

**WAKE COUNTY FOOD SECURITY
AMERICORPS VISTA SERVICE POSITIONS
November 2018-2019**



Wake Food Security Project Description:

Wake Food Security Collaborative is invested in making food accessible across Wake County. Residents experience amplified compression of the effects of poverty and experience marginal access to nutritious foods, relying on what is available, affordable, and close to their homes. The goal of this project is to support communities in Wake County by improving their quality of life through improved food access and/or microenterprise development. As partners, we have aligned collective resources including the residents of these communities, to bridge gaps in resources; simultaneously building the capacity of residents who will collectively benefit the community via their contributions. Our VISTA members work in a variety of positions including data analysis & mapping of food insecurity, strengthening our local food policy council - The Capital Area Food Network, building the capacity of residents in the most vulnerable regions of SE Raleigh and Eastern Wake County, building the capacity of school and community gardens, and assisting with increasing the number of youth served and partners engaged in the Summer Food Service Program. Our program allows VISTA members to gain valuable skills, network with countless organizations, and most importantly, to be a part of making Wake County a more food secure and thriving place for all its residents. All positions are full-time and VISTA members serve yearlong terms with the option of serving two years and receiving two education awards.

Positions being filled for a November start are listed below, and include: Social & Economic Vitality Strategist VISTA, Summer Food Service Program Coordinator VISTA, School and Community Garden Program Coordinator VISTA.

Applicants must apply through My AmeriCorps. Application requires creation of a profile and application before applying to individual listings.

<https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/ameriCorps/ameriCorps-programs/ameriCorps-vista>

VISTA BENEFITS:

Living Allowance: Approximately \$1026.00/month (pre-tax)

Choice of Following: End of Service Education Award of \$5,920 **OR** End-of-Service Cash Stipend of \$1800.00

Relocation Allowance: Up to \$1000.00 relocation expenses covered if moving more than 50 miles.

Settling In Allowance: Up to \$550.00 for settling in expenses (utilities, deposits, etc.)

Mileage Reimbursement: Provided by host sites

Health Care & Child Care Info: See benefit Guide for more details

More information on Benefits:

<https://www.vistacampus.gov/in-service/benefits-service>

HIRING TIMELINE

Interview Dates: October 15, 16, 17

Hire Date: October 19, 2018

Service Term: November 13, 2018 – November 12, 2019

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Sydney Klein

Food Security Program Manager

Wake County Human Services – Cooperative Extension

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Wake Food Security: School and Community Garden Program Coordinator

Location: Raleigh, NC (position housed with Wake County Cooperative Extension). May require travel to other locations in Wake County.

AmeriCorps Posting ID: 84364

Position Description:

The goal of this project is to strengthen support for school and community gardens in Wake County. The VISTA member will help to develop systems to recruit, train, and est. a network for school garden mentors and extend those programs to increase the capacity for supporting community gardens in Wake county. The VISTA will develop partnerships and resources to further sustain school and community garden efforts. Additionally, the VSITA member will assimilate resources and evaluate best practices and available resources for both school and community gardens in Wake County. The goal will be to establish sustainable networks of volunteers and organizational tools for participating schools and the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC to manage volunteer programs in their gardens.

The VISTA member will work alongside the Wake County Master Gardeners to document their School Garden Mentor Pilot and to help create a sustainable model to progress the program. The Master Gardeners are active in many community and school gardens within the county and have valuable insight to guide the VISTA member. The VISTA will be housed with the Wake County Cooperative Extension but will work alongside program partners including the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.

Candidate Qualifications:

Key skills needed for this work include excellent written and verbal communication skills, knowledge of program development, and experience working with or developing volunteer systems. Technical expertise in gardening is helpful. A college degree is preferred, but applicants are not limited if they have extensive experience.

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Listing may be found by Posting ID or title of position.