American Connection Corps Fellowship Program

Tillamook County Creamery Association is sponsoring two fellowship opportunities in Oregon, one located in Tillamook County, and the other in Morrow County. This document has been developed as a recruitment tool to be shared amongst interested stakeholders.

Overview

The American Connection Project (ACP), Lead For America (LFA), the Tillamook County Creamery Association (TCCA) and seventeen other organizations are teaming up to mobilize young leaders to return to their hometowns to coordinate broadband development & digital inclusion locally, and across the country. The American Connection Corps (ACC) will be the nation’s largest fellowship program focused on bridging the digital divide and building the next generation of leaders. The ACC will empower a new generation of young leaders to help bring connectivity to their home regions, addressing a critical need while retaining talent. As part of the national network, ACC Fellows will have access to premiere national training on community organizing, broadband and digital inclusion, and a network of young homecomers nationwide. Fifty ACC Fellows will serve their home communities in twelve states through high-impact, high-urgency two-year placements.

Responsibilities

For some Fellows, their project scopes will be coordinating local partners to access federal and state resources for broadband access. In others, it means delivering digital literacy to those most marginalized. Through the multiplier effect, Fellows will capture compelling local stories, and connect young people to newly identified opportunities. Fellows will be mentored to develop a community venture, which could be starting a business, nonprofit, or community group that addresses local needs and fulfills their individual passions.

The fellowship is based on 4 components:

- **Project Scope**: Fellows add capacity for their public institution to tackle a community-identified “grand challenge”. By working within public institutions, they will gain access to and develop an understanding of the key roles that they can play in growing & sustaining a vibrant community.
- **Leadership Development + Support**: Fellows participate in a summer Catalyst Institute where they learn alongside professionals, academics, and social sector leaders across a multitude of fields, and receive leadership development, equity, and character-building training. Administered in partnership with Tufts University’s Tisch College of Civic Life, Harvard’s Kennedy School of
Government, and the University of Minnesota. Fellows also engage in ongoing training, mentorship, support, and retreats throughout their two years of service.

**Listening Tour + Community Venture:** Fellows conduct a Listening Tour of their community to identify areas where their unique talents and passions can serve greater community needs and inspire them to launch a Community Venture.

**Multiplier Effect:** Fellows will identify emerging opportunities for their communities and mobilize others, to seize them and invest in their communities alongside them.

Fellows are catalysts for a much larger revitalization and are deeply committed to supporting their community’s flourishing. To be a Lead for America Fellow is to deeply commit to another way of moving through the world. All backgrounds, experiences and skills can help Fellows be effective during their two years and beyond. A few things sought after in every Fellow: integrity; humility; a deep commitment to a life of selflessness and community service; a willingness to learn and co-create the fellowship experience; a genuine excitement for being part of a much larger movement; outstanding leadership skills; and a profound commitment to serving others.

**Eligibility**
- Be a US Citizen, Permanent Resident, or DACA Recipient.
- You’ll have earned your undergraduate degree by June 2021 (this can include an associate degree) or graduated with your first undergraduate degree in 2011 or later.
- Must have a strong connection to the state you hope to serve in.

**Timeline**
- Application Deadline: June 15
- Host - Fellow Matches: June 24 - 30
- July 6: Fellows Announced
- Training in Shreveport, LA: July 24 - August 4
- Fellowship Service Starts: August 16

Application and further information are available at: [https://www.lead4america.org/american-connection-corps](https://www.lead4america.org/american-connection-corps)

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