

Indy Food Council Program Officer VISTA 2020

Help lead the Indy Food Council! Connect people within the food system and advance strategic plan initiatives that improves health and wellness for all Indianapolis residents.

- Term of service: June 8, 2020 – June 7, 2021
- To apply: <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?id=93483&fromSearch=true>
- For more information: Mary Hayes, VISTA Coordinator, Indy Hunger Network / mary@indyhunger.org

Service Description:

The Indy Food Council was created to connect people within the food system, to catalyze ideas, and to advance food-related initiatives, with the goal of building capacity for a sustainable food system that improves the health and quality of life for all residents. As a collaborative organization, members bring diverse food-related sectors to the table to examine, develop, and improve the food system in Indianapolis. Specifically, the council advocates, champions, convenes and creates awareness on issues related to food production, food access, food distribution, health and nutrition, and community development.

The IFC seeks candidates that are self-motivated and idea-inspired in the areas of food systems, food access, public health, and food justice. The VISTA will serve as an integral part of the reorganization of the Indy Food Council. They should enjoy networking, collaborating and be comfortable with working alongside city leaders and officials. An interest in gaining experience working with diverse communities, and/or policymakers is preferred.

The position also offers:

- Camaraderie with 6 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, including current and retired corporate executives and non-profit agency heads
- Opportunities to work independently and lead on projects

The VISTA will work in the City County Building, the administrative hub of Indianapolis. It is located in the heart of downtown, within easy reach of many neighborhoods and amenities. 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 VISTA will work in the City County Building, the administrative hub of Indianapolis.

In addition to the gratifying work to help improve the food system in Indianapolis, responsibilities of the Indy Food Council VISTA Program Officer include:

- Recruiting new Indy Food Council members
- Implementing action items from new strategic plan

- Developing new leadership structure with by-laws
- Fundraising with residents and philanthropic organizations
- Engaging members via the IFC website, social media, email and community events
- Planning and hosting monthly IFC membership meetings

You will be based with the City of Indianapolis, but you will also be one of 6 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, they employ a VISTA coordinator to provide mentoring and professional development to the team. See the benefits in the Program Description!