

Carleton

ALEXANDRA MILLER, *Sustainability Program Coordinator*, ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

amiller3@carleton.edu | 507.222.6004

Dear Selection Committee,

My name is Alex Miller, Sustainability Program Coordinator for Carleton College in Northfield, MN. In this role, I oversee the waste management education and outreach, surplus management, and organize the annual student-move out garage sale, Lighten Up. I have also been heavily involved with the City's efforts to lessen its impact on the environment. I have served on the Environmental Quality Commission from 2017-2020 and the Climate Action Plan Advisory Board from 2018-2019. During my time on these boards, City Council and administration recognized the tenacity and commitment to sustainability from its residents and approved the 2019 Climate Action Plan and hired a Program Coordinator, Beth Kallestad, to oversee this work.

I co-chaired the Climate Action Plan Advisory Board who was responsible for creating the Climate Action Plan. One of the six sections is Materials and Waste, the one to three year goals are as follows:

- Develop a zero waste plan for Northfield
- Research and develop a zero waste packaging ordinance
- Education and outreach surrounding materials reduction and waste management

The Minnesota GreenCorps position would expand groundwork on the areas of waste reduction, recycling, and organics management. The Environmental Quality Commission has created a taskforce of community members to assist in these efforts as well and will benefit greatly from a staff member who can dedicate hours towards these projects.

The City of Northfield is set up for success with Beth's leadership at the City level, my support from a waste management mentorship level, and various committed community volunteers who are passionate about materials and waste reduction. We welcome the opportunity to partner with the state through the GreenCorps program!

If you have any questions, please reach out. Thank you for considering our community for a GreenCorps position.

Sincerely,



Alexandra K. Miller





Healthy Community Initiative

1651 Jefferson Parkway
Northfield, MN 55057
507-664-3524
www.northfieldhci.org

February 15, 2020

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear MN GreenCorps Selection Committee:

I am writing to offer our strong support to the City of Northfield's application for a MN GreenCorps position. We are excited about the potential for this position and will fully support the project in any way we can.

The mission of the Northfield Healthy Community Initiative (HCI) is to "cultivate a collaborative community that supports, values and empowers youth." To achieve this aim, we view issues of equity as core to our work. As a result, we are especially excited about the focus of this project on environmental justice and the emphasis on supporting work in Northfield neighborhoods that are far too often overlooked. HCI has established strong connections in these neighborhoods over the past 15 years – connections we are willing to help leverage to support the MN GreenCorps member in this role.

In addition, we envision our community organizing staff – who work closely in these neighborhoods – working with the MN GreenCorps member and the City of Northfield on joint programming in these neighborhoods. This has the potential to significantly expand and scale the work.

Furthermore, for the past 15 years, HCI's flagship initiative – Tackling Obstacles & Raising College Hopes (TORCH) – has helped to increase the high school graduation rates and postsecondary attainment of Northfield youth who are low-income, students of color, and/or potential first-generation college attendees. TORCH has a network of more than 750 alumni. Given their connections to the identified neighborhoods in this project, we will reach out to these alumni about the MN GreenCorps opportunity. Having an individual from the neighborhood would provide a valuable link for the project and allow it to accelerate its progress.

We also agree: to help share the posting with our distribution network (currently 1,000+ members); to invite the MN GreenCorps member to any trainings we host during the year (and to waive any associated fees); and to help connect the member to other community

Thriving youth. Thriving community.

stakeholders who can help advance the work. Stated simply, we will do whatever we can to help the City and the member be successful.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal! If we can answer any questions or provide any additional information, please just let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zach Pruitt". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "Z" and a "P" that has a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Zach Pruitt
Executive Director
507.664.3524; zach@northfieldhci.org



NORTHFIELD
Community College
Collaborative

February 24, 2020

ServeMinnesota- GreenCorps
120 South 6th St. Suite 2260
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Dear Minnesota GreenCorps Selection Committee:

On behalf of the Northfield Community College Collaborative, I am writing to offer our support for the application by the City of Northfield on behalf of a coalition of stakeholder organizations. We are excited about the potential for this project to help support and implement Northfield's Climate Action Plan, especially in working with Northfield residents who are living below the poverty line. This position would also help in contributing to Northfield's zero waste by 2030 goal.

As a partner in the GreenCorps service member initiative, Northfield Community College Collaborative agrees to:

- Provide access to post-secondary education access for the GreenCorps service member if they wish to continue to pursue their education
- Help GreenCorps service member access resources in the community that may help someone living in poverty
- Help promote the GreenCorps on-going projects within the program's network and eligible individuals

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Theis". The script is cursive and fluid.

Katie Theis

Northfield Community
College Collaborative Director