

Move for America Fellowship Position Description

Project Period: August 26, 2024, through August 24, 2025

Site Name: Lakes Country Service Cooperative

Location: 1001 East Mount Faith Ave, Fergus Falls, MN 56537 Hybrid, with regularly scheduled on-site time expected.

Supervisor: Staci Allmaras, Director of the Regional Center of Excellence

Host Site Organization Description

(target max 100 words)

Lakes Country Service Cooperative (LCSC) is a self-supporting public organization created by the legislature to provide planning and services to school districts, higher education, local governments, and community nonprofits. We have approximately 125 employees working in a hybrid work environment with the exception of two Setting IV special education programs. Our multiple services range from direct student programs to administrative and organizational support across our community. We strive to be a leading and learning organization connecting the public and nonprofit communities in ways that further strong communities.

Project Description

(target max 100 words; include specifics about)

LCSC is designing a sustainable summer leadership opportunity for youth centered on building youth voice and civic understanding in our local rural communities. Our vision is to create a sustainable youth community leadership academy focused on youth participation in community and civic life. We will focus on developing a program in which youth learn leadership skills by conducting a project in conjunction with local community officials and leaders. We will recruit a diverse (socio-economic, cultural) cohort of youth annually to participate in the academy.

Goals of the Project

- Communities find value and a place to incorporate Youth voices into their community structure.
- Youth learn about the practical and political aspects (the civics) of their community.
- Youth learn leadership skills to cocreate positive outcomes for themselves and their community.
- Youth see themselves in the future community workforce, including in local government, and/or as citizen leaders contributing to the sustainability of their chosen community.

Responsibilities

- Meet with schools, youth, and local communities to introduce the Youth Academy vision.
- Participate in designing and conducting community feedback sessions.

- Research models from other communities.
- Participate as a team member in designing the final vision of the Youth Academy.
- Participate as a team member in designing the logistics of the project.
- Participate in research on long-term funding sources.

Qualifications

We seek candidates who:

- Are curious and want to learn.
- Want to further develop communication and facilitation skills.
- Understand, or have experience in, mostly rural communities.
- Want to gain experience in planning and project development.
- Have enthusiasm for elevating youth voice, community building, sustainable futures, and related areas.
- Appreciate working in a team with distributed leadership.

For Move for America Fellowship qualifications and program information, please visit:
www.move4america.org/projects