



## CAC AmeriCorps

Position Description

**AmeriCorps Member**



**Dates of Service:** August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 – June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Partner:** Beardsley Community Farm

**Location of Service:** Beardsley Community Farm  
1741 Reynolds Street, Knoxville, TN 37921

**Supervisor:** Farm Managers Charlotte Rodina and Adam Caraco

### **About CAC AmeriCorps:**

Established in 1994, CAC AmeriCorps is a proud AmeriCorps subgrantee that combines elements of traditional conservation practice with community action that informs our service and places it in the broader context of East Tennessee. Our AmeriCorps members improve public lands, educate the public, address pressing human needs, and build volunteer capacity to enhance the ability of our partners to get things done. We are committed to human and environmental justice in the region we call home through enduring acts of service.

### **Position Summary:**

The CAC AmeriCorps member serving with Beardsley Community Farm will be involved with maintaining and expanding existing programming of Beardsley Farm, including the Green Thumb program. Green Thumb maintains more than 20 community gardens for 150 gardeners across Knox County who do not have access to land. These gardens are located in a variety of places, from city parks to public housing communities. Green Thumb also distributes free seeds and plants to 1,000 households in Knox County each spring. During their term of service, the AmeriCorps member will be tasked with maintaining vegetable crops and fruit production at Beardsley Farm (planting, weeding, harvesting, irrigation, crop-rotation, maintaining soil health, disease/pest management), helping maintain 20 Green Thumb community gardens in Knox County (tilling, cover crops, mowing, and weed eating), constructing raised beds, picnic tables, and benches for Green Thumb gardens, tending to a flock of hens, harvesting honey and maintaining the health of a bee-hive, helping foster a safe and enjoyable place for community members at the farm, maintaining an attractive landscape at the farm, and other duties as needed.

This opportunity will provide the member with hands on experience and knowledge of urban agriculture and how it relates to addressing food insecurity in low-income and urban areas. The member will also gain experience in managing volunteers and working with community partners.

### **Minimum Qualifications:**

#### **Education**

Minimum CAC AmeriCorps Qualifications:

- All CAC AmeriCorps positions require, at minimum, that our members be at least 18 years old at the start of service, and have completed high school or received a GED.

Site Preferences:

- High School Diploma

#### **Position Expectations & Requirements**

Minimum CAC AmeriCorps Expectations

- CAC AmeriCorps environmental positions require attendance of an orientation at the start of service, monthly corps meetings, service days, and other all-corps activities.
- CAC AmeriCorps environmental positions require that you serve a full-time schedule.
- CAC AmeriCorps environmental positions require that members wear AmeriCorps branded uniform gear and safety equipment during service.
- CAC AmeriCorps environmental positions require that members be able to get to and from their service site reliably, and in a timely manner.
- CAC AmeriCorps environmental positions require that members be able to serve effectively both independently and within the context of a team.
- CAC AmeriCorps environmental positions require that all members be able to be able to take direction and perform their service with relative independence with site supervision provided on a weekly basis in either a one-on-one or group setting and intermittent contact from the CAC AmeriCorps office.

Site Preferences:

- Ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- Ability to lead groups of volunteers with projects such as weeding, planting, invasive removal, and building.
- Must enjoy and be capable of working outdoors in all weather conditions (sun, rain, heat, cold, etc.)
- Capable of working with people from diverse backgrounds.
- Solid organization and leadership skills.
- Commitment to honesty, excellence, and professionalism.
- Ability to motivate others to change habits and behaviors.
- Must provide own transportation.
- Ability to multi-task in fast-paced environment with many weekly scheduled events such as

community work-days, field trips, fundraisers for farm, workshops, etc.

- Enthusiasm for learning and engaging with new communities.
- Ability to adapt in an ever-changing work environment.
- Strong interest in environmental education.
- Ability to lift 50 pounds, team lift 100 pounds.
- Kneeling, pushing a loaded wheelbarrow up hill.
- Ability to use lawn mower, tiller, weed-eater, drill, circular saw, skill saw, tractor, mattock, pitchfork, shovel, trimmer, lopper, hoe, hose.

**Member Benefits Include:**

- A modest living allowance of \$14,000, or, \$595.74 bi-weekly (pre-tax), paid over 47 weeks.
- Education Award of \$6,345 that can be applied to student loans and/or future education expenses.
- A Health insurance subsidy is available for members covered through healthcare.gov
- Worker's Compensation
- Child Care Reimbursement
- May be eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). In-house SNAP benefits specialist available to provide assistance in determining eligibility.
- May be eligible for utility bill assistance. In house specialists available to provide assistance with determining eligibility.
- Staff assistance with identifying housing. Housing, inclusive of utilities, is generally between \$400-\$500 in a shared housing scenario, which is what is highly recommended.
- Professional development and networking opportunities.
- Optional opportunity to enroll concurrently in Carson Newman MBA in Nonprofit Leadership

**Equity and Inclusion:** The Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC) is an Equal Opportunity Employer and will take action to ensure that members and employees are treated equally without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, gender, romantic/sexual orientation, age, handicap, cultural or religious convictions. CAC AmeriCorps provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodation at any point in the recruitment / employment process.



**AmeriCorps**

