



2009-2010 JustServe AmeriCorps Member Position Opening

Open Until Filled – Apply Now!

Program Mission & Areas of Service: JustServe AmeriCorps works for a just and safe community by placing national service volunteers in anti-poverty, anti-violence efforts throughout Seattle/King County. In the upcoming 2009-2010 national service year, Solid Ground will place a team of 34 full-time JustServe AmeriCorps Members in approximately 15 local Criminal Justice System agencies, schools, community-based organizations and faith-based organizations to:

- Provide leadership development, conflict resolution skills, service learning, mentoring, support groups and/or violence prevention education for middle and high school aged youth at risk of violence and incarceration.
- Provide crisis intervention, safety planning and advocacy to domestic violence victim/survivors.
- Provide re-entry support to people returning to the community after incarceration.
- Help adult facing homelessness, joblessness and other issues related to poverty to participate in positive community service programs and social service referrals, as an alternative to incarceration.
- Recruit and mobilize community members of all ages to get involved in anti-violence, social justice efforts throughout Seattle/King County.

Member Commitment & Benefits: JustServe AmeriCorps Members commit to an 11-month term of service, full time (40 hours/week) for a minimum of 1700 hours from September 1st, 2009 to July 31st, 2010. Members receive a living stipend of \$1,036/month (pre-tax) and a \$4,725 post-secondary educational award (on completion of year of service). Health insurance is provided, if needed. Limited childcare benefits are provided, if income eligible. The AmeriCorps stipend does not reduce eligibility for government benefits such as Basic Food (food stamps), TANF and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Members may attend school or hold other employment outside of AmeriCorps service hours; however, those activities may not conflict with AmeriCorps team activities or the Member's work schedule at their site.

The JustServe AmeriCorps service year starts with a mandatory 7-day Team Orientation from September 1st to September 11th. Members also attend 9:00am to 5:00pm Friday team meetings throughout the service year (weekly September to December 2009, biweekly January to July 2010), two overnight team retreats and at least four national Days of Service. These activities are counted within the 40 hour/week AmeriCorps schedule. Please see below for specific service hours at the site placement, outside of team activities.

General Eligibility Requirements: Must be at least 18 years old; 21 years old for some placements working with youth. There is no maximum age for our team and adults of all ages are encouraged to apply. Must have a high school diploma or complete GED before the end of the AmeriCorps year; additional educational background required for some placements. Must pass a state criminal records and national sex offender registry check (to work unsupervised with youth or vulnerable adults). Placements at Seattle Police Department and Seattle Law Department also require an additional, more extensive background check. Documentation of U.S. citizen, national or permanent resident status required at the time of enrollment. In addition, all JustServe AmeriCorps applicants should demonstrate a strong commitment to service to the community, working to end violence and poverty, and working to undo racism, classism, sexism, ageism, ableism, heterosexism/homophobia/transphobia and other forms of oppression that perpetuate violence and poverty in our community. Solid Ground provides equal employment opportunity to national service Members without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual preference or status as a veteran.



JustServe AmeriCorps - a program of Solid Ground
Email: justserve@solid-ground.org
Phone: 206.957.4779

**JustServe AmeriCorps Member Position Description:
Prisoners' Education Network, University Behind Bars**

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Site Placement: Prisoners' Education Network, University Behind Bars

- This site is seeking **one full-time** (40 hours/week, minimum of 1700 hours over the 11-month AmeriCorps term) or **two half-time** (average of 20 hours/week, minimum of 900 hours over the 11-month AmeriCorps term). Please note: Half-time JustServe AmeriCorps positions receive a reduced, \$518/month living stipend and \$2,362.50 AmeriCorps Education Award. health insurance is not provided for half-time positions.

Member Activities & Responsibilities: The JustServe AmeriCorps Member placed at Prisoners' Education Network will help recruit, support and mobilize community members to support University Behind Bars college courses for incarcerated men at Washington State Reformatory, Monroe—located about one hour northeast of Seattle. The JustServe AmeriCorps position will be tailored as much as possible to the skills and interests of our Member. Duties may include: Teaching college level classes to a group of interested prisoners (we have offered political science, film history, sociology, sociology of race and ethnicity, psychology, business, African American history, and humanities). Tutoring individual or small groups of prisoners to help bring them up to college level in writing and math. Event planning (this year PEN sponsored a film festival, an academic fair at the prison, a Soul Food luncheon). The Member will attend monthly PEN board meetings and, most likely, be at the prison for a half-day or more each week.

For more detailed information about this JustServe AmeriCorps placement's goals, tasks, activities and timeline please see the 2009-2010 JustServe AmeriCorps Member Work Plan.

Required Skills & Experience: The Member must be at least 21 years old to enter the prison. Ability to work independently is required, as PEN is an all-volunteer organization.

Desired Skills & Experience: Strong initiative and creativity. Strong interest in teaching. Some college work or a college degree. Confidence and ability to maintain personal boundaries. Personal life experience with incarceration preferred.

Hours of Service: The Member's schedule will be flexible, to be determined in advance by the Site Supervisor and Member. Most likely, the Member will be at the prison two days per week and at the board meeting and a committee meeting one day per month. The Member will meet at least weekly with the Site Supervisor to go over plans and schedules, but will otherwise be expected to complete the work independently, staying in touch by phone and email. Occasional evening and weekend hours.

The service day includes a 30-minute lunch break each day which does not count for AmeriCorps service hours. When evening or weekend hours are worked, flex time will be provided during the same AmeriCorps timecard period, to be approved in advance by the Site Supervisor.

Site Supervisor: Ruth Gregory, ruth@prisonersedu.org, 425/864-1185 or My-Lan Dodd, mylan@prisonersedu.org, 206/931-9302, Seattle office location to be announced, prison location: 16700 177th Ave. SE, Monroe, WA 98272.



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How to Apply: Positions are open until filled, *so apply now!* To apply online, go to www.americorps.org. After creating your account in My AmeriCorps and submitting your AmeriCorps application, search for "JustServe AmeriCorps, at Solid Ground" and click to apply. If you have questions about the online application process or if you would like to submit a paper AmeriCorps application, please go to www.solid-ground.org or call Solid Ground's AmeriCorps Recruitment line at 206-926-9000. For a complete list of the (34) different JustServe AmeriCorps Member positions available in the 2009-2010 team, go to: www.solid-ground.org/AmeriCorps/JustServe. Applicants complete a general AmeriCorps interview at Solid Ground before interviewing at placement sites.



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