

## **Program Development VISTA Lahontan Audubon Society**

### **Summary:**

The Program Development VISTA will expand the participant base of the Lahontan Audubon Society (LAS) through the development of new programs and incorporation of equity, diversity, and inclusivity (EDI) principles. These efforts will help ensure that low-income youth and adults are being active in their parks and open spaces.

The Program Development VISTA will develop and improve programs through incorporation of equity, diversity, and inclusivity principles to promote community health and stewardship initiatives.

**Lahontan Audubon Society (LAS)** is an independent chapter of the National Audubon Society, and a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, serving northern Nevada and the Reno/Sparks metropolitan area since 1972. Currently, LAS is actively growing its constituent base and has identified increased diversity in program participants as one of its key strategic goals. LAS's focus is on conservation of birds through education, advocacy, and stewardship. The AmeriCorps VISTA member will be an integral part of the "Healthy Parks, Healthy People" initiative focusing on improving people's health and wellness and developing people's appreciation for the natural and cultural history found in local parks.

### **Position Description:**

With the direction of the Executive Director and Board of Trustees, the Program Development VISTA will develop programs and a community outreach plan to engage new audiences in LAS's mission. The VISTA will collaborate with community partners to understand barriers to participation and create opportunities for program attendees and volunteers. The VISTA will recruit and train volunteers to ensure the longevity of new programs and partnerships including EDI principals. The VISTA will also research and pursue funding opportunities to support new programs and diversity initiatives. Additionally, the VISTA will develop marketing and communications strategies focused on increasing inclusivity and promoting new and existing LAS programs.

LAS and Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation are proud to be an Equal Opportunity Employer. Our team represents a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and abilities, and we strive to act with mutual respect, integrity, and care. We seek candidates whose personal and/or professional experiences have prepared them to share in our commitment to fostering connections and inclusion with diverse people both within our office and in the outdoors.

**Service Location:** Reno, NV

**Timeline for Service:** October 3, 2022 - October 2, 2023

**Primary Responsibilities:**

- Develop new programs and evaluate existing programs for adherence to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity principles;
- Implement marketing and program initiatives to increase diversity in program participants;
- Develop and maintain community partnership to increase LAS's reach;
- Create opportunities for volunteers to support LAS's mission;
- Implement and improve community outreach and marketing plans to recruit new participants,
- Research, write, and report on grants to support new programs and diversity initiatives;
- Recruit, train, and manage new and established volunteers to support programs.

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree;
- Commitment to the Lahontan Audubon Society mission and vision;
- High degree of initiative and spirit of service;
- Environmental consciousness;
- Ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment;
- Exceptional oral and written communication skills;
- Strong organizational skill;
- Preferred: experience developing community partnerships
- Preferred: experience with volunteer management and recruitment;
- Reading, writing, and speaking competency in Spanish a plus.

**AmeriCorps VISTA:**

Lahontan Audubon Society's Program Development Coordinator VISTA is funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service and will serve within the AmeriCorps VISTA program. AmeriCorps VISTA is the national service program designed specifically to fight poverty. Each VISTA member makes a year-long, full-time commitment to serve on a specific project at a nonprofit organization or public agency. To learn more about the AmeriCorps programs visit [americorps.gov](http://americorps.gov).

**Compensation:**

- In return for their service, AmeriCorps VISTA members receive a living allowance of approximately \$17,550 pre-tax.
- Health benefits during service.
- Childcare opportunities (if applicable).
- Qualified student loan deferment or forbearance.
- Non-competitive eligibility for qualified government jobs the first year after completing service.
- Upon completion of service, choice of Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of approximately \$6,000 or post-service stipend of \$1,800.
- A relocation settling allowance of no less than \$750 if you are moving more than 50 miles, and travel allowance based on mileage may also apply.
- Professional development through monthly trainings, skills learned in service, experience in a non-profit environment.

- LAS also offers flex time, mileage reimbursement for service-related travel, a casual dress code, a hybrid telework model, and a fun office environment working with other VISTAs serving the Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation.

**To Apply:**

Please send a cover letter and resume with the subject line “Program Development VISTA” to Jennie Jones Scherbinski (jennie@nevadaaudubon.org). Applications are also accepted through [my.americorps.gov](https://my.americorps.gov).

Visit the LAS website <https://www.nevadaaudubon.org> or contact Jennie Jones Scherbinski (jennie@nevadaaudubon.org) for more information.