“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all the darkness.”

- DESMOND TUTU

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS

MEDSERVE

MedServe is an AmeriCorps program that matches prospective healthcare providers with primary care clinics in NC to serve medically underserved communities.

MedServe fellows accomplish this by serving in the clinic and in the community. At Piedmont Health Services, a MedServe host clinic, fellows have recently begun “TeleService” given the COVID-19 pandemic. They are using the Zoom platform to conduct remote meetings and to provide TeleHealth visits for their patients.

To learn more about this AmeriCorps program, visit https://www.med-serve.org/.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Will Garrison is an AmeriCorps member through MedServe. He serves at Chatuge Family Practice in rural Hayesville, NC. His role has changed considerably given the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, his responsibilities are 1) screening all clinic visitors for symptoms before entering the non-contagious side of the building and 2) testing their high-risk acute patients under suspicion for COVID-19. Here’s what Will had to say about his service: “Our fears of bringing the virus home to our loved ones has been exasperated by our rural community’s PPE shortage, but I think we have done well to adapt and keep our patients and ourselves feeling safe. Our staff has done our best to support our community and each other through this uncertain time, and I am proud of my team’s response!” Thanks, Will, for your critical service during this time!
**PROJECT CONSERVE**

AmeriCorps Project Conserve is based out of Western North Carolina with 30 members and 14 host sites that address critical conservation needs in the region. Members address these needs through conservation education, volunteer engagement, and at-risk ecosystem work on trails, rivers, and public lands. Members also participate in team activities that bring together members who share similar passions for conservation! This includes Wilderness First Aid training and opportunities for service/learning days planned by members. Recently, members conducted a clean-up of the French Broad River and created a piece of “eco-art” to share with others the importance of thinking about our impact on the planet.

To learn more about Project Conserve visit https://conservingcarolina.org/americorps/projectconserve/

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**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

Hannah Latragna is a Project Conserve AmeriCorps member at Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy. In her position she provides accessible and equitable youth conservation education to community centers and after schools programs. She also works to build partnerships with and provide support services to community-based organizations that represent diverse groups with a mission to get people outside. In her position, Hannah has had the opportunity to expand SAHC’s education programming by creating unique experiences to engage children in the outdoors through a combination of craft and movement activities. This position has helped her realize the important role that non-profit organizations play in making outdoor experiences and education available to all people.

Thank you, Hannah, for your service!

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**UPCOMING NC AMERICORPS EVENTS**

There are no current upcoming events due to COVID-19.


Looking for additional opportunities to serve those in your community visit: https://www.nc.gov/agencies/volunteer/disaster-assistance

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