



Position Title: Sustainability Assistant

Position Service Site: Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration (St. Rose Convent in La Crosse, WI)

Service Time: September 5, 2023 – August 16, 2024 (1,700 Hour AmeriCorps Term, 50 weeks, 35 hours per week)

Benefits: Living stipend total for whole term = \$23,000 (\$460 per week), Education Award = \$6,895.00 upon successful completion of service. Health insurance optional (1 year/1,700 hour positions only, who are not already covered)

Requirements: Covid-19 vaccine required.

OVERVIEW: Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration's goal is to provide young environmental leaders with the opportunity to gain relevant professional experience that serve the environment and the community by supporting healthy urban and rural ecosystems. The organization is focused on combating climate change and building more sustainable practices within the St. Rose convent, and on supporting others connected to understanding the intersections of people and planet.

Learn more at fspa.org/land

SERVICE DESCRIPTION: FSPA's Sustainability Assistant will aid in living out the commitment to care for Earth assisting the Office of Integral Ecology in researching and promoting climate conscious ways of living and working, providing education and outreach to the congregation and the communities in which they serve, engaging the community, and managing programs to support the FSPA ministries.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Community Improvement

- Willingness to learn the impacts of climate change on the Driftless region and Wisconsin, and help educate others how to mitigate those impacts and build a resilient community.
- Collect and track the congregation's greenhouse gas emission and provide information and educational support for the Sisters' Laudato Si Commitment. Baseline information includes energy, transportation and food.
- Support the development and implementation of the FSPA Laudato Si Action Plan (Climate Action Plan) including the development of standard operating procedures.
- Increase environmental awareness and promote sustainability through community outreach events.
- Design and implement at least one program on sustainable business practices (recycling, print management, food procurement, etc...) sharing what you've learned with members of the local community; may present to the FSPA community towards the end of service.
- Identify and develop virtual resources related to climate action in the Driftless region.
- In the case of natural disasters, AmeriCorps member may be recruited to assist the community.

Programming

- Research and design projects that incorporate baseline information from the community to foster achievement of the FSPA Laudato Si Action Plan and work to advance FSPA Laudato Si project goals.
- Assist with designing, improving, and updating kiosks, signs, and brochures as related to the FSPA Laudato Si Action Plan and projects at St. Rose Convent.
- Work with Sisters, Affiliates, staff and local universities to create community-focused climate awareness campaigns and working on a greenhouse gas inventory.
- Assist FSPA land projects working in the garden, greenhouse, orchard, woodlands and prairies when needed.

Program Marketing

- Help create or curate simple “how-to” videos, including but not limited to sustainable lifestyles, recycling, composting, etc.
- Create an outreach plan to connect with local and regional environmental and eco-justice organizations to enhance the FSPA Laudato Si Action Plan and projects.
- Track progress and develop reports on specific sustainability and environmental measures.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- A team player and good communicator with flexible attitude and eagerness to learn
- Physically active and able to lift at least 30 lbs. (occasionally 50lbs) with stooping and bending
- Ability to present, virtually and in-person to a variety of stakeholders and the general public
- Able to work in all weather conditions conducive of Wisconsin
- Physically able to work long days outside on steep, rugged terrain
- An intrepid sense of curiosity and enthusiasm about research
- Willing to interact inter-generationally and inter-culturally
- Ability to take direction and accept constructive criticism
- Ability to prioritize and handle multiple tasks
- Attention to detail and organizational skills
- Strong sense of responsibility and follow-through
- Education and/or experience in community health, recreation management, education, environmental studies, sustainability, and climate resilience a plus
- Technology proficient in platforms such as Google Workspace and Microsoft Office
- Withstand the physical demands of work which involves some lifting, carrying, bending and hiking across uneven terrain
- Ability to perform the essential duties of the position with or without reasonable accommodation
- Ability to multitask and shift schedule and priorities to meet changing conditions
- Upon hire, a criminal background check will be conducted. Service with WisCorps will be considered probationary until all results are returned and have been reviewed

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