

# Host an LFA Fellow

*Building America's Next Generation of Public Service Leaders*

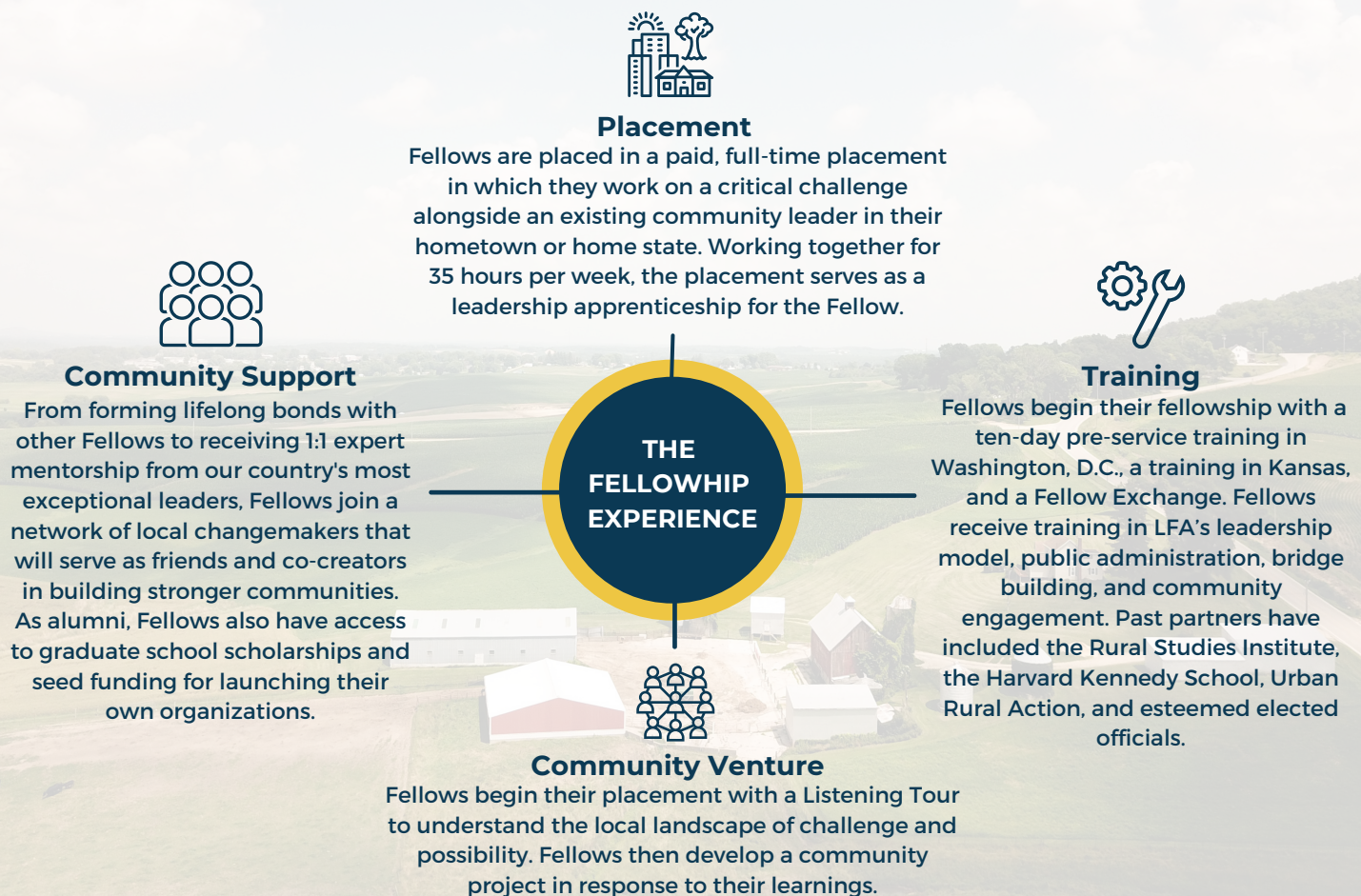


## Our Mission

*To build a leadership force of moral, dynamic, locally-rooted, and long-term committed leaders serving the communities they call home in every corner of this country.*

## The Fellowship

*Lead For America's fellowship program recruits, trains, and places our nation's most outstanding leaders in high-impact changemaking roles in their home communities. The LFA fellowship is a one-year AmeriCorps service program that aims to build the leadership force we need to address our nation's most critical challenges at the local level.*



## How are Fellows Selected

*Lead For America receives thousands of applications every year from candidates wanting to serve their home communities in high-impact roles. Through our application process - which includes an application submission, interview, and 1:1 meetings with our staff - roughly 10% of candidates are selected each year. During our highly competitive application process, an ideal candidate will demonstrate the following: a high level of competence and willingness to take initiative; proven track record of impact; humility through selfless service; commitment to bridge building across lines of differences; and a shared vision for a better community.*

*If a candidate makes it through our application process, that means we believe that they have the vision and skill set needed to make a difference within a host organization and across their community.*

# The Impact

*Fellows are exceptionally talented, and add extraordinary capacity to your team*

**LEAD FOR AMERICA**  
START WHERE YOU LIVE

## Why Host a Fellow?

### Welcome Trained & High-Quality Talent

We recruit outstanding young leaders that have a strong connection to your community, bring a skill set that matches your organization's needs, and have received intensive leadership training, making our Fellows real contributors in your organization from the start.

### Make a Long-Term Investment

You will receive one of the nation's most talented, young leaders to serve on projects of critical importance to your community. As a mentor, you'll help provide a positive vision for your community and show your Fellow that they have a place in that future. Our goal is to find you an up and coming leader that can be a leadership asset well beyond the one-year fellowship!

LFA Fellows are encouraged to work with other partners in the community and to engage with local residents, building a more connected community and expanding your organization's profile. Fellows recruit and engage other young residents, helping build the local leadership bench.

### Join a Network of Service-minded Organizations

We believe it is important that we connect our host institutions and organizational partners to one another. As such, all hosts are invited to join our online community of forward-thinking community organizations and events.

## Fellow Highlights:

### Shandiin Herrera Navajo Nation: Monument Valley, UT

Policy Analyst & Project Consultant



#### Shandiin's Impact

- Served as Secretary for the Land Use Planning Committee.
- Established a community care network in response to COVID-19, which raised \$17 million and distributed emergency care packages to hundreds of Navajo Nation members.
- Shandiin created Monument Valley's first community center, offering essential services to Natives.

### Evan Bonsall Marquette, MI

Assistant to County Administrator

Elected to Marquette City Commission



#### Evan's Impact

- Became the youngest elected City Commissioner for the City of Marquette and was the chairman of the Housing Committee.
- As a Fellow, Evan helped lead efforts like a county home-repair program, Lake Superior shoreline erosion protection, and affordable housing zoning projects.

# 215+

LFA Fellows placed in over 180 communities across 35 states since 2019.

# 93%

of LFA Fellows remain committed to serving their hometowns and home states post-fellowship.

# \$100M

Raised or secured by LFA Fellows to address critical community challenges like housing security, COVID-19 relief, and broadband infrastructure.

## Our Impact

# How it Works

*Find out how you can bring an LFA Fellow to your team and community!*



## Do you qualify?

Lead For America host organizations must be locally focused and service-driven. Hosts are non-profits and local government entities (e.g. city, county, tribal, regional commission). Below are a few examples:

### Local Governments / Agencies

- Atlanta Regional Commission
- Auburn Development Council (NE)
- City of Salina, KS
- County of Hawai'i, HI
- Fond du Lac Reservation (MN)
- Utah Department of Health

### Non-Profits

- 3Arts
- Empower Evergreen
- High-Tech Small Town
- MASS Design Group
- Southwest Initiative Foundation
- The Kohala Center
- Berea Partners for Education
- Knoxville Chamber of Commerce
- Minnesota's Women Consortium
- Newman University
- Project 1590
- Shenandoah Community Capital Fund

## What is Expected of Hosts?

Hosting a LFA Fellow is more than simply adding a new member to your team. They are high-impact changemakers who are qualified and ready to lead as a critical component of your organization. As such, Fellow impact and long-term commitment to civic leadership rely on the Host's investment in mentorship.

### Provide Meaningful, Challenging & Engaging Work

Our Fellows have a proven track record of getting things done. They are ready to learn and apply their skills to benefit their community. Fellows thrive when put in positions of leadership.

### Have a Welcoming Team Environment

Our Fellows have committed to the concept of bridge building, meaning they are willing and eager to work with folks who come from different walks of life. We ask that your organization welcome Fellows as members of the team, and align with these values as well!

### Be a Mentor

Fellow-Host relationships work best when Hosts view their Fellows as long-term investments. We ask Hosts to help Fellows build networks, understand the local landscape, and cultivate an actionable vision for a better community.

### Make an Effort to Retain Fellows

LFA works hard to recruit the best homegrown leaders. We want to work with Hosts invested in finding ways to retain these leaders in their community, long-term. That could mean making a full-time offer post-fellowship, or connecting them to other career-building opportunities.

## Project Scope

Before a Fellow begins their full-time role, Hosts and a member of the LFA team will co-create a Project Scope, outlining the Fellow's position description. Project Scopes focus on the community challenges a Fellow will be tasked to help address, their basic responsibilities, and key outcome objectives. Project Scopes are designed to fit within the scope of work conducted by the host organization and the skills/passions of the Fellow.

## A Note on AmeriCorps



Lead For America is an AmeriCorps service program, meaning our Fellows are AmeriCorps service members. They enjoy benefits like a living allowance stipend, financial aid scholarship, and student loan forbearance. There are restrictions to their allowed-activities as Fellows that are important to note for hosts. Those restrictions include: engaging in partisan political activity, attempting to influence legislation, engaging in religious instruction, providing direct benefit to a business organized for profit.



# How it Works (cont.)

More details and some important notes



## Host Financial Contribution

Fellowship placements are funded through a variety of channels, including Host contributions, AmeriCorps support, and LFA private fundraising. Host contributions help fund the Fellow's placement, by supporting a Fellow's stipend, training, and programmatic experience.

	Population Size < 30,000	Population Size 30,000 < x > 100,000	Population Size 100,000 < x > 650,000	Population Size > 650,000
Per Capita Income < \$28,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$30,000
Per Capita Income \$28,000 < x > \$40,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$40,000
Per Capita Income > \$40,000	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$40,000	\$45,000

## Key 2022 Dates

### February 18th, 2022

Application deadline for Hosts.

### March 25th, 2022

Application deadline for Applicant-led placements.

### April 15th, 2022

Application deadline for Host-led placements.  
Applications open for Host-led on Feb. 21st, 2022.

### June 3rd, 2022

Final fellows are notified of acceptance.

### August 16th, 2022

Fellows begin their placements with host organizations.

## Next Steps

If you are interested in hosting a LFA Fellow, or want to learn more, contact LFA Senior Community Partnerships Manager Alexis Ching to schedule a call. You can e-mail her at: [alexis.ching@lead4america.org](mailto:alexis.ching@lead4america.org).

You can also visit our Host page to fill out a Host Application and a member of our team will contact you directly. Visit our website at [lead4america.org/host](https://lead4america.org/host)

## Program Structure Options

### Host-Led

If you are an organization interested in hosting a Fellow, we will work with you to design a project scope and then recruit for that specific fellowship opportunity. This is similar to recruiting and hiring for an open position, and Lead For America takes the lead on filling that opening!

Host-led Project Scopes, while created initially without Fellow input, are asked to be 25-50% flexible for the Fellow to help design once recruited and brought on to your team!

### Applicant-led

Alternatively, we have Fellow candidates who come to our organization looking for an organization in their community to host their fellowship. Lead For America works with these candidates to identify hosts in their home communities that could be good fits for the type of impact they want to make.

If you are contacted about hosting a specific Fellow, that means we believe that you could be an outstanding potential host. We hope to schedule a call with you to discuss your interest and ability to host this Fellow!