Service Position Title: AMERICORPS LEAP INITIATIVE—Early Childhood Development

Service Position Summary:

We are making effective strides in building the early childhood education and development movement in southern Minnesota. Become a part of making a difference in the lives of our youngest citizens’ school readiness preparation for Kindergarten. Take the LEAP and experience amazing personal and professional rewards!

The Facts

- AmeriCorps LEAP (Learning Early Achieves Potential) Initiative members serve in early childcare centers to focus on the social and emotional development of preschoolers in Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation's 20-county region
- AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 Americans each year in service to meet critical needs of the community
- We recruit, connect, and match members to service positions within classrooms to work one-on-one with preschool children who are at-risk of falling behind

Financial Benefits

- $1,242 monthly living allowance for full time (1700 hours) service ($621 monthly for half time/900 hours)
- $6,195 Segal education award to attend college, graduate school or pay qualified student loans ($3,098 HT)
- Forbearance and interest paid for qualifying student loans
- Health coverage and childcare support

Work Life and Skill Benefits

- Gain valuable skills and experiences in areas that interest you and translate directly into job experience
- Learn teamwork, communication, responsibility, and other essential skills that will help you for the rest of your life, while gaining personal satisfaction from taking on a challenge
- Many members find their service year provides more experience and skills than a traditional, paying job
- Receiving valuable personal and professional training
- Be eligible for a variety of benefits

As an AmeriCorps member, you will:

- Experience the satisfaction of incorporating service into your life and making a critical difference in the lives of children, families and your country
Apply your skills meeting critical early childhood needs in southern Minnesota.

Work 1:1 and in small groups helping children, ages 3-5, build social/emotional proficiencies for Kindergarten.

Build relationships with children; provide positive recognition and specific interventions that build skills of empathy, emotion regulation and social skills.

Share information and resources with parents and caregivers to increase awareness for routine reading and other activities that build bonds and school readiness skills.

Encourage more citizens to become early childhood advocates, champions, and volunteers.

Eligibility Criteria
- Must be over 18 with a GED or high school diploma
- Two years post high school work (college degree preferred for some positions)
- Proof of citizenship or legal status; pass in southern Minnesota background check screening

LEAP is a national service donor sponsorship of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation—Early Childhood Development, ServeMinnesota, and the Corporation for National and Community Service.

We are committed to recruiting and engaging individuals without regard to disability, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation. Reasonable accommodations provided upon request.

Document available in alternative formats.

For more information regarding this job application please visit: https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?id=8437&fromSearch=true

If you have any additional questions, contact Barbara Gunderson (AmeriCorps LEAP Director) at barbarag@smifoundation.org.