



Food Security Program Coordinator VISTA Job Description

Overview: Beyond Housing is a nationally recognized community development organization that works to strengthen families and transform underserved communities to create a stronger, more equitable, and prosperous St. Louis region for all. We engage where we're needed, focusing on building consensus among leaders, providing and preserving housing, fostering community structures that shape lives, and guiding systems that make people's lives better.

We lead with vision for what a community can be ~ every community is different, but thriving communities tend to share the same basic set of positive traits regarding housing, safety, education, health, infrastructure, and access to basic human services.

We bring together leaders and resources, volunteers and citizens, and pursue a wide assortment of creative approaches to build stronger, healthier communities for life.

Finally, we are community builders, not kingdom builders. "It's their neighborhood, future, & dreams". Our objective is to help build and contribute the good things we do for the sake of adding value to the lives of the people we're honored to serve.

Position Summary: The Food Security Program Coordinator VISTA will lead the development of a distribution plan for a line of nutritious, satisfying, and SNAP-eligible grab-and-go meals produced by Propel Kitchens. The VISTA will work closely with Beyond Housing staff, Propel Kitchens staff, other AmeriCorps service members, and local retailers to implement strategies that meet consumer demands and overcome infrastructure and logistics challenges to ensure that WISEChoice meals are widely available throughout the St. Louis Promise Zone. Work will be performed at Beyond Housing's headquarters and Propel Kitchens, with the option to work remotely at times.

Essential Functions/Responsibilities:

- Investigate meal preferences, dietary requirements and retail obstacles faced by Promise Zone residents • Conduct market research
- Develop and maintain a list of food retailers in the St. Louis Promise Zone
- Engage with potential retail partners to investigate logistics and infrastructure conditions related to packaging, refrigeration, storage, shelving, ordering, inventory maintenance wastage, etc
- Help facilitate internal and external meetings; prepare and conduct presentations
- Create an action plan for distributing WISEChoice meals to selected retailers
- Develop protocols for collecting customer feedback and tracking product sales, wastage, more and less popular meal options, and areas of higher and lower sales volumes
- Support the development of a marketing model that responds to consumer demands to promote WISEChoice meals throughout the Promise Zone and research opportunities to build consumer trust and brand recognition
- Coordinate a launch event for WISEChoice meals
- Document standard operating procedures and train Beyond Housing and Propel Kitchens accordingly
- Develop recommendations for program improvements and expansion, to include data entry, analysis and evaluation in partnership with Evaluation department

- Work cross-programmatically to ensure that alignment and integration with the work of other internal teams; support other teams with projects/events related to food security/community health
- Participate in Beyond Housing employee trainings and events

Core Competencies:

- Collaborative -- A dynamic personality that is collaboratively minded, can recognize and identify strengths, seek consensus around mutual goals, and build meaningful relationships.
- Creative and Curious -- A systems-thinker and builder, who is not afraid to be innovative in designing solutions and has skills in articulating these ideas and concepts.
- Methodical -- Strong analytical, systems, and problem-solving skills to evaluate performance, prepare reports, and recommend/implement solutions using independent judgment. Ability to move from concepts to action through strong program design and evaluation.
- Reliable -- Leadership skills that reflect and value a team approach, demonstrated integrity, effectiveness, efficiency, and the ability to deliver high quality service. Highly capable of handling multiple tasks, projects and timelines. Excellent oral and written communications skills.
- Trusted -- Ability to work with residents, partners, and staff of diversified backgrounds with a positive, optimistic, solutions-oriented attitude. Shares a deep respect for the community, its stakeholders and the residents that we serve.
- Driven -- Passion for the work and an interest in continuous learning and improvement

Experience and Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in business, marketing, urban studies, anthropology or related field preferred
- Professional or volunteer experience in community development or social services
- Project development and management experience
- Experienced working in community-based setting
- Culturally competent in communicating, educating, and collaborating with low-income families
- Familiarity with Normandy Collaborative and 24:1 area
- Ability to self-direct
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Strong verbal and written communication
- Adaptability and flexibility; ability to work in a dynamic environment
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite, including, Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- Knowledge of community support and resources

Supervisor:

- Economic Development Manager

Supervises:

- None

Salary and Benefits:

- This is an AmeriCorps VISTA service opportunity. AmeriCorps VISTA members receive an annual living allowance of \$17,600 to cover basic expenses plus the following benefits:
 - Choice of End-of-service Segal Education Award (valued at approximately \$6000) to pay for a range of education expenses or a \$1800 cash stipend
 - Option to defer student loan payments until the end of the service year
 - Professional development training
 - Other benefits, including relocation allowance, childcare assistance, mileage reimbursement for service-related travel, and health care options
 - Federal non-competitive eligibility

- To learn more about AmeriCorps VISTA, visit here:
<https://americorps.gov/serve/fitfinder/americorps-vista>

Application Instructions:

- Please send resume and cover letter in MS word format to hr@beyondhousing.org.
 - Applicants must also apply through [Americorps.gov](https://americorps.gov). A direct link to the AmeriCorps VISTA Workforce Development Associate listing can be accessed here:
<https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?fromSearch=true&id=113460>

Beyond Housing believes that each individual is unique and we are committed to respecting the diversity of all individuals. We strive to move beyond simple tolerance, embracing and celebrating the differences contained within each of us, making us stronger as whole.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people assigned to this position. They are not intended to be a complete list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required. Beyond Housing is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

ADA – Beyond Housing is committed to furthering the purpose of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). The company is always willing to consider reasonable accommodations, which may allow a disabled person to perform this or any other job. The **Summary of Physical Requirements** is a list of what we believe at this point to be necessary in order to perform the essential functions of the job.

Diversity & Inclusion Statement: At Beyond Housing, we are committed to promoting **Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity** throughout our organization and culture. We strive to understand and appreciate the individuality of every employee and create a better place to work for all. We nurture a culture where everyone positively acknowledges equity through action and is aware, understanding, and appreciative of diversity.

Our vision is to go beyond simple tolerance and fully embrace the things that make each person unique. We recognize that our employees' differences support our ability to advance equity for the communities we serve. Further, we understand that equity is critical to the fulfillment of our mission to help entire communities become better places to live.