Opportunity – Special Assistant to the CIGIE Legislation Committee

November 18, 2020 - Peace Corps Office of Inspector General is pleased to offer a non-reimbursable detail opportunity (six months; longer considered) to current Inspector General Community staff (GS13, 14 and 15 levels considered). This opportunity is available starting February 2021 and will remain open until filled.

Through audits, evaluations, and investigations, the Peace Corps Office of Inspector General (PC OIG) provides independent oversight of agency programs and operations in support of the goals set forth in the Peace Corps Act while making the best use of taxpayer dollars.

Kathy Buller, PC OIG’s Inspector General is Executive Chair of CIGIE’s Legislation Committee which is responsible for providing regular and ongoing communication regarding legislative issues and other matters of common interest between the Congress and CIGIE.

Detail description

The Special Assistant to the CIGIE Legislative Committee will work collaboratively with PC OIG staff developing relationships with CIGIE Legislative Committee membership, members of Congress, Committees and Congressional staff to ensure Inspector General community interests and priorities are effectively and efficiently represented, communicated and considered by all parties involved in legislative process. This detail will allow the candidate to exercise key competencies involved in Building Coalitions and Leading Change, including creativity and innovation, external awareness, flexibility, resilience, and strategic thinking.

The detailee will take the lead in select legislative matters, coordinating the positions of CIGIE members, communicating with key congressional stakeholders, and as appropriate, assisting them in developing initiatives that take into account the equities of the IG community. In conducting this work, the detailee will need to Build Coalitions by partnering within and sometimes outside the IG community, exercising political savvy and influencing skills when communicating and dealing with legislative branch staff. Through this opportunity the detailee will have the opportunity to expand their leadership competencies, broaden their organizational experiences, and foster networks they can leverage in the future while gaining new skills and relationships that can be taken back to their home agency.

The detailee will gain a deeper understanding of legislative processes and how individual IGs priorities contribute to establishing overall CIGIE legislative priorities. The detailee will also have the opportunity to develop contacts and relationships across the IG community as well as with members of Congress, their staffs and as appropriate, other interested parties (media).

Required clearances – None. Peace Corps Manual Section 611 is applicable to this detail. This section prohibits the employment of certain persons previously engaged in intelligence activities or connected with intelligence agencies within the past 10 years. The policy is founded on the premise that it is crucial to the Peace Corps in
carrying out its mission that there be a complete and total separation of Peace Corps from the intelligence activities of the United States Government or any foreign government, both in reality and appearance.

Mission of the Legislation Committee

CIGIE's Legislation Committee is responsible for providing regular and ongoing communication regarding legislative issues and other matters of common interest between the Congress and CIGIE. Specifically, the Committee is dedicated to providing helpful and timely information about Federal Congressional initiatives to the Inspector General (IG) community; soliciting the views and concerns of the community in response to legislative initiatives and Congressional requests; and presenting views and recommendations to Congressional committees and staff, the Government Accountability Office, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on issues and legislation that broadly affect the IG community.

The Legislation Committee, in a professional, proactive, and efficient manner, strives to advance the following objectives:

1. Foster productive and enduring relationships with members of Congress, Committees, and Congressional staff that have an interest in government fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement and other issues paramount to the IG community;
2. Effectively represent the IG Community's interests on legislative initiatives;
3. Advance efficiency and effectiveness in government programs as prescribed by the IG Act by raising awareness of legislative issues of concern to the IG Community and presenting the IG perspective to Congress, OMB, and other stakeholders; and
4. Inform IGs about legislative proposals and initiatives that affect the IG community.

Action Plan for Ongoing Legislation Committee Activities

The Committee, working as a whole and through the skills and experience of individual Committee members:

1. Meets with leadership and senior staff of the House Oversight and Government Reform and the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committees as well as other Congressional committees to initiate and maintain productive working relationships.
2. Meets with OMB and other stakeholders as appropriate.
3. Develops and maintains a list of legislative developments that affect the IG community or individual IGs and provides IGs with monthly updates on legislation of general interest.
4. Presents the IG community's views and recommendations to relevant Congressional entities on legislative proposals affecting the IG community.
5. Coordinates CIGIE response when the IG community is asked by a Congressional entity to provide information, comments, or recommendations on a particular topic or proposal.
6. Collaborates with other CIGIE committees on legislation-related matters and serve as a liaison to the Hill as needed.

Contact: Interested candidates should provide a resume and concurrence from their manager to:

Sarah O’Neill Gerwin, Assistant Inspector General for Management and Administration,
Peace Corps Office of Inspector General, 1275 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20526
Phone: 202 692 2939   Email: sgerwin@peacecorpsoig.gov