

Description

Are you interested in making a real difference in your community? Are you looking to build skills and networks to help launch your first (or second) career? Would you like to see the impact of national service up close and personal?

When you join AmeriCorps, you use your energy, ideals, and talents to help others. Plus, you'll earn money for education, learn to be a leader, and gain real job skills.

Organization

Harvesters' mission is to feed hungry people today and work to end hunger tomorrow. Our agency network of shelters, food pantries, and kitchens feed 141,500 different people every month throughout a 26-county area. Since 1979 we have been providing food and hope to the people of NE Kansas and NW Missouri. Harvesters' culture is team-oriented and we value the contributions which AmeriCorps members have made to the organization since 2005. Read what our alums have to say about their service experience at <https://www.harvesters.org/Give-Time/AmeriCorps-Service-for-Harvesters>

Position Summary – AmeriCorps Community Engagement Specialist (3 FT openings in KC, 2 FT openings in Topeka)

Will create and build relationships with a diverse network of supporters by engaging them in a range of opportunities to give food, give time, and give voice.

Member Activities

Take lead role in creating and implementing new community engagement events, including volunteer recruitment and management or coordinating food donation logistics with transportation and warehouse staff, and entering data to track project success. Coordinate all aspects of at least one ongoing community engagement program within the department, including a process improvement plan. Create and implement at least one new activity or event which will educate, engage, or empower the community to support Harvesters' mission. Occasionally supervise volunteers in the Volunteer Engagement Center (VEC) where donated perishable and non-perishable food items are sorted and repackaged. Give tours of the facility, staff poster displays, and talk with groups about Harvesters' mission and how to get involved. Develop and conduct service learning activities for youth groups and families in conjunction with community engagement events and national days of service. Provide excellent customer service via phone and email, to new and current supporters by coordinating logistics for community-based food donation programs or individual and group volunteer visits. Service schedule is primarily Tuesday – Saturday with one weeknight evening (8p), including some required and optional service activities on designated weekends.

Position Summary – AmeriCorps SNAP Outreach Specialist (4 FT openings in KC)

Will educate and empower our community to access food assistance resources such as SNAP (Supplemental Food Assistance Program, formerly known as 'food stamps').

Member Activities

Provide excellent customer service over the phone and in person to assist individuals with understanding and completing the application process. Educate public about SNAP at agency

and community events such as mobile food distributions, farmer's markets, health fairs, college campuses; and locations such as low-income senior and family housing, food pantries and kitchens, community and recreation centers, etc. Accurately record and enter data to create reports and track progress toward performance measures. Service schedule is primarily Monday - Friday, including some required and optional service activities on designated weekends.

Position Summary – AmeriCorps Resource Specialist (1 FT opening in KC or Topeka)

Will work to increase client access to nutritious food assistance resources, focusing on rural and underserved portions of our Kansas service area.

Member Activities

Member will be placed with 10 agencies (food pantries, kitchens and shelters) to increase their ability to provide clients with more nutritious food assistance resources, particularly to address food insecurity in rural and underserved portions of our service area. Member activities may include developing nutrition nudges for clients, training agency volunteers to encourage and empower food pantry recipients in making healthy choices, and educating clients on additional food assistance supports. Service schedule is primarily Monday - Friday, including some required and optional service activities on designated weekends.

Benefits – all

Bi-weekly living allowance (\$485.77, pretax), individual health insurance coverage at no cost, childcare assistance for qualified individuals, mileage reimbursement, student loan forbearance, CPR/First Aid/ServSafe Certification and other professional and personal development training. Members may have up to 2 weeks of time off from scheduled service. After successfully completing the service term, members earn the Segal Education Award of \$5,815 and members who are 55 and older also have the option to transfer the Award.

Qualifications – all

Some college credits or verifiable work history, with preference for college degree. Must be U.S. citizen or have Permanent Resident Alien status. May be required to lift up to 30 lbs on a recurring basis. Must have access to reliable transportation, valid driver's license, and able to pass required background checks and drug screen prior to starting. Bi-lingual skills preferred but not required. Have a commitment to the mission of Harvesters; be a quick learner and self-motivated, be a team player; have good organizational and customer service skills, excellent written and oral communication skills; proficient in Microsoft Office programs.

Application Instructions – all

Due to multiple openings, applications will be processed on a rolling basis. Full-time (40 hours per week) service terms start on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 and end on July 31, 2018; minimum time service terms may be available during the year. Information on the AmeriCorps State programs and the Segal Education Award are at www.nationalservice.org. Interested persons should email a resume with two professional or academic references to the AmeriCorps Program Director at InfoRequest@harvesters.org It is the policy and practices of Harvesters to

recruit and to place AmeriCorps members regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap, sexual orientation or because such applicant is forty (40) years of age or older.