



Full- and Part-Time Employees and Subcontractors

RW Ventures, LLC Overview

RW Ventures, LLC specializes in creating products and enterprises that drive inclusive economic growth within industries, neighborhoods and regions. Based in Chicago, the firm is recognized as a national leader in market-based economic development. RW Ventures manages large-scale, complex economic growth projects by assembling interdisciplinary teams of national experts. Illustrative projects include:

- Developing economic growth plans for regions across the country,, building from the [Metropolitan Business Planning](#) initiative (see, for example, [ScaleUP Sacramento](#));
- Creating the [Chicagoland Food and Beverage Network](#), an inclusive cluster organization for food and beverage manufacturers;
- Conceiving, creating and continuing to partner with [Chicago TREND](#), a leading social enterprise driving neighborhood development and BIPOC wealth creation through tailored commercial development coordinated with business and community development advisory services;
- Creating the [New Growth Innovation Network](#) (NGIN), a national, practitioner-led institution driving innovation in the field of inclusive economic growth;
- Leading the [Southland Development Authority](#) (SDA), a ground-breaking development authority model charged with driving comprehensive, transformative and inclusive economic growth in over 40 South Suburbs of Chicago.

In all of our projects, we seek to bridge the gap between theory and practice, driving rigorous research from a practitioner perspective, and translating results into practical programs. For more information on the firm, its partners, clients and projects, please visit our website: www.rw-ventures.com.

Role Overview:

As a result of increasing demand for our work, RW Ventures is looking to expand its core staff as well as its expert network. These roles offer an opportunity to work not just with the RW Ventures team but with leading national experts on projects at the forefront of the economic development field. Roles can be project-specific, fixed-fee contracts; broader, cross-project work – for instance, supporting project management across multiple projects; or joining the firm as a full-time hire.

In general, the firm seeks innovative and motivated economic development professionals with strong critical thinking, research and writing, interviewing and presentation, organizational and related skills. Areas of expertise may include, for example:

- Cluster analysis



- Innovation, entrepreneurship and small business development
- Workforce development
- Industrial and commercial real estate development
- Development finance
- Business planning
- Project design, execution and management

The following projects are currently underway and represent the type of work the employee or subcontractor could be engaged in:

- Establishing an inclusive economic development strategy for Portland, Oregon, which includes quantitative and qualitative market analysis, strategy development and initiative design to support industry clusters, human capital, innovation and entrepreneurship, development institutional infrastructure and more.
- Working with the Chicago Community Trust's [We Rise Together](#) initiative to cultivate and evaluate Chicago-focused, catalytic and inclusive real estate projects in communities of color throughout Chicagoland.
- Convening leading corporates and corporate collaboratives across the country to innovate, share approaches to driving inclusive growth in communities and explore creating a community of practice or other steps towards scaling.
- Co-developing emerging project concepts, such as enhancing innovation in Chicago's community-led development ecosystem, the green economy, and advancing a next generation of neighborhood analytics, among other projects.

Responsibilities:

Working closely with the RW Ventures team, work may include:

- Co-invent new frameworks, products, initiatives and organizational models to address specific challenges and opportunities in inclusive economic development (e.g., manufacturing innovation, urban industrial land re-use, innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems), often tailored to specific industries and geographies
- Conduct market analyses and develop strategies to grow and enhance business, workforce, housing and other economic activity in neighborhoods and regions
- Organize, lead and participate in project and team meetings

Compensation: Commensurate with experience.

To Apply: Submit cover letter and résumé to Monita Blunt-Daniel at monita@rw-ventures.com.