

ENERGY CORPS AMERICORPS MEMBER POSITION DESCRIPTION

Name and location of host site: Home ReSource & Missoula County Public Schools (MCPS), Missoula, MT

Title: Zero Waste Educator/Planner

Reports to: Jeremy Drake

Term of service: October 2, 2017-August 31, 2018

Anticipated service schedule: 1700 hours over the course of service term. Roughly 40 Hours per week. Occasional evening/weekend hours may be necessary.

Position Summary:

Home ReSource is a building materials reuse center located in Missoula, MT that is committed to reducing waste and building a vibrant and sustainable local economy through Deconstruction Services as well as Community Sustainability Programs. Those programs include education and community Zero Waste efforts, which address the need for more concrete actions to reduce waste and conserve resources and energy, expand awareness of what it takes to build a more resilient community, and deepen community understanding of the benefits of a Zero Waste economy.

The Energy Corps service member will work with Home ReSource and Missoula County Public Schools (MCPS) to draft a district-wide Zero Waste Plan, assist with implementation of pilot Zero Waste initiatives at Franklin Elementary School and possibly other schools, and act as primary coordinator and educator for the Home ReSource Zero Waste Ambassadors Program (ZWAP!), an educational adventure in partnership with MCPS and other Missoula-area schools. The member will also engage in other community Zero Waste education and outreach activities.

Specific Position Responsibilities:

MCPS Zero Waste Planning – 10-30 hours/week – In partnership with Missoula County Public Schools (MCPS), Home ReSource has identified a vision for a Zero Waste school district and identified the opportunities and obstacles to that vision. The service member will research best practices for Zero Waste in public schools and be significantly responsible for drafting a MCPS Zero Waste Plan, including identifying waste stream flows within MCPS and proposing relevant policy, program, and infrastructure recommendations to address them with guidance and support from Home ReSource staff. We will likely implement a stakeholder engagement process that includes students, staff, and faculty in developing the plan to create broad buy-in from those most affected by its implementation and if time allows, implement strategic priorities. MCPS will be open to examination and provide information, support, and advice on priorities and possibilities.

Franklin School Zero Waste Pilot – 0-10 hours/week – A group of motivated faculty and staff from Franklin Elementary School has volunteered to pilot Zero Waste initiatives starting at their new facility in the fall of 2017. The Energy Corps service member will help implement this pilot, including establishing a model Zero Waste Classroom, instituting systems for source-separated resource collection streams, and launching school-wide initiatives to curb cafeteria waste and reduce use of resources that need to be recycled or thrown away in the first place. Home ReSource and the team at Franklin will provide guidance and support to the service member on this activity.

ZWAP! – 10-30 hours/week – Coordination and acting as primary educator of ZWAP! includes becoming familiar with the ZWAP! curriculum and materials, brainstorming ways to refine, improve, or otherwise make the program more engaging for students, and identifying additional methods to evaluate the program’s efficacy. The service member will also help develop curriculum for a 6th grade “Waste Awareness Unit” that aligns with the Montana k-12 Science Content Standards Framework and the Next Generation Science Standards. The service member will coordinate ZWAP! logistics with 5th grade teachers, scheduling a 1-hour classroom session and a 3-hour Home ReSource field trip for each class; then, with ample training and support, the service member will spearhead the delivery of the program both in the classroom and on-site at Home ReSource.

Community Outreach & Education – 0-10 hours/week – The service member will also be instrumental in continuing to build community support and leadership necessary to move Missoula toward Zero Waste, which includes outreach and education, but no political activity. In this area of service, the member will have the opportunity to work with other organizations and engage with a broader effort toward community sustainability and will likely include two key activities: 1. Coordinating the Zero Waste Missoula group as needed, and 2. Assisting in hands-on community Zero Waste activities such as coordinating Zero Waste efforts at the Missoula’s annual Earth Day Celebration, coordinating the Creative Reuse Division of the Western Montana Fair, planning & coordinating educational activities for youth groups, and other opportunities that arise.

Minimum Requirements:

- Must be over 18 with a high school diploma or GED; a strong educational background and/or experience in energy conservation strategies and sustainable energy management and design is preferred
- Sincere and demonstrated interest in environmental sustainability and energy conservation
- Strong interest in Zero Waste & waste reduction, sustainability, and climate
- Has a background in education
- Enjoys working both independently and as a team player
- Is skilled in verbal and written communications and has an interest in transferring information to varied audiences via presentations, websites, social media, and other non-traditional channels
- Is interested in working with kids in a fun, educational setting
- Possesses analytical skills; an affinity for database and detail work preferred
- Has the ability to effectively collaborate with diverse stakeholders and problem solve around tasks
- Enjoys researching cutting edge ideas, policies, and models to implement Zero Waste and build community sustainability
- Member **will** have recurring access to vulnerable populations

Benefits: This Energy Corps position will receive the following benefits:

- Opportunity to make a difference in a community
- Green job training and professional development
- Living allowance of \$12,630 over term of service
- An AmeriCorps Education Award (\$5,815) upon successful completion of service
- Health benefits and child care assistance if qualified

APPLICATION PROCESS: Applications will be accepted through August 18, 2017 or until a suitable candidate can be identified. Early applications are encouraged and applications will be considered as they are received. All persons interested in being considered for the position must submit an Energy Corps application form. The application form may be downloaded at https://www.energycorps.org/pdf_positions/energycorps_app_0614.pdf or requested from Emily Caponi, Energy Corps Program Director. Incomplete applications will not be considered. The completed application form can be emailed to emilyc@ncat.org or sent to:

Emily Caponi
NCAT Energy Corps Program Director
P.O. Box 3838 Butte, MT 59702

NCAT values diversity and encourages minority and women applicants to apply. For additional information about NCAT please visit our website at www.ncat.org. It is NCAT's policy and organizational philosophy to ensure that all of our employment practices, including recruitment and hiring, are administered for all individuals without regard to race, sex, creed, color, national origin, age, religion, marital or veteran status, disability, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.