



VISTA

Become an AmeriCorps VISTA for Community & Economic Development and Environmental Justice

Take advantage of an opportunity to serve your community and country while gaining valuable skills and connections. The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) currently has a pilot program with the Corporation for National Community Service (CNCS) and the local Acadiana Planning Commission to provide economic development and environmental justice capacity building services to economically distressed, urban communities in Louisiana. The position will provide an opportunity to work closely with local communities, regional organizations and Federal agencies while receiving hands-on training in economic development and environmental justice.



This project will focus on the Four Corners Community of Lafayette, LA that is served by the Acadiana Planning Commission (APC). The Acadiana Planning Commission partners with the U.S. Economic Development Administration to provide region-wide strategic economic development planning. The VISTA will have the opportunity to focus on up to two individual communities to build environmental justice capacity and increase public participation in the economic redevelopment of environmentally contaminated brownfields sites within the target communities. The VISTA will work with their communities to identify economic development needs and resources to meet those needs in an effort to attract higher-paying jobs and other opportunities. The overall goal is to build capacity in urban, economically distressed communities adversely impacted by the presence of brownfield sites, to alleviate poverty, reduce unemployment, and provide a better quality of life within the community..

Start Date: November 6, 2017

Term: 1 Year

Apply at: Acadiana Planning Commission

P. O. Box 3705, Lafayette, LA, 70502

Contact: Chad M. LaComb, JD

(337) 806-0370

clacomb@planacadiana.org

APPLY NOW!

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 25

VISTA & CNCS

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), a federal agency helps more than 5 million Americans improve the lives of their fellow citizens through service. Working hand in hand with local partners, CNCS tap the ingenuity and can-do spirit of the American people to tackle some of the most pressing challenges facing our nation. CNCS invests in thousands of nonprofit and faith-based groups that are making a difference across the country. CNCS includes AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, the Social Innovation Fund, the Volunteer Generation Fund, and more. They serve, we build, and we make an impact that changes lives and communities.

AmeriCorps VISTA members are passionate and committed to their mission to bring individuals and communities out of poverty. Members make a year-long, full-time commitment to serve on a specific project at a nonprofit organization or public agency. They focus their efforts to build the organizational, administrative, and financial capacity of organizations that fight illiteracy, improve health services, foster economic development, and otherwise assist low-income communities.

BENEFITS

Serve your country and improve the quality of life for economically distressed communities.

Invaluable hands-on economic development experience.

During Service

- The position provides a \$945/month living stipend.
- The volunteer position includes health care, child care, training, relocation expenses, and liability insurance.

After Service

- **Education Stipend** - After a successful year of service, VISTAs can choose to receive either a \$1,800 stipend or a \$5,920 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award.
- **Non-Competitive Eligibility (NCE) Status** - Once a VISTA successfully completes service that VISTA will receive one year of non-competitive eligibility for employment in the federal government. This special hiring status enables the former VISTA to apply for federal jobs with the advantage of not having to go through the standard public competitive selection process. That means that you can be appointed to federal positions that may or may not be available to the general public. NCE does not guarantee a federal job, but it does provide a valuable opportunity!

For a full listing of benefits visit: www.vistacampus.gov/in-service/benefits-service