

Experience Matters AmeriCorps VISTA Member

About Cities of Service

Cities of Service is a nonprofit organization that helps mayors build stronger cities by changing the way local government and citizens work together. We help coalition cities tap into the knowledge, creativity, and service of their citizens to help identify and solve critical public problems. Cities of Service supports a coalition of more than 260 cities, representing over 73 million people across the Americas and Europe.

With a data-driven focus on creating measurable results, Cities of Service provides counsel, expert technical assistance, and proven resources to city leaders and their staff. We bring coalition members together to share best practices, expand networks, and deepen relationships. We also design and manage competitive grant programs for cities that leverage our expertise in advising and connecting cities.

About Experience Matters

Cities of Service and its program partner AARP have launched Experience Matters to mobilize volunteers ages 50+ to tackle a driver of poverty related to financial security and youth academic performance. From providing tailored tutoring support to making exterior home improvements, citizen volunteers will be making a difference on poverty and making communities stronger.

Cities of Service awarded each winning city \$25,000 to support the efforts of citizen groups and local nonprofits to fight a driver of poverty through home repairs, financial empowerment, youth academic performance, and business start-ups. In addition, two AmeriCorps VISTA members will serve in each winning city's city hall to build capacity and raise awareness. The program is made possible with support from Bloomberg Philanthropies and AARP.

Position Overview

Cities of Service is seeking <u>AmeriCorps VISTA members</u> to support the Experience Matters program. This position requires a high level of community interaction and coordination skills,



calling on VISTA members to design and implement a new city initiative in partnership with city departments and external organizations. AmeriCorps VISTAs will be working in each grantee city's city hall with senior level city staff.

Responsibilities include:

- Develop and administer a new city initiative
- Recruit, train, and manage volunteers
- Raise the profile of the initiative through creative outreach strategies
- Cultivate and maintain partnerships among stakeholders such as community organizations, city agencies, nonprofit organizations, neighborhoods associations, and block groups
- Maintain a database of Experience Matters stakeholders
- Maintain stakeholder relationships
- Interview community members affected by Experience Matters projects
- Write stories about the impact of the Experience Matters projects
- Help secure funding to sustain and expand Experience Matters
- Other duties as assigned

Cities of Service Experience Matters AmeriCorps VISTA members' term of service begins on **September 3, 2019.** Two AmeriCorps VISTA positions are available in each of the following cities:

- Albuquerque, NM
- Birmingham, AL
- Columbia, SC
- Fort Worth, TX
- Saint Paul, MN
- Tulsa, OK

To learn about what some of our previous AmeriCorps VISTA members have learned during their year of service and what they are doing now, check out some of our <u>AmeriCorps VISTA</u> <u>member profiles</u> on the Cities of Service website.

Duration and Compensation

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This is a one-year, full-time AmeriCorps VISTA commitment commencing on September 3, 2019. A modest living stipend is provided and an additional end-of-service award is provided contingent on successful completion of the service year. Relocation assistance is provided if needed.

Qualifications

- Some college preferred
- Experience working in community engagement preferred
- Although not required, individuals ages 50+ are encouraged to apply

To Apply

To apply for this position in any city, please visit <u>https://my.americorps.gov/</u> and search for "Experience Matters." If you have any questions, feel free to email <u>vista@citiesofservice.org</u>.