



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 full-time, 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).

Nuestras Raíces Inc will host a Community Engagement Coordinator for the 2022-23 service year. Information about all TerraCorps positions is available at <https://terra Corps.org/>.

Community Engagement Coordinator with Nuestras Raíces Inc.

Nuestras Raíces Inc.

329 Main St.

Holyoke, MA 01040

www.nuestras-raices.org

Nuestras Raíces is a grassroots urban agriculture organization based in Holyoke, MA. Our mission is to create healthy environments, celebrate "agri-culture," harness our collective energy, and to advance our vision of a just and sustainable future. Since 1992, Nuestras Raíces has been at the center of a growing and vibrant urban agriculture network in Holyoke, MA transforming vacant and polluted lots into a flourishing and empowering community spaces. Today, Nuestras Raíces manages 9 urban community gardens supporting over 100 families to produce fresh locally grown food in the Holyoke community as well as owns a 30-acre farm in the Holyoke area. Nuestras Raíces serves the low-income Latino residents of Holyoke and surrounding communities.

Nuestras Raíces Inc. highly recommends that staff and Terra Corps Service Members be fully vaccinated before the start of the Terra Corps service year. The reason we are encouraging vaccination is that this position will require you to spend a significant amount of time serving in person with farmers, staff, and volunteers. Therefore, for you own safety and the safety of others, we suggest that you get vaccinated to reduce the chances of contracting Covid-19.

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. **Nuestras Raices has proposed the following potential project(s) for their Community Engagement Coordinator:**

1. Create and distribute flyers about current Nuestras Raices' (NR) programs to community members.
2. Publish and promote NR programs on NR website and on NRs social media pages.
3. Organize volunteer days at each community garden site as well as farm site.
4. Promote the availability of community garden plots to the community.
5. Help farm manager fill up CSAs
6. Conduct research and locate potentially new vacant lots to develop as new community garden sites.
7. Utilize creative marketing strategies to attract new community gardeners, members, and farmers.

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 (Excel Spreadsheet, PowerPoint, Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft Office Products, and Canva.)
- Training and experience pertinent to the Community Engagement Coordinator position and projects listed above
- Experience with promoting and marketing to community members and to volunteers
- Strong interpersonal skills. Bilingual (English and Spanish) preferred.
- Knowledge of traditional and digital marketing, content marketing, and social media marketing
- Ability to utilize creativity to enhance marketing materials and strategies

For questions about Nuestras Raices' service positions, contact Hilda Roque, at hroque@nuestras-raices.org

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 11-month 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 <http://www.americorps.gov/members-volunteers/segal-ameri-corps-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 <https://terracorps.org/member-position-listing/>.

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. **Do not send applications directly to a Service Site.**

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 spollock@terracorps.org.

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: <https://terracorps.org/>.

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. [To learn more about AmeriCorps, visit americorps.gov.](#)

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.