



Organizational Overview:

For 40 years, the Alliance has served as the local watchdog to defend Jackson Hole from an endless parade of bad ideas: from oil/gas wells in Cache Creek to a dam that would have flooded Oxbow Bend, from malls in Kelly and at the Y to a huge commercial increase in downtown Jackson.

The Alliance was founded by regular people getting together to protect our community from these threats, and its strength has always been in its grassroots members and volunteers across the valley. Today, Jackson Hole faces unprecedented threats: over 500 animals struck and killed on our roads every year, cutting off key wildlife migration corridors; rural development consuming wildlife habitat and open space across our valley; powerful special interest groups pushing their extreme agenda to privatize our American public lands; a shortage of affordable homes that's destroying our middle class; and transportation challenges tearing into our quality of life.

So in recent years, the Alliance launched the Conservation Leadership Institute (CLI), a 12-week hands-on training that teaches locals how to make a difference on issues they care about. And the Alliance started new programs like a [candidate questionnaire](#), [Voters' Guide](#), and [Accountability Checks](#) to better engage community members in the critical decisions made by our local democracy.

Project Overview: Alliance Watchdogs

The Alliance Watchdogs program is the next step in this civic engagement work: a new way for community members to make a difference on local issues together. The Watchdogs are teams of volunteers who will get involved in issues of common interest, keep up with those issues, hold our elected representatives accountable for making good decisions, and include and engage their friends and neighbors in the civic process.

As Thomas Jefferson said, "An enlightened citizenry is indispensable for the proper functioning of a republic. Self-government is not possible unless the citizens are educated sufficiently to enable them to exercise oversight."

The Alliance will initially launch two Watchdogs groups: public lands & wildlife, and community planning & character. The Alliance also encourages community members to serve on volunteer boards & commissions such as the Town and County Planning Commissions, Lower Valley Energy board, START Bus board, etc.

Fellowship Opportunities

The Alliance will hire two part-time Watchdogs organizers to coordinate the public lands & wildlife and/or community planning & character volunteer teams, track issues through public meeting agendas, and host public events when relevant. The Alliance is also hiring a Boards & Commissions Organizer Fellow to keep track of openings on important boards, and to encourage new applicants, especially from underrepresented groups in our community.

Watchdogs Organizer Fellow - Major Responsibilities:

Lead Grassroots Lobbying Team— (60%)



- Organize team of volunteers in the Watchdogs group
- Schedule, coordinate and facilitate meetings and events for Watchdogs
- Manage communications within the grassroots team

Database management– (30%)

- Use volunteer database software to track and organize volunteer activity
- Review public correspondence in relation to Watchdog group and track in online database
- Enter voting data into vote tracking system

Civic Engagement– (15%)

- Attend relevant Town Council, County Commission or Board meetings (~1/week)
- Record notes, including any votes taken
- Give public comment
- Mobilize grassroots team and community members to attend meetings, give public comment and correspond with representatives when applicable

Other duties as assigned– (5%)

Boards and Commissions Organizer Fellow- Major Responsibilities:

Civic Engagement– (50%)

- Keep track of local boards & commissions schedules, topics, and position openings
- Attend Boards and Commissions meetings (~1/week)

Lead Boards and Commissions Volunteers– (50%)

- Get to know local residents who may be interested in serving on boards, facilitate their learning about the boards, and encourage their application

Requirements:

- Commitment to conservation advocacy and a better future for Jackson Hole
- Strong commitment to participatory democracy and enfranchisement
- Understanding of community organizing methods, specifically leadership development models for change
- Creativity and ability to make conservation and lobbying fun
- Ability to use technology including Office, Google Docs, and social media
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Ability to work independently—and as a dependable team player
- Strong interpersonal and relationship building skills
- Open mind and flexible attitude to take on responsibilities as assigned

Compensation: \$17/hour

Duration of Fellowships: Average of 2 hours per week over the course of the year. Interested persons may apply for a single position or any combination of open fellowships (e.g. you could apply for both a Watchdogs fellowship and the boards & commissions fellowship, for a total of 4 hours / week). Schedule is flexible and requires work on some evenings and weekends.

Start Date: Flexible with goal of June 1

To Apply: Send a cover letter and resume to jobs@jhalliance.org. No phone calls please. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through May 24, at 5:00pm MST.