



**1000 Friends of Florida**  
**Seeking Planning Analyst (Thorsen Fellow)**  
[www.1000friendsofflorida.org](http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org)

**About 1000 Friends of Florida**

The state's leading nonprofit smart-growth advocacy organization, 1000 Friends of Florida is building better communities and saving special places in one of the fastest growing states in the nation. We promote sustainable, walkable, resilient and equitable communities that provide residents with affordable housing choices and transportation alternatives. We work to protect natural lands that cleanse and store fresh water needed for residents, agriculture and the environment; provide refuge for wildlife; and support abundant recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Above all, we strive to give citizens a meaningful role in shaping the futures of their communities and state.

Founded in 1986, 1000 Friends of Florida is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization sought out for its ability to research, analyze and frame issues and solutions. Its well-earned reputation as a respected, knowledgeable, nonpartisan advocate for our diverse citizens and state's needs will continue to be an important tool in advancing a smart-growth agenda.

**Position Summary**

1000 Friends of Florida is seeking a highly organized and motivated individual with a strong vision and passion for environmentally sustainable and fiscally responsible development to become its first Thorsen Fellow, a full-time position **to be based in southeast Florida**. A degree and/or professional experience in land-use planning is required. Knowledge of legislative and local government policymaking processes in Florida is essential. The Thorsen Fellow will join 1000 Friends' team in providing information and guidance on state and local growth and development issues, including land-use planning, land and water protection, community resilience, transportation and affordable housing. This position will involve working in southeast Florida with local officials and planners, civic and advocacy organizations, developers and citizens on growth and development issues, and advocating 1000 Friends' positions through public testimony and written comments. It will also include promoting productive interaction among planners throughout Florida by convening virtual meetings and creating email newsletters. And it will include educating citizens on community planning through participation guides and workshops. The Thorsen Fellow will collaborate with 1000 Friends' President and other staff to advance the organization's mission and reflect the prevailing view of its Board of Directors. When available during legislative sessions, he or she will support 1000 Friends' policy team in monitoring critical growth and development proposals and funding.

An ideal candidate will have a deep commitment to our mission, be collaborative and possess strong writing and public speaking skills. This is a remote position to be based in southeast Florida, with regular, compensated travel as needed between Martin, Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties, and occasional travel to other parts of Florida, including 1000 Friends' office in Tallahassee. Spanish-language proficiency preferred but not required.

**Key Responsibilities:**

- From base in southeast Florida, work with local officials and planners, civic and advocacy groups, and citizens to provide information and guidance on growth and development issues, focusing on the area from Miami-Dade County to Martin County

- Advocate and defend 1000 Friends policy positions in comment letters and public testimony before local decision-makers and regulatory agencies
- Organize working group of local planners throughout Florida, convening virtual meetings and circulating digital newsletters to promote productive interaction
- Educate citizens on community planning by developing or updating participation guides and organizing workshops
- Assist policy and planning director in responding to inquiries from citizens throughout Florida concerned about growth and development issues, providing information and guidance
- Assist legislative team in identifying, tracking and analyzing state legislation and regulations that affect growth management and community planning
- Work with other staff to develop strategies, messaging and outreach to implement 1000 Friends' nonpartisan legislative and policy agenda at the state and local levels
- Work with allied organizations and within coalitions to further 1000 Friends' policy agenda
- Represent 1000 Friends in public appearances and presentations in state and local forums, conferences and meetings, traveling as necessary

**Required Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's or master's degree in planning, or at least two years' experience in the field
- General knowledge of Florida growth management laws and process at state and local levels
- Familiarity with Florida's political landscape, civics, legislative process, planning and environmental policy issues
- Experience in group leadership
- Strong analytical, writing and public speaking skills
- Exceptional team player with demonstrated ability to contribute positively to a collaborative environment
- Ability to proficiently use technology, including Zoom, social media, Microsoft Outlook, Word, PowerPoint, and Excel, along with an email marketing platform such as Constant Contact.

**Benefits:**

- Individual health insurance
- Retirement account — 401k with 3% employer match
- Four weeks annual vacation
- As a non-profit, 1000 Friends qualifies under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program

**Job Type:** Full time

**Reports to:** President

**How to apply:**

Submit a cover letter, resume, three professional references with contact information, relevant writing samples and salary requirements by Friday, August 28, 2026 to:

Paul Owens, President  
1000 Friends of Florida  
[powens@1000fof.org](mailto:powens@1000fof.org)

Please put Thorsen Fellow in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and accepted until the position is filled.