2023-2024 AmeriCorps Member Position Description

Partner Organization Name: Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana

Corps Member Position Title: Native Plants Program Coordinator

Supervisor: Gardner Goodall

Days/Hours of Service: Monday – Friday from 9-5; with some nights and weekends required. Time will be split evenly between remote, office, and field workdays (primarily at CRCL’s Restoration Headquarters in Violet, LA).

Physical Location: 3801 Canal Street 1000, New Orleans

Organization Mission and/or Goals:

Mission: The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to unite people in action to achieve a thriving, sustainable Louisiana coast for all.

Purpose: CRCL represents a broad spectrum of concerned coastal residents working towards a sustainable future for Louisiana in the face of climate change and wetland loss. Through advocacy we work to ensure that restoring and protecting coastal Louisiana is a top priority for our state and the nation. We also advance on-the-ground restoration through our Native Plants and Oyster Shell Recycling Programs. To build support for coastal protection and sustain as much of Louisiana’s coast as possible, CRCL raises public awareness of the importance of coastal wetlands through community engagement.

Program Mission and/or Goals:

Mission: This position will provide support for CRCL’s restoration programs. CRCL’s Native Plants Program (NPP) builds support for coastal restoration amongst stakeholders by directly improving coastal habitats and serving as a platform to engage and educate the community about coastal land loss issues and solutions. The NPP engages coastal residents in wetland restoration through volunteer planting events.

Goals: CRCL’s restoration programs aim to give hundreds of people a variety of opportunities to get outside and get involved with coastal restoration each year. With a ride range of
programming, CRCL strives to offer everyone the opportunity to engage in solutions for our coast.

**Member Position Summary:**

The Native Plants Program Coordinator will work closely with the Native Plants Program Manager to support ongoing ecological restoration work in the field and at CRCL’s Restoration Headquarters in Violet (St. Bernard Parish). This work includes essential preparations for upcoming planting events, as well as supporting the oyster shell recycling and reef build events, educational tours and field trips, tabling opportunities and monitoring and maintenance activities at restoration project sites. The Native Plants Program Coordinator will be a functional member of CRCL’s Restoration Krewe, a team of engaged members working together to execute 30 to 50 volunteer events per year. Workdays will involve an array of office and field responsibilities, including frequent field days directing and supervising volunteers of varying experience levels in remote locations across coastal Louisiana. This position will require a flexible schedule and some work on weekends.

**Essential Functions of Position:**

- Manage the coordination of logistics, equipment and personnel leading up to and during volunteer planting project days and supervise volunteers during events.
- Work strategically to improve overall program functions toward more successful and impactful volunteer events.
- Collaborate closely with restoration programs staff and other CRCL-based Serve Louisiana corps members.
- Offer support in coordinating and attending events for all three programs.
- Native plant nursery operation support, including watering plants, soil and mulch preparation, seedling propagation and repotting plants.
- Promote CRCL volunteer events and field trips to potential groups as needed.
- Maintain all equipment used in restoration projects.
- Maintain Restoration Headquarters.
- Manage the monitoring of previously planted restoration sites including the collection of field data.
- Contribute to developing media content about CRCL restoration activities.
- As needed, support with the presentation of project data and basic GIS data management for outreach and reporting purposes.
- Provide additional support for CRCL events, such as our annual Shell-a-Bration, the State of the Coast conference (in odd years), annual Stewardship Awards event, Restoration on the Half Shell, etc.

**Skills, knowledge and trainings the corps member should expect to gain from this position**

- First aid/CPR training
● DEIJ workshops
● Internal team-building workshops
● Opportunity to enroll in workshops of interest – such as Master Naturalists
● Frequent networking opportunities across multiple other organizations and agencies
● “Lunch and learn” presentations

Ideal Candidate Qualifications

● Interest in coastal restoration, community engagement and science communication.
● Willingness to work in remote wetland ecosystems with frequent exposure to hot and humid weather conditions.
● Personable and able to work with volunteers of varying ages, backgrounds and abilities.
● Coursework in wetland ecology, environmental studies, environmental science, natural resource management, marine biology, botany or similar is preferred, but not required.
● Experience with fieldwork in a coastal environment.
● Familiarity with Louisiana’s coastal land loss issues and coastal restoration/protection projects is preferred.
● Operational knowledge of Microsoft Office 365 software, particularly Excel
● Enthusiasm for physically demanding work outdoors in various weather/site conditions
● Independent and self-motivated, with leadership and communication skills
● Comfortable working in office, remote, and field work settings
● Ability to serve full time for 11 months (1700 hours)
● Applicant must live in the greater New Orleans area
● Ability to work atypical hours, weekends, and travel for sometimes several days at a time

*Applicant strongly encouraged to possess valid driver’s license, safe driving record, and personal vehicle.