

TERRACORPS

TerraCorps is an AmeriCorps affiliated start-up environmental non-profit preparing and mobilizing emerging leaders to help communities gain access to and conserve land for people and nature. Working at the intersection of the land conservation and urban agriculture movements, our vision is to create a future where land is the foundation of health and well-being for ALL people in EVERY community.

This year's TerraCorps program will support up to 60 full-time AmeriCorps Members across Massachusetts and Rhode Island each serving in one of five positions: Land Stewardship Coordinator (LSC), Land Conservation Coordinator (LCC), Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC), Youth Education Coordinator (YEC), or Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator (SAC). Members will serve in fulltime, 11-month terms (August 29th, 2022-July 28, 2023) in which they complete at least 1,700 hours of service with one of our partner organizations. Members receive a living allowance, education award, and additional AmeriCorps benefits (see full list at end of announcement).

North County Land Trust and J.U.M.P., Inc. will host a Community Engagement Coordinator for the 2022-23 service year. Information about all TerraCorps positions is available at <u>https://terracorps.org/</u>.

Community Engagement Coordinator with North County Land Trust and J.U.M.P., Inc.

North County Land Trust	J.U.M.P, Inc.
325 Lindell Ave,	143 Ayer Rd.
Leominster, MA 01453	Harvard, MA 01451
https://northcountylandtrust.org/	<u>https://jumpinc.org/</u>

North County Land Trust, Inc was founded in 1992 as a regional, non-profit, land conservation organization to serve north central Massachusetts. Our mission is to conserve the farms, forests and landscapes that define the character of our region. Our focus area includes 16 communities around the Gardner, Fitchburg and Leomister area. Since our founding we have helped to conserve over 5,000 acres of farms, forests, and watershed lands. We maintain 10 publicly accessible conservation areas with over 30 miles of trails for recreation and host dozens of free public programs to educate and engage people on environmental and natural history topics annually. We also serve as a resource for landowners, town boards, and local environmental groups regarding land management and conservation topics. We are excited to build our partnership with JUMP to expand our outreach and education, especially in our underserved communities.

J.U.M.P. (Just Understand My Potential) is a 501 (c)(3) youth development nonprofit that builds resilient leaders and responsible community members through adventure based, experiential learning in an outdoor setting. Youth are encouraged to challenge themselves in new experiences facilitated by caring adult mentors. With these experiences youth get closer to reaching their full potential where they will be champions of their own lives, their communities and the natural world.

Community Engagement Coordinators (CEC) build the long-term capacity of their Service Sites by developing and leading culturally inclusive programming, events, and volunteer opportunities that provide broad social and environmental benefits to underrepresented beneficiaries. Member projects address inequities in public health, economic opportunity, education, land accessibility, and environmental sustainability. Through engaging diverse peoples and collaborating with community partners, CECs build bridges that reinforce the connection between land and a sustainable social, economic, and environmental future for all people.

TerraCorps members engage with their supervisors to develop and carry out three or more capacity building projects over the course of the service year. Some of these projects will involve recruiting, training, and/or managing community volunteers. North County Land Trust and J.U.M.P., Inc have proposed the following potential project(s) for their Community Engagement Coordinator:

The Community Engagement Coordinator will support the strategic partnership between the two host organizations by helping to design and launch a new, innovative, youth outdoor program -- Adventure IRL. The program is an 8 week, nature mentoring program focusing on elementary to middle school youths in the Gardner, Fitchburg and Leominster, MA. Working closely with J.U.M.P's Education and Adventure Director and NCLT's Executive Director, the CEC will serve on the following capacity building projects and activities:

- 1. Design program evaluation methods, processes, and systems
- 2. Set up system for tracking key indicators for successful programming such as personal growth, satisfaction, progress in technical (outdoor) skills, critical thinking, interpersonal and leadership skills
- 3. Create a system for tracking participant's attendance, progress and outcomes and develop reporting for program evaluation.
- 4. Synthesize data results for communication with stakeholders
- 5. Design engaging informational events for parents and kids to get them excited about participating.
- 6. Help to identify and reach out to our community partners and set up introductory meetings to gauge interest in our program.
- 7. Recruit program participants
- 8. Recruit program volunteer crew leaders
- 9. Assist in developing sustainability focused curriculum that fosters environmental stewardship

Development of these and other projects will occur during the first two months of service and consider the member's interests and skills.

Required AmeriCorps Qualifications

- A US citizen, US national, or Lawful Permanent Resident Alien of the U.S.
- At least 18 years old
- A minimum of a high school diploma or GED
- No more than three previous terms as an AmeriCorps Member
- Pass a criminal history background check, including an FBI check

Desired Qualifications

- Strong writing and verbal communication skills
- Able to serve both independently and as a member of a team
- Comfort navigating computer software programs

- Training and experience pertinent to the Community Engagement Coordinator position and projects outlined above
- Experience training and/or educating community members and volunteers
- Must have your own vehicle and a valid driver's license. (travel costs are reimbursed)
- Bi-lingual (especially in Spanish)
- Ability to assist in developing interim goals and milestones to attain final objectives

AmeriCorps Member Eligibility Requirements

All Members are expected to serve full-time, commit to serve for the entire 11-month term, and complete at least 1,700 hours of service, including time spent in trainings and several service days with the full TerraCorps cohort. Weekly service averages 38 hours and commonly includes some night and/or weekend activities.

AmeriCorps programs provide equal opportunities. TerraCorps will recruit and select persons in all positions to ensure a diverse and inclusive climate without regard to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, veteran status, color, political affiliation, creed, national origin, marital status, or any other status as protected by federal, state, and local laws. We encourage applications from individuals with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations for interviews and service upon request.

Member Compensation and Benefits

- TerraCorps Members will receive a living allowance of up to \$18,500 (pre-tax) over the 11month term of service, which is \$740 (pre-tax) per 25 biweekly pay periods.
- TerraCorps assists Members in obtaining health insurance coverage. Reimbursement of costs may be available.
- Childcare assistance may be provided in cases of financial need.
- Upon successful completion of a term of service, AmeriCorps Members receive a taxable \$6,495
 education award that can be used for future education or to pay off existing school loans. See
 https://americorps.gov/members-volunteers/segal-americorps-education-award for info and
 restrictions.
- TerraCorps Members are eligible for forbearance of most federally-guaranteed student loans, as well as payment of interest accrued during service.
- TerraCorps Members will receive mentorship, training, and career development opportunities while serving directly with community-based nonprofits.
- TerraCorps Members experience the personal rewards of national service and community engagement.

Note: TerraCorps Members are responsible for their own housing and must have access to reliable transportation.

How to Apply

To apply for this position and to learn more about other TerraCorps Member opportunities, please visit the following page on the TerraCorps website at <u>https://terracorps.org/member-position-listing/.</u>

Note: A complete Member application includes a resume and two professional or academic references that you will upload as part of your application.

Member applications will be collected by TerraCorps and shared with Service Sites. <u>Do not send</u> <u>applications directly to a Service Site.</u>

We strongly encourage interested individuals to apply as soon as possible once applications are posted in May 2022. Position offers and acceptances will be made on a rolling basis. The program aims to fill all positions by mid-July, but Service Sites will continue interviews as needed until all positions are filled. For questions about TerraCorps please email <u>spollock@terracorps.org</u>.

Additional Information About this Program

TerraCorps seeks to create change by achieving a broader, more authentic engagement of the diverse peoples living in our communities. When we do this, resources will grow, access to land will increase, the pace of land conservation will accelerate, and whole communities will achieve more resilient futures. To learn more about TerraCorps, visit: <u>https://terracorps.org/</u>.

AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 people in intensive service each year through more than 15,000 nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country. AmeriCorps Members help communities tackle pressing problems and, also leverage their service by mobilizing volunteers to help address community needs for environmental stewardship, health, education, economic opportunity, disaster services, and support to veterans and military families. <u>To learn more about AmeriCorps, visit americorps.gov</u>.

TerraCorps is a grant-funded program contingent upon renewal of federal funding from the AmeriCorps federal agency. TerraCorps is also supported in part by the Massachusetts Service Alliance in MA and Serve RI in Rhode Island.