

Position title: *VHA AmeriCorps VISTA Member* for Housing Partnerships Inc.

Service term start date: August 28, 2017

Service term end date: August 27, 2017

Accepting applications: May 15 – July 28, 2017

Location of service: Williamsburg VA

Job type: Full-time

Salary: \$455.70 bi-weekly (\$990 monthly) (\$11,880 yearly)

Service Description

The Virginia Housing Alliance (VHA), state and national partners, and our service provider partners across Virginia are working to expand affordable housing opportunities through education, advocacy, training, and capacity building. This VISTA project provides the human capital necessary to provide on the ground support to agencies developing, providing or otherwise supporting affordable housing, while engaging VISTA Members in meeting the need for and challenges to affordable housing. VISTA Members are placed in agencies across the state and provide key leadership, guidance, and direction to help VHA's local partners achieve greater impact for their clients. The VHA VISTA Project has a cohort of 14 VISTA Members serving across Virginia who meet quarterly in-person.

Housing Partnerships Inc. has provided housing services to those in James City County, City of Williamsburg, and York County for 30 years. The VISTA will work closely with Housing Partnerships Inc.'s Executive Director, local/statewide leaders, and VHA to (1) Develop resources to increase development capacity and enhance organizational sustainability; (2) Enhance community engagement in affordable housing efforts; (3) Improve data quality and use in decision-making; and (4) Promote best practices in affordable housing development. The VISTA Member will increase financial resources, develop printed/published communication materials, create volunteer recruitment management system, improve and expand social media reach, represent agency at community gatherings, identify nonprofits, businesses, or civic groups that can expand the reach of HPI agency through collaboration, create a new system to track clients and data, and train staff to do updates and maintain database.

Required Qualifications

- Commitment to a one-year service term, 40 hours per week, starting August 28, 2017.
- Must be 18+ years of age and a US Citizen, National, or Legal Resident.
- Must at least have AA degree. (VHA host sites can decide level of education beyond AA you would like to interview.)
- Ability to live in service location.
- Car recommended.
- Looking for applicants with organization and communication skills who are committed, passionate, and quick learners, and who take initiative and think critically.

Benefits of AmeriCorps VISTA Service

- **Living allowance:** Receive a \$455.70 *bi-weekly* living allowance to cover basic expenses.
- **Relocation allowance:** If you move 50+ miles from your home to a new community for the service term, you receive relocation travel assistance and a settling-in allowance.
- Choice of **Education Award** (\$5,815) or **End-of-Service Cash Stipend** (\$1,500).
- Loan forbearance/deferment; GRE fee reduction.
- **Healthcare benefit:** Choose between reimbursement for healthcare or a healthcare plan. Dental and vision are also included.
- **Non-Competitive Eligibility (NCE):** NCE is a unique hiring path which makes it easier for federal agencies to hire you.
- **Childcare benefit:** You may be eligible to receive a childcare benefit if you have children under the age of 13.
- Support from a VISTA Leader; Orientation; Training; Professional development.
- **See a full list of AmeriCorps VISTA service benefits:**
<https://www.vistacampus.gov/in-service/benefits-service>.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit an AmeriCorps application to be considered. Apply to the AmeriCorps listing and submit two professional references through the application system.

<https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?id=74247&fromSearch=true>

Preferred applicants will apply by July 7, 2017!

Contact: Zak Ricci, VISTA Leader – zricci@vahousingalliance.org, 804-332-2096.

[Step 1] Create & submit AmeriCorps application,

[Step 2] Complete pre-screen form (will receive via email after application submission),

[Step 3] Phone conversation with VISTA Leader,

[Step 4] Interview with Site Supervisor,

[Step 5] Member selection (by mid- July).