



High Desert Food & Farm Alliance and Warm Springs Community Action Team



Job Title: Food Sovereignty Support
(AmeriCorps VISTA)

Location: Warm Springs, Oregon

Job Type: Anti-Hunger Corps VISTA

<https://www.hungerfreeamerica.org/AmeriCorpsService>

Service Dates: June 07 – August 16, 2021

Application due date: April 26, 2021

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: The High Desert Food & Farm Alliance (HDFFA), in partnership with the Warm Springs Community Action Team (WSCAT) and Hunger Free America, is seeking a ten-week summer VISTA member to increase the capacity of community-based networks across the country to implement anti-hunger strategies. This position will be placed by HDFFA with daily supervision by WSCAT. The VISTA's service, including benefits, are managed through Hunger Free America.

About the Anti-Hunger Corps: The Anti-Hunger Corps VISTA program aims to reduce hunger and, poverty, and build the capacity of the agencies that address these issues. Members will build the capacity of the organization to assist unemployed and under-employed people obtain job training, job placement, and financial literacy services; improve access to food from government and nonprofit sources for targeted populations in particular and food insecure people in general; enable residents of food deserts to access healthier foods through farmers markets and community gardens; help more low-income children to obtain free school breakfasts and summer meals; enable nonprofit groups fighting hunger and poverty to raise more money and recruit and manage more volunteers, particularly high-impact and skilled volunteers.

About the Warm Springs Community Action Team: Warm Springs Community Action Team (WSCAT), located in Warm Springs, Oregon, promotes community development by empowering individuals and groups of people to realize their potential, become self-reliant, and affect positive change for themselves, their families, and their community. The Warm Springs Indian Reservation, home of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, covers 1,000 miles in rural Wasco and Jefferson Counties.

About HDFFA: The High Desert Food and Farm Alliance (HDFFA) is a non-profit whose mission is to support a healthy and thriving food and farm network in Central Oregon through education, collaboration and inclusivity. We meet our mission by fostering relationships between producers (farmers, ranchers and food businesses) and consumers, increasing awareness of and access to food from our region, and cultivating community participation with local food. We serve farmers, ranchers, food businesses, nonprofits and underserved families in the high desert region of Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson Counties. We believe everyone deserves good food.

HDFFA is an Equal Opportunity Employer that abides by federal and state laws that prohibit discrimination against all individuals based on their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation or national origin; or their status as protected veterans or individuals with disabilities.

Position Summary

HDFFA and WSCAT are seeking a passionate and organized Food Sovereignty Support VISTA team member to 1) Increase awareness of food security and food sovereignty within the Warm Springs community, and 2) Increase food security through distribution of fresh, locally grown foods. The Food Sovereignty Support VISTA will work directly with the WSCAT in Warm Springs and will be supervised by WSCAT; HDFFA is responsible for placement only.

Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate will be passionate about improving food access and for working with rural communities. They should be familiar with food systems work such as food sovereignty, food security, health and food justice, and agriculture, preferably in Central Oregon. Creative problem solving, interpersonal skills, being proactive and self-directed are necessary as well as excellent organization and communication skills.

Time Commitment:

This is a short-term, 10-week, full-time position beginning June 7, 2021 and ending August 16, 2021. This position is located in the community of Warm Springs. You are expected to be available for the needs of your community and project at all times. Because AmeriCorps VISTA service requires a full immersion in the project and community, there are restrictions on outside full-time employment. Summer Associates may be able to have a part-time job outside of VISTA service, however, they will discuss this with their supervisor prior to starting their position. Also, AmeriCorps VISTA and Summer Associates must adhere to some restrictions on political and religious activities. For more information, please review the [AmeriCorps VISTA Terms and Conditions](#).

Housing:

No housing allowance will be provided; please be prepared to address your housing plan during the interview process.

Primary responsibilities and functions

Project Specific Work

1. Increase awareness of food security and food sovereignty within the Warm Springs community
 - a. Activities: Create educational materials (e.g. videos, handouts, social media post), share information through the community, conduct informal information gathering at community food access sites (gardens, food distribution).
2. Increase food security through distribution of fresh, locally grown foods
 - a. Activities: Find and connect with local farmers, pack and distribute food kits, conduct surveys to gauge interest and gather feedback from participants, share information about other food access opportunities (e.g. home gardens, community gardens, local farmers markets), assist with set-up of community garden space.

Desired Qualifications

A Bachelor's degree in a relevant field and/or one to two years of related work/volunteer experience. Understanding of food sovereignty and rural food access. Additional work



experience that could contribute to the position may include: assisting, organizing, implementing and/or delivering programs or project work; community organizing; campaigning; and/or advocacy work. In addition, we are looking for:

- *Required:* Ability to work remotely, as needed
- *Required:* Ability to lift and move up to 50 pounds
- *Required:* In order to qualify for the position, you must be 18 years or older (no upper age limit). Members must also hold one of the following citizenship or legal residency statuses: US citizen, US National, Lawful Permanent Resident (i.e. Green Card status), and persons legally residing within a state. Examples of persons legally residing within a state may include those holding the following classifications: refugee, asylee, temporary protected status throughout VISTA service, and holding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status
- Stellar written and oral communication skills; excellent organizational skills; and strong interpersonal, planning, and training skills
- Flexibility and ability to balance multiple projects
- Positive attitude and a proven ability to work successfully with people from all backgrounds and a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion

A valid driver's license is required for this position

Compensation, Benefits and Time Commitment

This volunteer position is short-term full-time (40 hours/week) with a bi-weekly stipend of \$513.94 as set by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Program Benefits:

- \$513.94 bi-weekly living allowance
- Segal Education Award (\$1,342.86) or End-of-Service stipend (\$345.80)
- Paid holiday – July 4th
- Experience in the nonprofit sector
- A network of over 180,000 AmeriCorps VISTA members and alums
- Opportunity to work with and gain exposure to other farms, ranches, and non-profits in the Central Oregon area

Application Process

In order to be considered for this position, please provide the following:

1. **Resume**
2. **Cover letter** that directly speaks to your qualifications for this position. Use this as an opportunity to tell us what makes you the best candidate.
3. **Writing Sample:** Provide a one-page "fake" press release about HDFFA's Grow & Give programming. This should be drafted to meet the subject matter with the writing style that matches what you might be asked to do if you were hired for this position. You may make up any details you want but use realistic information about Central Oregon and HDFFA.

All materials should be provided only in a Word or PDF document and be

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labeled as follows. Do not send google docs.

o LAST NAME_NAME OF DOCUMENT (for example: Smith_resume)

In addition, to be considered for this position you must also **apply to the Anti-Hunger and Opportunity Corps Summer Associate Program at my.americorps.gov**

Application materials will be reviewed as received. Applications can be sent to info@hdffa.org or mailed to PO Box 1782 Bend OR 97709.