

Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service Iowa VISTA Disaster Corps



We are offering four motivated, energetic individuals the opportunity to spend a year serving in Des Moines as AmeriCorps*VISTA (domestic Peace Corps) members. Gain valuable experience and new skills while supporting disaster recovery and preparedness on a statewide basis.

These are full-time, 12-month positions, three based in Des Moines, and one based in Waterloo, IA, starting November 17, 2008. Members must be US Citizens or Permanent Residents, at least 18 years of age, self-starters and possess a valid driver's license, as travel will be required. VISTA members serve full-time for one year and receive a lifetime of experience.

Job Title: AmeriCorps VISTA Member – Iowa VISTA Disaster Corps

Organization: Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service (ICVS)

About ICVS ICVS is a state agency devoted to increasing volunteerism and service throughout the state of Iowa. Working in partnership with other governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, schools and community groups, we plan to strengthen and expand citizen disaster preparedness and response capabilities – focusing on low income and special needs populations.

About the Positions:

Major Responsibilities:

- Work with local community organizations to identify and address disaster recovery needs
- Establish infrastructure that will address ongoing recovery needs for future disasters
- Work with the Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council, develop communications plan
- Assist with identification and securing of funding and other resources for disaster recovery
- Develop volunteer management plan and serve as volunteer coordinator
- Work closely with Long-Term Recovery Committees to establish processes & systems and to identify and meet unmet needs
- Assist with development of Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) or Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COADS) in local communities
- Provide outreach, training and technical assistance on disaster-related issues
- Develop and implement recovery plans and projects
- Bachelor Degree or equivalent experiences in relevant field preferred
- Motivated, self-starter with an openness to new approaches and a positive attitude
- Experience and commitment to working with diverse groups of people
- Ability to learn or current knowledge of mentoring and mentoring program issues
- Strong communication skills (written and oral, including public speaking)
- Ability and willingness to be self-directed while serving as a team member
- Ability to create and implement a program plan
- Comfort with team facilitation, training and management roles
- Belief in power of volunteers as a community problem-solving strategy
- Experience or high level of interest in one, or more of the following areas:
 - Community or Economic Development
 - Community Outreach and Empowerment, including Resource Access Issues
 - Disaster Relief and Homeland Security
 - Public Health and Public Safety
 - Leadership Development

Please contact ICVS for more specific position descriptions.

Qualifications:

Compensation:

- Annual living allowance (\$9,996)
- Education Award (\$4,725) or End of Service Stipend (\$1,200) for successful term of service
- Student loan forbearance or deferment during service (most Federal loans)
- Health insurance coverage
- Child Care Assistance, if eligible
- Relocation Allowance
- Professional development opportunities, including intensive disaster training

To Apply:

Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service

Julie Struck, 515-242-5588 or 515-242-4866 or Julie.Struck@iowalifechanging.com

ON-LINE: <https://recruit.cns.gov/>

Deadline: October 1, 2008

Equal Opportunity - Recognizing that the fabric of our society is strengthened by the diversity of its citizens, the policy of the Corporation for National and Community Service is to ensure a mutual respect for all differences among us. We do not discriminate in any aspect of employment or service because of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, or any other improper criterion.