

# ANTI-HUNGER & OPPORTUNITY CORPS



## **About the Anti-Hunger and Opportunity Corps:**

An initiative of Hunger Free America since 2010, the national Anti-Hunger and Opportunity Corps Program (AHOC) is one of the largest anti-hunger AmeriCorps VISTA projects in the country. Its main focus is to fight hunger and improve nutrition, primarily by breaking down barriers to accessing the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the Food Stamp Program) as well as by expanding economic opportunity and ensuring healthy futures for all Americans mostly through the SNAP Employment and Training program. Members also serve to increase the capacity of anti-hunger community organizations to help meet the needs of low-income community members, particularly to seniors, working families and non-English speaking populations.

## **Position Description: SNAP Outreach Coordinator**

Hunger Solutions Minnesota in partnership with Hunger Free America is seeking a full-time VISTA member to:

### **Conduct SNAP Outreach**

- Convene community leaders and members to identify SNAP program barriers and develop a comprehensive plan to improve access in their communities.
- Recruit, manage, and train community volunteers to conduct screening and application assistance and to develop SNAP program materials and application assistance materials along with related trainings to community-based organizations.
- Conduct outreach with administrators of healthcare facilities to determine their involvement with and barriers to SNAP administration and/or referral.

### **Assist in SNAP Rx Program Expansion**

- Improve access to nutritious food options by enhancing awareness of the availability of utilization of benefits at farmers' markets; support local, community gardening and agriculture efforts; and provide nutrition education information and opportunities for low-income members.
- Work with Hunger Solutions staff to develop relationships with healthcare facilities interested in or currently implementing SNAP Rx – a program that connects low-income individuals with federal nutrition programs through referrals from healthcare facilities.
- Develop food access guides localized to communities with existing partnerships and potential for new partnerships between healthcare facilities and social service organizations offering SNAP assistance and other food resources.

### **Increase Participation in SNAP Employment & Training Programs**

- Identify barriers to finding and retaining employment among SNAP recipients and create guide outlining current factors impacting employment opportunities and insight garnered from community partners working to solve the issue.

- Build network of state agencies, non-profit organizations, and other community organizations working to engage SNAP recipients in E&T programs.
- Assist community and faith-based organizations and state agencies in decreasing barriers and improving access to USDA FNS's SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) Program in order to help enable people eligible for SNAP to obtain employment and/or increase their wages, with the hope that someday they will no longer need SNAP benefits.
- Assess existing systems for training and/or managing volunteers at Hunger Solutions Minnesota partner food shelves and help improve or implement volunteer systems.

**Time Commitment:**

This is a one year, full-time position beginning August 23, 2016. You are expected to be available for the needs of your community and project at all times, including days, nights and weekends. Because AmeriCorps VISTA service requires a full immersion in the project and community, there are restrictions on outside full-time employment, along with some restrictions on political and religious activities. For more information, please review the AmeriCorps VISTA Terms, Conditions and Benefits information available here - <http://bit.ly/1dAs2FM>.

**Housing:**

You are responsible for finding your own housing. Hunger Free America offers a small housing assistance of no more than \$400 per service year to its members; however, members will need to fund their own housing outside of Hunger Free America's assistance.

**Program Benefits:**

- \$452.45 Living allowance, paid biweekly (see accompanying doc for amount)
- Segal Education Award (\$5,775) or End-of-Service stipend (\$1,500)
- Health benefits\*
- Housing or alternative assistance of up to \$400
- Training support up to \$500
- Potential to forbear or defer student loans while in service
- Relocation assistance (if applicable)
- Childcare assistance (if applicable)
- Optional life insurance
- One year non-competitive status for federal government positions
- A network of over 180,000 AmeriCorps VISTA members and alums

**How to Apply:**

Interested applications please send a resume and cover letter to Alexandra Andersen at [aandersen@hungersolutions.org](mailto:aandersen@hungersolutions.org).

\*For more information on health coverage provided through CNCS, visit: [http://www.vistacampus.gov/in-service/benefits-service#health\\_coverage](http://www.vistacampus.gov/in-service/benefits-service#health_coverage)