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: Colorado National Monument

1750 Rim Rock Dr, Fruita, CO 81521

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.

Colorado National Monument (COLM), located on the Western Slope of Colorado, preserves one of the grandest landscapes of the American West. Situated in the high desert, the monument showcases sweeping red rock canyons, towering monoliths, and unique microclimates. The monument, which receives more than 500,000 visitors annually, provides many recreational uses such as driving and bicycling along Rim Rock Drive, front and backcountry camping, hiking, wildlife viewing, rock climbing, and picnicking.

The Community Volunteer Ambassador (CVA) will serve closely with the local community and COLM's education staff to recruit and develop a wider group of volunteers for education programs, invasive vegetation management, trail upkeep, and more. The nearby Grand Valley contains a service-oriented community with a high number of people, organizations, and nonprofits interested in volunteering at the monument. This position will harness the potential already found in the region.

The monument's current volunteer program has over 60 dedicated volunteers who provide over 6500 hours of service annually. Volunteers work in the visitor center, serve as trail ambassadors, help with special events, and deliver education programs. The CVA's service will: 1) expand group volunteer opportunities, 2) recruit for COLM's volunteer education corps, and 3) formalize internal/external partnerships and processes.

Description of Duties:

- Build and strengthen relationships with local organizations to develop a more broad pool of volunteers, with a focus on group activities and the monument's educational volunteer program.
- Grow skills in management, leadership, and stewardship through service with volunteers and National Park Service staff.
- Be an active, involved part of the interpretation team.
- Gain experience in different conservation fields through training and shadowing different work groups within the monument.

Responsibilities:

- Recruit for and expand our pool of education and group volunteers.
- Develop leadership and networking skills through service with the park, volunteers, community organizations, and schools.
- Serve with park staff and local groups to plan, coordinate, and execute group volunteer programs.

Qualifications:

- Strong interpersonal and teamwork skills.
- Curiosity and motivation to learn.
- Professionalism and ability to represent the National Park Service.
- Basic computer literacy (email, word processing, PDFs, photo editing).
- Bachelor's Degree.
- A valid state driver's license.Ability to pass a background check.
- 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

- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to serve independently and as a part of a team.
- An interest in education and connecting students with park resources.
- An appreciation for conservation and volunteerism.
- Experience in customer service and in working with the public.
- Ability to coordinate with multiple parties on unique projects.
- Experience in social media, graphic design, advertising, or recruitment.

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:

The monument is near the towns of Fruita (7 miles) and Grand Junction (17 miles). The surrounding area has a population of approximately 150,000 people. Most community and commercial facilities are located in Grand Junction, including hospitals, shopping, entertainment, an airport, and over 1 million acres of public land. The climate is dry, high desert with summer daytime temperatures ranging from 85 to 105 degrees Fahrenheit.

Park housing could be a shared 3-bedroom house, shared duplex, or an individual apartment. All residents have their own bedrooms. There is a small employee gym on site.

The CVA will have opportunities to learn more national park operations, including interpretation, natural resource management, and facility maintenance. The selectee may encounter environmental conditions/hazards including sitting/standing/walking for extended periods, extreme heat or cold, sun or wind exposure, rocky, uneven terrain, rainy conditions, winding roads, biting insects, and potentially dangerous wildlife. The CVA is expected to conduct duties in a safe and orderly manner so as not to endanger self, fellow staff/members or resources.

Work schedules are 40hrs/week and may include weekends and holidays.

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.