



AzFBN AmeriCorps VISTA Leader

Effective Dates: 10/26/2020-10/26/2021

Sponsoring Organization: Arizona Food Bank Network

Site Location: 340 E Coronado Rd, Suite 400, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Primary Focus Area: Food Security – Healthy Futures

Position Description

If you are passionate about feeding the hungry, have experience training and leading others, and are ready to help manage a statewide program of VISTAs combating hunger in a variety of ways, then this position is for you!

With the abundance that our country has, no person should go hungry, which is why the Arizona Food Bank Network's (AzFBN's) vision is a hunger free AZ. AzFBN is a network of 5 member food banks, with their 1000 associated emergency food providers, that is a state-wide anti-hunger agency who combats hunger through advocacy, innovation of new efficient ways to combat hunger, and supporting food banks and pantries to feed those in need.

Throughout AzFBN's network, there are organizations combating hunger in unique ways that depend on VISTAs to develop and implement impactful projects that serve the most vulnerable in the state. In order to ensure that AzFBN's broader VISTA program and these individual projects are impactful and successful, AzFBN is recruiting a VISTA Leader to help manage their VISTA program. AzFBN has 8 different VISTA projects throughout the state with various host sites, and hopes to further expand their program to bring on new host sites and VISTA projects with the leadership of a VISTA Leader. In order to accomplish this, the Leader will need to increase the efficiency, efficacy, and scalability of AzFBN's broader VISTA program. In addition to this, the VISTA Leader will aid host site organizations and individual VISTA Members through a variety of different supports and interventions to ensure they have the resources, knowledge, skills, and abilities required to be successful in their projects.

The result of an effective VISTA Leader implementing this three pronged approach will be improved support systems for those struggling with hunger, resulting in a reduction in hunger in vulnerable populations throughout the state.

To find out more about serving with AmeriCorps VISTA, please visit the following webpage:
<https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/ameriCorps/ameriCorps-programs/ameriCorps-vista/life-vista-member>

Responsibilities

- Ensure the well-being of VISTAs throughout the project, increase the impact of the program, and aid its expansion.
- Train and mentor VISTAs to empower them to be as impactful as possible in their projects and in their careers following VISTA.

- Support VISTAs through every stage of their service, from orientation, through exit of service.
- Develop and implement a recruitment plan to recruit VISTAs for host sites throughout the state, coordinating every part of the recruitment process from promotion of the opportunity, to official job offer.
- Strengthen the AzFBN VISTA network by organizing opportunities for networking and collaboration between VISTA projects.
- Maintain frequent contact with VISTAs to understand their projects, obstacles they face, and help them to develop solutions.
- Support in the expansion of AzFBN's VISTA program in a sustainable way that maintains high quality, while increasing the availability of VISTAs to AzFBN's network.
- Increase the visibility of AzFBN's VISTA program by developing and implementing a marketing plan.
- Support the Project Director in training host sites to ensure they have adequate knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully manage a VISTA.
- Develop standard operating procedures to increase the efficiency, efficacy, and scalability of AzFBN's VISTA program.
- Conduct monitoring, reporting, and evaluating, and compile findings into aesthetically appealing formats to promote the impact of the VISTA program.
- Develop the resources and partnerships necessary to ensure successful VISTA projects; this is to include, but is not limited to, financial resources.

Key Skills, Knowledge, Abilities, & Qualifications

- Required to have completed at least one full term of service with VISTA, AmeriCorps State and National, or NCCC, or have completed one year of Peace Corps service.
- College degree, or relevant experience in place of degree.
- Strong initiative, comfortable with self-directed work, and ability to work with limited supervision is required.
- Good leadership skills, including comfortability with managing a statewide group of individuals working in very diverse contexts.
- Experience developing new programs, and proven ability to successfully expand and grow existing programs.
- Prior experience training and mentoring others.
- Prior experience uncovering inefficiencies and obstacles, problem solving, and developing effective solutions.
- Ability to conduct outreach with new and existing partners and represent the organization in a professional capacity.
- Prior experience or knowledge of recruiting is advantageous.
- Passion for combating hunger.
- Basic knowledge of Microsoft Office products.
- Able to travel as needed throughout the state; work related travel reimbursed.

Benefits for VISTA Leaders

- Increased living stipend to cover the basic costs of living (find out more at nationalservice.gov)

- Choice of Education Award or End of Service Stipend upon successful completion of service
- Health coverage at no-cost
- 10 personal and 10 sick days
- Relocation allowance
- Student loan forbearance and deferment
- Childcare assistance if eligible
- Professional development training
- One year of non-competitive eligibility for federal government positions upon completion of service

AmeriCorps Eligibility Requirements

- Must be 18 years of age
- US citizen, national, or legal resident
- Successfully complete a criminal background check
- Valid driver's license

How to Apply

- Please send resumes to: alexander@azfoodbanks.org
- Apply through the MyAmeriCorps Portal:
<https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?fromSearch=true&id=98811>