

Indy Hunger Network Food Pantry Network Coordinator VISTA 2023-2024

Strengthen the food system by building capacity for IHN's Food Pantry Network, which offers support to local food pantries.

- Term of service: June 5, 2023 – June 4, 2024
- To apply: <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?fromSearch=true&id=116469>
- For more information: Caleb Kulinski, Director of Advocacy & Partner Engagement, Indy Hunger Network, caleb@indyhunger.org

Service Description:

IHN is a coalition of organizations working to ensure anyone who is hungry can access the nutritious food they need. One of IHN's programs, the Food Pantry Network, strengthens the emergency food system by supporting food pantries as they practice collaboration, adopt best practices, and increase their organizational effectiveness. Specifically, this program offers training, coalition-building, grant funding, technical assistance, and capacity-building equipment to the 300+ food pantries in Central Indiana. In this role, you will work with food pantry leaders and partner organizations to coordinate relevant projects to support more food pantries.

This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in nonprofit programs, the food system, or systems-level approaches to anti-poverty work. You will build a professional network, both within IHN and the greater public health community. We are looking for someone who enjoys wearing many hats and who is comfortable interacting with people from many different backgrounds.

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 Food Pantry Network Coordinator VISTA will:

- Coordinate the 2023 Grant Program for food pantries
- Organize training and networking opportunities for food pantries
- Support pantries in adopting healthy practices through technical assistance and equipment
- Assist in planning a first-of-its-kind event for food pantry leaders

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.