

Westminster Neighborhood Services Food Pantry Coordinator VISTA 2023-2024

As a VISTA with Westminster, you will be instrumental in helping expand the support and empowerment of families through access to healthy foods.

- Term of service: June 5, 2023 – June 4, 2024
- To apply: <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?fromSearch=true&id=116397>
- For more information: Caleb Kulinski, Director of Advocacy & Partner Engagement, Indy Hunger Network, caleb@indyhunger.org

Service Description:

Westminster has provided educational support, access to basic needs, and community connections to empower neighbors and strengthen youth and families on the Near Eastside of Indianapolis for more than 40 years. Programming includes a K-8 program, a food pantry, and a soup kitchen. Westminster partners with organizations to also offer adult education, medical services, and counseling. In this role, you will help expand our pop-up pantry service. This includes identifying new locations to further meet the needs of Near Eastside residents, recruiting volunteers for the pop-up pantry, and creating marketing materials. The VISTA member will also work on expanding Westminster's Christmas basket program, helping to serve more neighborhoods and identify ways to streamline the current process, as well as help build the capacity of the Senior Pantry Day. Westminster is looking for someone dedicated to helping low-income families access food and other supports to break down barriers in their lives.

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 on the near eastside of Indianapolis and may involve occasional travel. The VISTA member will be able to access any of the programs provided by Westminster, if needed. 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 Coordinator VISTA will:

- Expand and build the capacity of Westminster's pop-up pantry, Senior Pantry Day, and Christmas Basket programs
- Establish and build relationships with potential partners to connect seniors to additional services
- Recruit and train volunteers
- Identify, write, and report on grants that increase the number of healthy and nutritious foods provided through food pantry services

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.