



**PY 23-24 Team UP AmeriCorps
Core Track
Position Description**

Supportive Programming Specialist

Program Overview: Led by the United Way of SWCO (UWSWC), Team UP AmeriCorps places AmeriCorps members at organizations throughout Southwest Colorado. Through collaborative service, Team UP AmeriCorps members develop their own professional skills and passions, expand effectiveness of southwest Colorado organizations, and ultimately support people to thrive. Team UP has been utilizing collective impact initiatives since 2015 to collaborate across sectors and promote communication towards common goals within rural Southwest Colorado communities. Team UP AmeriCorps members provide direct service to improve outcomes in Education, Economic Opportunity & Healthy Futures. AmeriCorps, often referred to as the “domestic Peace Corps,” provides opportunities to improve lives and foster civic engagement all across the country.

Housing Solutions for the Southwest (HSSW) is a nonprofit based in Durango, Colorado focused on affordable housing programs and building housing stability in our communities. HSSW’s participation in the Team UP AmeriCorps program is an effort to expand the services offered to residents in our permanent supportive housing program at Espero apartments and Statewide Supportive Housing Expansion Pilot Project.

Service Position Summary: The Supportive Programming Specialist will expand supportive services for tenants at Espero apartments and Emergency Housing Voucher program participants through the Statewide Supportive Housing Expansion Pilot Project (SWSHE). The member will provide direct services to Espero residents and people exiting homelessness and transitioning into housing. The member will identify tenancy-sustaining services for individuals with complex needs and work with program staff to find new and creative ways to deliver needed services.

Duties and Responsibilities: Through hands-on-service, Team UP AmeriCorps members engage with organizations to develop, implement, and enhance programs, projects, and activities that develop their own skills, expand effectiveness of southwest Colorado organizations, and support local people to thrive. These duties include:

- Provide direct service to people experiencing homelessness, including assessment, support, application assistance, and connections with additional community resources
- Plan and facilitate recreation and socialization opportunities for Espero tenants and SWSHE participants
- Engage Espero residents and SWSHE participants in volunteer opportunities
- Provide basic technological assistance to support Espero residents and SWSHE participants

- Assess tenancy-sustaining services and identify gaps
- Develop new and creative ways to fill gaps and deliver supportive services to Espero residents and SWSHE participants
- Track host site and AmeriCorps data
- Attend Team UP AmeriCorps regional trainings, cohort connection days, and Days of Service

Physical, Emotional, and Intellectual Demands:

- Willingness to learn, adapt, and grow in a position
- Ability to serve independently, take initiative, and be motivated by the projects they are doing
- Compassion and awareness: self-awareness, awareness of cultural differences, social differences and understanding of implicit bias
- Strong commitment to justice, equity, diversity and inclusion

Desired Qualifications:

- Ethic of national and community service and a strong desire to create positive change
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing; computer literate
- High School Graduate required (GED accepted,) college graduate or equivalent work experience preferred
- Ability to pass criminal history check
- Reliable transportation & proof of auto insurance
- U.S. Citizenship or lawful permanent resident status required
- Individuals with lived experience are encouraged to apply

Term of Service - Time Commitment: This is a Half-Time national and community service position requiring, at a minimum, a total of 900 hours during the year (approximately 20 hours/week.) The position begins September 7, 2023 and ends August 31, 2024. Flexible hours are required, including occasional evening and weekend commitments. Service on the following dates is required (note that Days of Service dates are subject to change):

- September 7-8: Team UP AmeriCorps Member Orientation
- September 11-12: Host Site Orientation
- Jan. 16th : MLK Jr. Day of Service Event
- March/April TBD: Cesar Chavez Day of Service Event
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Training and Support Provided: Team UP AmeriCorps members receive significant training and experience in community engagement, project implementation, leadership, diverse populations, and more. Up to 20% of total hours served may be spent in applicable, approved trainings. Members will be supervised and supported by HSSW's Espero Program Manager Kelsey Schumacher (kschumacher@swhousingsolutions.com), as well as by Team UP AmeriCorps program staff. The PY 23-24 cohort of Team UP AmeriCorps members serving throughout the region will act as additional resources and support for each other.

Location and Service Conditions: This position is based at Espero Apartments. Additional other off-site engagement and partnership activities may be required.

Benefits:

- A living allowance of approx. \$1,014.75/month. Taxes are deducted and the living allowance is distributed by direct deposit to the member's bank account twice monthly.
- An education award of \$3,447.50 upon successful completion of term of service.
- Health Insurance
- Childcare Assistance, if qualifications are met
- It is possible to temporarily postpone repayment of qualified student loans through forbearance while serving as an AmeriCorps member
- Mileage reimbursement for travel to required AmeriCorps trainings, events, and days of service
- Non-tangible benefits including extensive training, valuable experience, networking, and the opportunity to serve the local community in a crucial area of need

Diversity and Equal Opportunity: United Way values the diversity of our community. In principle and in practice the diverse nature of our board, staff, and volunteers is recognized as one of our best assets. We respect each individual's unique gifts and prohibit unfair or discriminatory practices against anyone because of age, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, gender, sexual orientation, and any other protected category.

To Apply:

Step 1. Email a cover letter and resume to Team UP AmeriCorps Coordinator Lindsay Luttrell @ LindsayL@unitedway-swco.org. Be sure to indicate which position(s) you are interested in.

Step 2. Create an account on myAmeriCorps.gov and submit an application for the <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?fromSearch=true&id=118408>

Please complete BOTH steps to apply.