

Indy Hunger Network Cooking & Nutrition Education Coordinator VISTA 2023-2024

Help promote nutritious food by facilitating and expanding our cooking education program across 5 counties.

- Term of service: June 5, 2023 – June 4, 2024
- To apply: <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?fromSearch=true&id=116392>
- For more information: Caleb Kulinski, Director of Advocacy & Partner Engagement, Indy Hunger Network, caleb@indyhunger.org

Service Description:

As the Cooking & Nutrition Education Coordinator VISTA, you will improve access to healthy foods for people using food assistance by building the capacity of our Cooking Matters program. This is one of several projects operated by Indy Hunger Network (IHN), a coalition of hunger relief agencies working to ensure that anyone who is hungry can access the nutritious food they need. In this role, you will build capacity for our cooking and nutrition education classes by growing our volunteer program and expanding our reach to new sites and populations both within and outside of Marion County.

You will have the opportunity to grow as a professional, including working in a traditional office environment, and networking both within IHN and the greater hunger-relief community. The opportunity to witness lives changing while at the same time being able to document those changes quantitatively is a unique and particularly valuable aspect of this professional experience. We are looking for individuals who are passionate about hunger relief, believe in the power of hands-on learning to change lives, possess exceptional attention to detail, and demonstrate compassion and empathy with people from all walks of life.

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
- 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. Your colleagues will be 3 other VISTAs + 8 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 Cooking and Nutrition Education Coordinator VISTA will:

- Recruit and train volunteers
- Create volunteer training videos and develop a volunteer tracking platform
- Recruit new host sites for both in-person and virtual classes in Marion County
- Assist in establishing satellite partner host sites for other organizations throughout the state that want to host cooking and nutrition classes supported and funded through IHN
- Work as a team member to reach new audiences for cooking and nutrition education, with a special focus on parents of young children

During your VISTA term, you will be one of several VISTA members serving under the umbrella of the Indy Hunger Network (IHN). IHN regards its VISTA members as a cohort moving through a transformational year-long experience. To help you maximize this experience, we employ a full-time staff member to provide mentoring and professional development to the VISTA.