

AmeriCorps VISTA Community Resilience-Building Program Organizer

The Community Resilience-Building Program Organizer- Columbia, South Carolina will be located at Lutheran Services Carolinas as one of 8 VISTA members at Lutheran social service organizations across the United States implementing strategies and tools to improve community resilience in low-income and vulnerable communities.

The VISTA will be part of a new proactive, holistic, and measurable approach that builds upon the existing social services offered by local social service organizations that affect key resilience levers. The goal is to help low-income communities better withstand and recover from a continuum of disruptions from small to large such as home fires, economic crisis, extreme weather events, or human-caused disasters. VISTA members serving in this position should possess a strong desire to build the resiliency and capacity of underserved low-income and vulnerable communities through the use of community outreach, assessment, volunteer organizing, program development, and partnership building. Successful candidates will need to have the ability to work well with others on a professional level within nonprofit organizations and when interacting with community leaders. Objectives and activities will require candidates to be strategic, innovative, compassionate, a team-player, hard-working, and goal-oriented. Prior experience living and/or working in low-income communities and/or providing essential services to vulnerable communities is preferred. Knowledge of community assessment best practices, disaster services, fundraising, and volunteer development would help candidates be successful.

Member Duties:

The VISTA will develop programs to better equip low-income members of the Richland county community to prepare for and address the risks from substantial disruptions, such as the recent floods which devastated the area. Programs and tools will be developed that may be shared with other LSC clients and low-income populations across North and South Carolina. The VISTA will develop tools to assess risks and vulnerabilities to the low-income clients and community members that could cause significant disruptions. He or she will coordinate with the clients to facilitate stakeholder engagement in the development of the plan and ongoing support. The VISTA will also develop a plan to prepare low-income clients for identified disruptions, including actions to be taken during a disruption and identification of strategies and resources to build resiliency post-disaster. The VISTA will also monitor fundraising opportunities to support the sustainability of the program and find opportunities to build the existing community volunteer base.

Program Benefits:

- Living Allowance
- Choice of education award or end of service stipend
- Relocation Allowance
- Health Coverage (as provided by CNCS)
- Childcare assistance if eligible
- Training

Terms:

- 12 month position

Skills:

- Team Work
- Disaster Services
- General Skills
- Writing/Editing
- Environment,
- Fundraising/Grant Writing
- Non-profit Management
- Social Services
- Public Speaking

Application Deadline: June 20, 2016

Submit cover letter and resume to:

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