

**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: Social and Economic Vitality Strategist

Location: Raleigh, NC (position housed with Wake County Social and Economic Vitality Program). May require travel to other regions of Wake County.

AmeriCorps Posting ID: 73885

Position Description:

The Wake Food Security VISTA Program is invested in a movement that focuses on improving the lives and food access and security of disenfranchised residents in Wake County, North Carolina. Residents in the Social and Economic Vitality priority zones (East and East Central) experience an amplified compression of the effects of poverty in comparison to the other zones in our county. These residents experience marginal access to nutritional foods, relying on what is available, affordable, and within the shortest distance to their homes. The goals of this project are to unify and align our resources with the residents of these communities to bridge gaps in resources and build the capacity of our host sites to support low-income community members in increasing their quality of life through food access or microenterprise development. Communities benefit over the long-term from residents who are more financially secure, are better able to engage in community life, and who contribute to and support the local economy.

The Social and Economic Vitality Strategist VISTA will focus on relationship building with grassroots and resident-owned organizations and creating resources to maintain, build, and track human capital development in the SEV target regions. Social and Economic Vitality is built upon understanding the communities' needs and listening to their voices before implementing strategies. This VISTA position is vital to better understanding what programs to offer and how to track the progress of programs operating in the East and East Central Human Service Zones. The VISTA will support SEV by: establishing baseline data to track success of SEV programs, identifying the best methods of communication with residents and establishing a communication strategy, assisting with rebranding and strengthening of the human capital development coaching strategy, developing a framework for building the capacity of non-profits in the SEV region, building resources for neighborhood-based community service hubs, strengthening organizations working on food access, and building intergenerational learning opportunities.

Candidate Qualifications:

We seek individuals who work collaboratively and independently, take initiative and responsibility for their assigned tasks, have a positive attitude, demonstrate an interest in learning, and are committed to anti-poverty efforts. Experience with coalition building or community development is desired, and effective communication skills are vital to the work. A minimum of a Bachelor's degree is preferred, however experience may allow for exceptions. This position may require some work during evenings and weekends.

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Listing may be found by Posting ID or title of position