

AMERICORPS SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: Clean Energy and Housing Community Liaison

Field of Service: *Environment and Health*

Service Site: Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority – GV-HEAT program

Address: 200 E Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, CO 81230

Site Supervisor’s Name: Gesa Michel, GV-HEAT Coordinator

Slot Type: Three-Quarter Term

Minimum # of hours to complete term: 1200

Start Date: April 8th, 2024

End Date: December 15th, 2024

Program Overview

Localizing our food system is one of the most impactful and actionable steps we can take to solve so many of our global problems. Across the central Rocky Mountains and southwestern Colorado, AmeriCorps service with Mountain Roots Healthy Futures Program builds social, economic, and environmental health for rural communities. We work with ten organizations throughout the region who are leaders in their fields, activating community-driven initiatives including Farm to School, Regenerative Agriculture & Community Gardens, Hunger Solutions (Community Food Security), and other programs in public health, conservation, and the environment. Join us for anywhere from one season to up to two years of mentored service, where you’ll build a bridge from college to career while building and sustaining healthy communities, healthy people, and a healthy environment.

Organization Overview

The Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority (GVRHA) promotes and provides long term supply of affordable housing in Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties. GV-HEAT, or the Gunnison Valley - Home Energy Advancement Team, is a program of GVRHA connecting households with resources to help them improve the energy efficiency, comfort, and affordability of housing in our valley. GV-HEAT mainly serves households in the low-income range (80% AMI or below) and is expanding its programming to assist folks in the middle-income range (80-150%AMI). It is our main goal to reduce the excessive energy burden and health risks these households are carrying. GV-HEAT has doubled its annual output since its inception in 2017.

Service Description

An AmeriCorps Member will help build GV-HEAT’s overall capacity to increase its current output measured in households served with energy efficiency upgrades and a healthier living environment.

We are looking for a Three-Quarter Term AmeriCorps Member. The AmeriCorps Member will give GV-HEAT the ability to sustain and grow its program. The activities of the Member will be multi-faceted and will focus on interacting and collaborating with the local community to help educate and spread the word with multiple stakeholders. The AmeriCorps Member will assist GV-HEAT in four key areas as part of its mission to increase the scope and quantity of energy efficiency upgrades in income-qualified households. The areas, listed in order of priority are 1) Outreach; 2) Program Support; 3) Workforce Development, and 4) Expansion into the Health Sector.

As part of Outreach, the AmeriCorps Member will spearhead GV-HEAT’s outreach efforts by creating and following an outreach plan. The plan will consist of sending direct mailings, preparing, and posting advertisements, organizing events or home tours, hanging flyers at prospective homes, collaborating with other organizations who are serving a similar client base, presenting in front of interested parties, interviewing past participants, and preparing case studies. As part of Program Support, the Member will assist and educate prospective and new clients, assist with data



analysis and report creation, comprise user data into meaningful reports, create user maps, and conduct energy savings calculations and reports to be presented to our stakeholders. As part of Workforce Development, the Member will successfully build and help grow a contractor network that is proficient in performing energy efficiency upgrades and electrification in income-qualified homes. The Member will expand GV-HEAT's contractor list, network with, and educate contractors, assist with organizing contractor trainings, create, and promote a scholarship program for contractors, and expand our existing partnership with the Pathways program of the RE1J school district – all in the fields of energy efficiency, electrification, and renewable energies. As part of the Expansion into the Health Sector, the Member will prepare a plan of how to expand GV-HEAT services into the health sector. The Member will reach out to the local hospital and clinics to introduce our programs, develop collaborations, and expand GV-HEAT's health focus by assessing health risks and identifying solutions when we are serving our clients. Many of these key areas will overlap in scope and in finding solutions.

AmeriCorps Member Primary Responsibilities

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

1. Outreach
 - Prepare and follow an outreach plan.
 - Conduct direct mailings to prospective clients.
 - Design and post advertisements on print and social media, on the radio.
 - Organize events or home tours.
 - Hang educational flyers at prospective homes.
 - Collaborate with organizations who are serving a similar client base.
 - Present in front of interested individuals, groups, or organizations.
 - Interview past participants and prepare case studies.
 - This area may expand to include areas of interest for the member.
2. Program Support
 - Assist and educate prospective and new clients.
 - Assist with data analysis and report creation.
 - Comprise user data into meaningful reports.
 - Create user maps.
 - Conduct energy savings calculations and reports.
3. Workforce Development in the fields of energy efficiency, electrification, and renewable energies
 - Build and help grow a contractor network that is proficient in performing energy efficiency upgrades and electrification.
 - Expand contractor list.
 - Network with and educate contractors.
 - Assist with organizing contractor training.
 - Create and promote a scholarship program for contractors.
 - Expand our existing partnership with the Pathways program of the RE1J school district.
4. Expansion into the Health Sector.
 - Prepare a plan for how to expand GV-HEAT services into the health sector.
 - Reach out to the local hospital and clinics to introduce GV-HEAT programs and share information.
 - Work with nursing services who are already going into homes.
 - Develop collaborations with the health sector.
 - Expand GV-HEAT's health focus by assessing health risks and identifying solutions when we are serving our clients.
 - Member may be encouraged to seek out and write a grant to support project objectives.



SECONDARY FUNCTIONS

5. Attend and report to GVRHA staff and/or board meetings, as applicable.
6. Attend GVRHA events or happenings, as applicable.

Location and Service Conditions:

This position is based at Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority, 200 E Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, CO 81230 and will involve service at other locations in Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties, when doing service in the community and in the field. Position will involve occasional days of service outdoors and/or in a school or community building.

Qualifications:

- Possess strong written and oral communication skills.
- Be organized in daily tasks.
- Be detail-oriented and able to work with accuracy across multiple projects.
- Show proficiency in Microsoft applications, such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint.
- Demonstrate experience with community organizing.
- Have experience with social media and website management.
- Able to prioritize tasks, work independently and as part of a team.
- Maintain staff and client confidentiality.
- Be willing to obtain knowledge in the fields of energy efficiency, housing, and construction.
- Bachelor’s or related degree and/or experience in a relevant field is preferred.
- GIS or mapping experience is a plus.
- Knowledge of the Spanish language is a plus.

AmeriCorps Required Qualifications:

- At least 17 years old at start of service.
- Must be a high school graduate, GED recipient, or working toward attaining a high school diploma or GED during the term of service. Members must obtain either a diploma or GED before using an education award.
- Be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States.
- Able to pass a National Service Criminal History Check (state, FBI, and National Sex Offender Public Website checks) per 45 CFR 2540.202.

Healthy Futures AmeriCorps Program Benefits

- \$13,552. Living Allowance - AmeriCorps Member(s) will receive total stipend paid \$752.89 bi-weekly
- \$4,826.50 Education Award / Tuition Assistance - AmeriCorps Member(s) can receive an Education Award upon successful completion of service. This can be used to pay back student loans, or to further your education.
- All Members receive professional development and training, plus covered travel costs for attendance at state or regional conferences.
- All members may be eligible for Federal program assistance (SNAP, Medicaid, etc.)
- All members may qualify for student loan forbearance (postponing the payment of loans) while in service.
- Alumni benefits include priority hiring with organizations that are part of Employers of National Service and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program to eliminate educational debt.



About the Living Allowance

An AmeriCorps Living Allowance is not a wage, salary, or hourly pay. You are enrolling in a SERVICE position, not a job. The Living Allowance is a stipend designed to support the basic necessities of the individual while in service, such as room and board, utilities, and transportation. Carefully consider this when applying.

Place an "X" beside all that apply.

EDUCATION PREFERRED FOR THIS POSITION <i>(select all that apply)</i>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High School Diploma or equivalent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Technical / Vocational School or Apprenticeship
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Some College or AA Degree
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bachelor's Degree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Master's Degree

ESSENTIAL SKILLS			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Education / Teaching	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Communications
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment / Conservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Organizing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social Services / Health & Human Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Teamwork
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture, Farming, & Gardening	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Outreach & Engagement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Animal Husbandry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Working with vulnerable populations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trade / Construction (is a plus)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Language: Spanish is a plus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cooking	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>[specify]</i>

OTHER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Car Recommended, but not needed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Permits attendance at school during off hours
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Permits working at another job during off hours
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Typical schedule, Monday-Friday
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flexible hours are necessary at times, including some weekends or evenings
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remote / teleservice is allowed

