2023-2024 AmeriCorps Member Position Description

Partner Organization Name: Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana

Corps Member Position Title: Outreach and Restoration Coordinator

Supervisor: Will Thinnes

Days/Hours of Service Monday – Friday from 9-5; with some nights and weekends required.

Physical Location: 3801 Canal Street 1000, New Orleans, with some travel required

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:

Serve LA members will support both our Outreach and Restoration departments in pursuit of their mission to educate the public and gather support for coastal restoration. In their role, the member will primarily be supervising volunteers at restoration events, attending events along the coast to promote the mission of CRCL in regards to coastal restoration, coordinate and lead field trips to engage the public, and serve as a liaison between the two departments to ensure that outreach and engagement efforts are supported and continuously improved. Through restoration and outreach event support, the member will help identify engaged individuals who may start as volunteers and thereafter become strong advocates for coastal restoration on various levels.
Member Position Summary:

The Outreach and Restoration Coordinator will work closely with the Outreach and Restoration departments to support each department’s capacity at volunteer and outreach events. For restoration, this work involves preparation for planting and oyster shell recycling events, supervising volunteers at both event types, monitoring the progress of oyster reefs and plant growth, and serving as support for field trip activities. To support the outreach department, the member will learn how to educate the public about a wide array of topics including the problems facing our coast, CRCL’s restoration efforts through our Oyster Shell Recycling Program and Native Plants Program, the state’s restoration efforts through the Coastal Master Plan, volunteer opportunities, and more. The member will then help coordinate community outreach events and presentations along the coast in order to garner public support of coastal restoration efforts. Additionally, the member will serve as a liaison between the Outreach and Restoration departments by regularly communicating with both departments with the goal of engaging and empowering our volunteer base to take further action. This position will largely involve being present at events locally and along the coast, with some night and weekend work and travel required.

Essential Functions of Position:

Restoration Duties

- Support the coordination of logistics, equipment and personnel leading up to and during volunteer restoration project days and supervise volunteers during events.
- Support the supervision of 30 to 70 volunteers from various backgrounds and ages during restoration events.
- Present information about coastal restoration to volunteer groups.
- Identify volunteers who express enthusiasm for advocacy and further action.
- Collaborate closely with restoration programs staff and other CRCL-based Serve Louisiana corps members.
- Promote CRCL volunteer events and field trips to potential groups as needed.
- Maintain all equipment used in restoration projects.
- Monitoring of previously planted restoration sites including the collection of field data.
- Contribute to developing media content about CRCL restoration activities.

Outreach

- Work closely with the Outreach Department to help coordinate, plan and set-up outreach events and presentations.
- Distribute information regarding the mission of CRCL and partner organizations to community members from a diverse range of backgrounds.
- Lead “Coastal 101 Presentations” to educate community members (especially school groups) about the problems facing our coast and potential solutions.
- Introduce engaged volunteers to the Outreach Department to connect volunteers to other supportive opportunities.
• 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 Workshop Opportunities
• Internal team-building workshops
• Opportunity to enroll in workshops of interest – such as Master Naturalists
• Regular networking opportunities, including conferences
• Public speaking skills
• Field work experience
• Event planning and coordination experience

Ideal Candidate Qualifications

• An interest in climate adaptation, coastal environments, climate justice, wetland restoration, flood protection and/or a similarly relevant field.
• Enthusiastic – must have a desire to play a positive role within the community exhibiting the appropriate social and interpersonal skills.
• Self-motivated – the applicant must be comfortable working with limited supervision.
• Ability to work in the field with varying weather conditions, remotely, and in an office environment.
• Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.
• Personable and comfortable interacting with the public – spreading awareness of the issues, coordinating at events, recruiting participants for engagement initiatives, etc.
• Must be able to supervise 50+ volunteers.
• Detail-oriented and able to manage time appropriately.
• Familiarity with Louisiana’s coastal land loss issues and coastal restoration/protection projects is preferred.
• Experience with fieldwork in a coastal environment 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

*Personal vehicle and clean driving record are required.