Partnering with AmeriCorps to Bridge the Digital Divide in Coos Bay

COOS BAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Paul Addis, Reference Librarian

Gary Furuyama, Digital Literacy & Job Skills Trainer

AMERICORPS

ISSUES (Coos Bay):

- **Large Digital Divide**
- **Difficulty obtaining and retaining qualified volunteers**

SOLUTION:

- **AmeriCorps Volunteer**

HOW to Get a Member

- **Apply for project:** turn in prior to technical assistance deadline to get feedback and make application competitive
- **Rolling Interviews:** once accepted by AmeriCorps, post job and start interviewing as the apps come in!
- **Library's contribution (cash match) to AmeriCorps:**

  ➢ Level 1 (1st year): $6,825.00
  ➢ Level 2 (after 1st year): $7,350.00

COOS BAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

AMERICORPS

Sites Provide:

- Cash Match per Member Service Year
- Project training, ongoing professional development, and mentorship for the member
- Project related travel reimbursement for the member
- Funding for supplies and materials necessary for the project
- Office space complete with desk, computer, printer, phone, internet, email, and access to a copy machine and fax machine
- Developing local member recruitment strategies

Member Benefits

- **Stipend:** taxable, monthly allowance (before taxes, approximately $1,139)
- **Education Benefit:** $5,645 awarded upon completion of service, can be used to repay qualified student loans or for further education
- **Plus:** loan forbearance, basic medical insurance, child care, etc.

Contact

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