

## City of Indianapolis Food Program and Community Liaison VISTA 2023-2024

Support food access and food equity in Indy! Work directly with leaders and stakeholders to coordinate and implement programming, collect data, conduct site visits and meetings.

- Term of service: June 5, 2023 – June 4, 2024
- To apply: <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?fromSearch=true&id=116471>
- For more information: Caleb Kulinski, Director of Advocacy & Partner Engagement, Indy Hunger Network, [caleb@indyhunger.org](mailto:caleb@indyhunger.org)

### Service Description:

The City of Indianapolis supports food equity and community driven food access solutions through the Division of Community Nutrition and Food Policy (DCNFP). DCNFP's VISTA will work with the Division's food programming and partner organizations to help build capacity for a sustainable food system that improves the health and quality of life for all residents. The DCNFP seeks candidates that are self-motivated and idea-inspired in the areas of food systems, food access, public health, and food justice. This VISTA should be confident communicating policies to stakeholders, troubleshooting, and ideating solutions as applicable. This may include daily communication to farmers, grocers, other VISTAs, or other community and institutional partners. They should enjoy networking, collaborating and be comfortable with working alongside local leaders and officials. An interest in gaining experience working with diverse communities, and/or nonprofit and community organizations is preferred.

The position also offers:

- Camaraderie with several other VISTAs serving 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 DCNFP is housed 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. You will be provided with a downtown parking pass that will allow you easy access for work. Indianapolis is easy to navigate, has a growing indie restaurant/craft beer/coffee scene, and lots of places to play and recreate!

### Member Duties:

In addition to the gratifying work to help improve the food system in Indianapolis, responsibilities of the Food Program and Community Liaison VISTA include:

- Acting as a representative of the Indy Food Access Coalition and Division of Community Nutrition and Food Policy
- Implementing action items to achieve community-focused goals
- Communicating regularly with stakeholders via phone, email, and social media
- Building connections with all food system stakeholders to nurture relationships, that would build capacity around the Indy food system
- Planning and hosting coalition meetings and newsletter distribution

During your VISTA term, you will also be one of several VISTAs serving 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 full-time staff member to provide mentoring and professional development to the team.