PLEASE NOTE: All applications must be submitted through this link - https://form.jotform.com/StewardsIPP/cva-member-application-2027

Position Title: Community Volunteer Ambassador – AmeriCorps

Conservation Legacy Program: Stewards Individual Placements

Site Location: Carl Sandburg Home NHS

81 Carl Sandburg Lane, Flat Rock, NC 28731

Terms of Service:

- **Start Date: 2/22/2027**
- **End Date: 2/4/2028**
- **AmeriCorps Slot Classification: 1700 Hours (50 Weeks)**

Purpose:

Stewards Individual Placements (Stewards), a program of Conservation Legacy, provides individuals with AmeriCorps service and career opportunities to strengthen communities and preserve our natural resources. Participants serve with federal agencies, tribal governments, and nonprofits to provide institutional capacity, develop community relationships, and support ecosystem health. The Community Volunteer Ambassador (CVA) Program combines the strength of a national leader in conservation service with the National Park Service to train emerging leaders to assist park units in building lasting connections to communities.

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site preserves the home of Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and writer Carl Sandburg, known as “the Poet of the People.” Carl Sandburg and his family lived at Connemara for 22 years, during which he continued to build his literary legacy. Of the more than 40 works he published during his lifetime, approximately one-third were published at Connemara, including the work that earned him his third Pulitzer Prize.

The site also preserves the legacy of his wife, Lilian Sandburg, whose passion for dairy goats led to the establishment of Connemara Farms, recognized for its contributions to dairy goat breeding and heritage.

Description of Duties:

The CVA will support youth recruitment in and around local schools for education programming. They will also assist in the development and implementation of hands-on learning experiences, creative projects, youth outreach, and volunteer opportunities. A key responsibility will be assisting with the recruitment and expansion of the park's 30+ year FRESH (Flat Rock Exceptional Sandburg Helpers) program. FRESH introduces youth to goat care and management, as well as the history and significance of Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site, while fostering leadership, responsibility, and civic engagement.

The CVA will also assist with volunteer projects across park divisions, providing opportunities to collaborate with park staff and interns while gaining valuable experience in various aspects of park operations.

Additional responsibilities will include helping develop social media content and promotional materials to increase awareness of park programs and volunteer opportunities.

Finally, the CVA will help plan and lead a volunteer project focused on expanding youth engagement, strengthening community partnerships, and creating new opportunities for young people to connect with and contribute to their national park.

Responsibilities:

- Recruit youth for education programming.
- Development and implement hands-on learning experiences.
- Participate in youth outreach, and volunteer opportunities.
- Assist with the recruitment youth for FRESH (Flat Rock Exceptional Sandburg Helpers) program.
- Assist with volunteer projects across park divisions
- Help develop social media content and promotional materials.
- Help plan and lead a volunteer project focused on expanding youth engagement, strengthening community and partnerships.

Qualifications:

- Driver's License
- Self-motivated
- Active listening skills
- Willingness to learn and take direction

- Passion for community service
- Interest in volunteer coordination and public engagement
- United States citizen, United States national, or a lawful permanent resident alien
- Applicants must be between ages of 18-30 years old, or up to 35 for veterans, based on Public Land Corps Act of 1993 authorizing this AmeriCorps opportunity.
- Has received a high school diploma or equivalency certificate; or has not dropped out of elementary or secondary school to enroll as an AmeriCorps participant, and agrees to obtain a high school diploma or its equivalent prior to using the education award
- Agrees to provide information to establish eligibility and to complete a National Service Criminal History Check.

Preferred Qualifications

- Local applicants
- Prior volunteer experience
- Strong communication skills
- Experience engaging with the general public
- Knowledge of Microsoft/Volunteer.gov
- Leadership experience
- Experience working with Youth
- Experience working with communities of differing backgrounds

Our Commitment:

Conservation Legacy is committed to the full consideration of all qualified individuals and will ensure that persons with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodations to perform essential job functions. Physical requirements may include periodic overnight travel, non-traditional work hours, ability to move across varied terrain, use program-specific tools and a range of technology on an infrequent or frequent basis. Exerting up to 25 pounds of force occasionally to lift, carry, push, pull, or otherwise move objects. The ability to safely drive an organizational vehicle may also be required for some positions. If you need assistance and/or reasonable accommodation due to a disability during the application or recruiting process, please send a request to Vanessa Morrison at vmorrison@conservationlegacy.org

Time Requirements:

- Typically, this position is expected to serve 40 hours per week, but exact service schedules may vary. A half hour lunch break will not be counted towards AmeriCorps service
- Member may be required to participate in national, state, or local service projects or events as part of their service term.

Orientation and Training:

- Member will receive an orientation that includes training on AmeriCorps prohibited and unallowable activities.
- Week-long, in-person training on NPS Volunteer Program Management and leadership schools.
- Year-long Continuum of Learning supporting participant professional development.
- $750.00 in Professional Development Funds for travel and training.

Additional Position and Community Information:

Carl Sandburg Home offers:

- Home of one of the most renowned poets of the 20th century
- Furnished onsite housing
- Hiking Trails
- Geological features
- Historic barn - home to goats, cats, and chickens
- Opportunity to serve with other divisions in the park

Benefits:

- Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of $7,395.00
- Living Allowance of $700.00 per week.
- Healthcare Coverage if Eligible
- Childcare Coverage if Eligible
- Loan forbearance if Eligible
- Interest Payments if Eligible
- 10 Federal Holidays, 10 Days Personal Leave, 10 Days Sick Leave

Evaluation and Reporting:

As an AmeriCorps member, performance will be evaluated on whether the member has completed the required number of hours, the member has satisfactorily completed assignments, and if the member has met other performance criteria that were clearly communicated at the beginning of the term of service.

Reporting requirements include, but are not limited to, bi-weekly timesheets and accomplishment tracking.

Program Contact Information:

Please contact James Gasaway at the contact information below with any questions.

Stewards Contact information: James Gasaway, jgasaway@conservationlegacy.org

Conservation Legacy is an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy, age, national origin, disability status, genetic information, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

We also consider qualified applicants regardless of criminal histories, consistent with legal requirements. If you need assistance and/or reasonable accommodations due to a disability during the application or recruiting process, please send a request to the hiring manager.