

Food Drop and Pantry Networks Coordinator VISTA at Indy Hunger Network

Indy Hunger Network employs innovative systems and networks to increase access to nutritional food. Help take our Food Pantry Network and Food Drop program for truckers to the next level!

- Term of service: June 10, 2018 – June 9, 2020
- To apply: <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?id=85792&fromSearch=true>
- For more information: Mary Hayes, VISTA Coordinator, Indy Hunger Network / mary@indyhunger.org

Service Description:

In this role, you will oversee the Food Drop project and Food Pantry Network, two exciting and growing initiatives of the Indy Hunger Network (IHN). IHN is a coalition of hunger relief agencies working to ensure that anyone who is hungry can get the food they need. Food Drop is a website that helps truckers redirect rejected food loads to food banks instead of landfills. The Food Pantry Network project brings pantries together to collaborate/share information and resources in order to improve service to their clients.

Your work will focus on expanding the Food Drop program statewide and developing a network of small food pantries to help them improve their ability to serve the community. We are looking for someone who is detail-oriented and comfortable working independently.

By the end of your service term, you will have redirected thousands of pounds of food from landfills to the homes of people needing food assistance, and helped to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of local food pantries! The position also offers:

- Camaraderie with 7 other VISTAs working under the Indy Hunger Network umbrella
- Team engagement activities, including bi-weekly meetings to discuss projects, socialize, and hear from guest presenters
- Mentoring, one-on-one coaching, and professional development trainings
- Assistance preparing for life after VISTA (resume review, interview prep, etc.)
- Opportunities to work with leaders in the hunger relief space
- Opportunities to work independently and lead on projects

The position is housed at Gleaners Food Bank on the southwest side of Indianapolis and will involve some travel. You will co-work with 2 other VISTAs + 3 IHN staff members. Indianapolis is easy to navigate, has a growing indie restaurant/craft beer/coffee scene, and lots of places to play and recreate!

Member Duties:

The Coordinator will oversee Food Drop and the Food Pantry Network, two exciting and growing initiatives of the Indy Hunger Network:

- Develop and implement an outreach plan to promote Food Drop to truckers, food banks and other partners
- Gather donation data from participating food banks to assess the effectiveness of Food Drop
- Write grant proposals to seek additional funding for Food Drop
- Facilitate and foster a network of small food pantries in the Indianapolis area
- Develop, coordinate, and promote the 3rd Annual Food Pantry Summit

- Facilitate quarterly food pantry network meetings in each of the Indianapolis townships

You will be one of 8 VISTAs working under the umbrella of the Indy Hunger Network (IHN). IHN regards its VISTAs as a cohort moving through a transformational year-long experience. To help you maximize this experience, we employ a VISTA coordinator to provide mentoring and professional development. See the benefits in the Service Description!