



**AmeriCorps Member  
Service Opportunity  
Full-Time Position  
1700 hours in 10 months**



The Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission (housed in the Lucas County Commissioners Office) and Local Initiatives Support Corporation are seeking a full-time AmeriCorps member to serve as a Community Engagement Specialist. The candidate will ideally begin service on October 1, 2016 and serve a minimum of 1700 hours through the end of his/her term on July 31, 2017.

**ORGANIZATION BACKGROUNDS**

The Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission seeks to educate, engage, and act throughout the region around all issues connecting natural, social, and economic systems. Using the Going Beyond Green Sustainability Plan as a framework, this group of representatives from local businesses, governments, and non-profit organizations supports and tells the story of sustainability efforts for our region. The Sustainability Commission has prior experience with AmeriCorps member positions and has agreed to serve as the sponsoring organization for this project.

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) is dedicated to helping community residents transform distressed neighborhoods into healthy and sustainable communities of choice and opportunity — good places to work, do business and raise children. LISC combines corporate, government and philanthropic resources to help community-based organizations revitalize underserved neighborhoods. This strategy extends to the LISC AmeriCorps program where we support placing AmeriCorps Members with local non-profit partners. Members assist in efforts to revitalize underserved neighborhoods across America and create vibrant places for people to live, work, and play.

**AMERICORPS MEMBER ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The member selected to serve in this capacity will be responsible for:

- Supporting activities related to Lucas County water quality initiatives. This will include generation of educational outreach materials and mechanisms for communicating deliverables from projects like Clear Water 2 (a campaign for information sharing, and education addressing Lake Erie’s harmful algal blooms) and the Western Lake Erie Nutrient Source Inventory to individuals and organizations throughout Lucas County
- (Pending funding) Acting as neighborhood liaison for a grant program focused on implementation of green storm water infrastructure in distressed neighborhoods. This includes education and outreach about green storm water management and volunteer recruitment for planning and planting activities
- Working closely with the Northwest Ohio Food Council to assist in the development of Lucas County local food initiative. This will include a focus on partnering with local food organizations and recruiting volunteers to advance food initiatives in areas including, but not limited to,
  - Urban agriculture as a beneficial use of vacant and abandoned properties
  - Equitable access to local, healthy food in neighborhood “food deserts”
- Supporting activities as part of the Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission including:
  - Chairing the Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission Public Engagement and Marketing subcommittee; coordinating and managing volunteer members
  - Promoting the Living Green, Saving Green energy efficiency program

**MEMBER INITIALS & DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LISC PD APPROVAL:** **SMR Approved**

- Increasing organizational capacity to connect with Lucas County residents (outreach materials, educational events, newsletter, and website/social media updates)

Daily Activities Include:

- Collaborating with governmental and community partners aligned with sustainability initiatives
- Communications and social media activities, including maintenance of the Sustainability Commission website, Facebook, and Twitter
- Coordinating volunteers for working groups and projects
- Representing community sustainability as part of the Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission at partner initiative meetings (Rain Garden Initiative, Northwest Ohio Food Council, LiveWell, Green Infrastructure Task Force, TMACOG Water Quality Council, and neighborhood organizations)
- Research, data collection/analysis, and report-writing in support of projects/initiatives

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICE REQUIREMENTS**

Members perform day to day service at Lucas County Land Bank and are expected to attend and participate in all LISC AmeriCorps sponsored activities including but not limited to:

- Attending a national leadership conference tentatively scheduled for March 2017;
- Attending all locally sponsored monthly meetings;
- Participating in nationally sponsored webinars;
- Actively participating in at least two locally identified and team coordinated service projects (one for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service and one for National AmeriCorps Week); and,
- Engaging in any other LISC events as determined by the local LISC office.

This is an AmeriCorps position. LISC and Lucas County Land Bank will not allow the member to engage in activities that are considered prohibited under the terms of the grant while serving as a LISC AmeriCorps member.

**DESIRED SKILLS**

- Desire and ability to work with a diverse group of people, particularly those living in low-income distressed neighborhoods
- Ability to work independently and in a team environment
- Computer proficiency in email/internet research, Microsoft Office, and (ideally) Weebly
- Experience working in communications or coordinating outreach efforts
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Ability to work a flexible schedule (some night and weekends may be required)
- Basic understanding of sustainability and the triple bottom line (people, profit, planet)
- Basic working knowledge of local food systems
- Basic working knowledge of water quality challenges and solutions

**PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

To be eligible to participate as a LISC AmeriCorps member the candidate must meet all eligibility requirements to serve as a National Service participant including but not limited to:

- Be eligible to earn 100% of a full-time education award
- Be eligible to perform a term of national service
- Possess a high school degree, GED certificate or agree to achieve GED during the term of service
- Be at least 17 years of age (note there is no upper age limit)
- Have unexpired proof of status as a US citizen or possess permanent resident status and be able to provide documentation as determined by CNCS

- Be available to serve for a full 10 month period of time
- Be able to complete at least 1700 hours of service within the 10 months of service as well as serve the full term of the service

### **NATIONAL SERVICE CRIMINAL HISTORY SEARCH REQUIREMENT**

If a candidate has a criminal record, it does not necessarily make a candidate ineligible for service. Only candidates who are subject to registry on the National Sex Offender Public Website or have been convicted of First Degree Murder may not participate as an AmeriCorps member. Only candidates being offered and then accepting the position must consent to a search of the National Sex Offender Public Website, a State Level Criminal History Search and an FBI search. Consent is provided via the LISC AmeriCorps application.

### **PROGRAM BENEFITS**

Upon successful completion of the term of service, the member will be eligible for a \$5,775 education award to pay off existing, eligible student loans or return to school. The position pays a total stipend of \$15,000. The stipend is taxable and paid in 20 equal checks twice a month from LISC. Direct deposit is highly encouraged. A health care benefit is available for the participant only (dependents are not eligible). For members with children under the age of 13, there is a child care subsidy benefit available which is dependent on the participant meeting all eligibility requirements (This benefit is administered by a contracted provider via the Corporation for National and Community Service).

### **HOW TO APPLY:**

Send cover letter and resume to the attention of:

Melissa Greene  
Lucas County Sustainability Coordinator  
One Government Center, Suite 800  
Toledo OH 43604  
Phone: 419.213.4530  
Fax: 419.213.4299  
mgreene@co.lucas.oh.us

Deadline for applications is Monday August 15, 2016 at 4:30 PM

*We promote equal opportunity in selecting AmeriCorps members.  
We are committed to diversity and inclusion in the selection process.*