Experience Matters AmeriCorps VISTA Member
Albuquerque, New Mexico

About Cities of Service

Cities of Service is a nonprofit organization that helps mayors build stronger cities by changing the way local government and citizens work together. We help coalition cities tap into the knowledge, creativity, and service of their citizens to help identify and solve critical public problems. Cities of Service supports a coalition of more than 270 cities, representing over 83 million people across the Americas and Europe.

With a data-driven focus on creating measurable results, Cities of Service provides counsel, expert technical assistance, and proven resources to city leaders and their staff. We bring coalition members together to share best practices, expand networks, and deepen relationships. We also design and manage competitive grant programs for cities that leverage our expertise in advising and connecting cities.

Since 2015, Cities of Service has placed AmeriCorps VISTA members in city halls across the country to build capacity and drive progress on pressing local challenges. Learn more about the impact and experience of past Cities of Service AmeriCorps VISTA members here.

About Experience Matters

Cities of Service and its program partner AARP have launched Experience Matters to mobilize volunteers ages 50+ to address public problems related to various drivers of poverty. From providing tailored tutoring support to making exterior home improvements, citizen volunteers will be making a difference on poverty and making communities stronger.

Cities of Service awarded each winning city $25,000 to support the efforts of citizen groups and nonprofits to fight a local driver of poverty. In addition, two AmeriCorps VISTA members will serve in each winning city to build capacity and raise awareness. Guiding Opportunities is made possible with support from Bloomberg Philanthropies and AARP.

Position Overview

In Albuquerque, Experience Matters VISTA members will organize volunteers will support literacy development and academic achievement in the city's public schools and early childhood learning centers.

This is a one-year, full-time AmeriCorps VISTA commitment commencing on October 28, 2019.

Responsibilities include:

- Develop and administer a new city initiative
- Recruit, train, and manage volunteers
- Cultivate and maintain partnerships among stakeholders including city departments, community organizations, and neighborhood groups
- Raise the profile of the initiative through creative outreach strategies
- Manage a database of Experience Matters activities and associated program metrics
- Interview program participants and write stories about the impact of Experience Matters
- Help secure funding to sustain and expand Experience Matters
- Other duties as assigned

Compensation and Benefits

AmeriCorps VISTA members receive a modest living stipend set by CNCS based on the poverty rates for the community where you're serving. In Albuquerque, the annual stipend is $12,456.08. After successfully completing a year of service, AmeriCorps VISTA members can receive an additional cash payment of $1,800 or a Segal Education Award, worth approximately $6,000. Education awards may be applied to existing student debt or future schooling and is matched by many colleges and universities.

Benefits:

- 10 personal days and 10 sick days, in addition to any holidays observed by host city hall
- Deferment or forbearance on federal student loans to suspend payments during service
- Relocation assistance and settling-in allowance for members moving more than 50 miles to serve in a new community
- Participation in CNCS's Health Benefit Program
- Advantageous, non-competitive hiring eligibility status for future federal employment

Qualifications

- Some college preferred
- Experience working in community engagement preferred
- Although not required, individuals ages 50+ are encouraged to apply

To Apply

Interested candidates should apply here through My AmeriCorps. Questions may to directed to vista@citiesofservice.org.