



CAC AmeriCorps

Position Description

AmeriCorps Member



Dates of Service: August 2nd, 2021 – June 24th, 2022

Partner: City of Knoxville, Waste & Resource Management

Location of Service: KCDC Headquarters
901 N Broadway,
Knoxville, TN 37917

Supervisor: KCDC Strategic Partnerships and Policy Director

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 KCDC will be involved in developing outdoor recreation and educational opportunities for residents at KCDC properties. KCDC serves as the public housing authority for both the City of Knoxville and Knox County and the redevelopment agency for the City of Knoxville. KCDC provides affordable housing at 20 separate sites for some 3,500 families and individuals while concurrently administering some 4,000 section 8 vouchers.

KCDC strives to improve neighborhoods and communities by providing quality affordable housing, advancing development initiatives, and fostering self-sufficiency. The CAC AmeriCorps member will join that mission by contributing to the development of outdoor spaces at several properties under renovation through the collection of best practices, observations, and existing research. In addition, the member will work with their supervisor to develop outdoor recreational spaces and activity plans for each site based on the resident demographic profile. Several of the

housing sites have existing community gardens. At these sites the member will evaluate current community gardens programs and possible expansion to other sites, develop operational plans for the community gardens programs, and identify partners for outdoor activities and gardens. The CAC member will also assist with partnership-based community activities such as food and commodities distribution.

This opportunity will provide the member with an opportunity to become very familiar with public housing and the importance of affordable housing. The research and planning by this member will be leveraged many times over, whether through planned resident activities, long lasting partnerships, or new outdoor space construction. They will likely have the opportunity to see a concept through from idea, to planning, to implementation, and finally evaluation, gaining experience and knowledge in project planning, partnership development, evaluation, and working with a diverse group of people to make it all happen.

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 Preference:

- Associates Degree in Agriculture, Biology, Botany, Environmental Science, or Related Field.

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:

- Knowledge of gardening is desired.

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.

