

AMERICORPS PLANNING GRANT REPORT

- KEEC is working on a \$61,360 grant from the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service (KCCVS) of federal funds to plan for the establishment of the Kentucky Environmental Education Leadership Corps, and AmeriCorps program.
- The large majority of the funding is for the hiring of a Program Director who will be in charge of creating the program structure and submitting the grant application. The Program Director position description has been created and the personnel cap has been increased, but KEEC is awaiting approval from personnel to advertise the position.
- KEEC may seek a fiscal agent to host the Program Director and pay most program expenses because of the high personnel costs associated with state employees. Other Kentucky AmeriCorps programs have been structured in this way, and KEEC will seek their advice.
- KEEC is forming an Advisory Committee for the program, with the following members agreeing to serve so far:
 - Carie Kizziar and Andrew Gottworth, KCCVS
 - Ashley Hoffman, KAEE
 - Maxine Rudder, Bluegrass Greensource
 - Tammie Wilson, Eastern Kentucky PRIDE
 - Heather Musinski, Family Resource and Youth Service Center Corps
 - Melinda Wilder, Eastern Kentucky University
 - Diane Bonfert, Kentucky State Parks
 - Steven Rogers, Lexington Parks and Recreation
 - Jennifer Shackleford, Mammoth Cave National Park
 - Beth Jones, Greater Clark Foundation
 - Kevin Pettigrew, J.M. Feltner 4-H Camp
 - Blair Hecker, Franklin County Solid Waste
- The following organizations have expressed interest in hosting members through the program:
 - Kentucky State Parks
 - Lexington Parks and Recreation
 - Greater Clark Foundation
 - J.M. Feltner 4-H Camp
 - Life Adventure Center
 - Kenton County Extension
 - Berea College Forestry Outreach Center
 - The Arboretum, the State Botanical Garden of Kentucky
 - Eastern Kentucky University, Division of Natural Areas
 - Northern Kentucky University, Center for Environmental Education
 - Kentucky Community and Technical College System
 - City of Covington
 - Living Arts and Science Center