

VISTA Summer 2022 Community Arts Coordinator, Dwelling Place

AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associate

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Dwelling Place seeks an outstanding individual to provide one summer of service through AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America). Dwelling Place is a community-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the lives of people by creating quality affordable housing, providing essential support services and serving as a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization. Our AmeriCorps VISTAs will function as a core part of our staff team working alongside permanent staff, yearlong VISTA Members, internship staff, and community volunteers.

This VISTA position will be focused on designing impact measurement tools for a summer Community Arts Program where low-and-no-income residents increase personal income as well as artistic expression. Based on the belief that all people have the ability to express themselves creatively, our Community Arts initiatives create space for self-expression and community connection. We use art and culture to build relationships, bring people who feel isolated to the center, amplify resident voices, communicate with one another, and celebrate. Projects emphasize the process of creation as individuals and highlight the theme of collective creation.

In conjunction with Dwelling Place's Heartside Artist In Residence, VISTA will work with a staff to design 4 measurement tools, test them in the field by hosting 3+ community arts activities. Project coordinator will work to design, promote, facilitate and measure the program's impact on low- and no-income residents, especially those living in permanent supportive housing in the Heartside neighborhood.

The expected outcomes from this initiative are to increase evidence of Dwelling Place's Community Arts Programming Impact in the Heartside Neighborhood. This will be evidenced by 3 Community arts programs, 20+ resident participants and the creation of three surveys, observation and creative engagement collection tools.

Project goal: Design and implement impact measurement tools for a summer Community Arts Program where low-and-no-income residents increase personal income as well as artistic expression.

This position requires a commitment to serve as a full-time employee for a ten (10) week period beginning Monday June 6, 2022 – August 14, 2022. Compensation is paid directly to VISTA Summer Associates in the form of a modest bi-weekly living allowance from AmeriCorps VISTA. At the end of the term of service, an education award or cash stipend may be provided. For more information about AmeriCorps VISTA, see <http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/amicorps/amicorps-vista>.

Training and Qualifications

- U.S. Citizen at least 18 years of age
- Responsible, self-motivated, and able to handle multiple on-going projects
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Relevant non-profit or community development experience
- Computer skills required (MS Office products proficiency helpful)

- Other language skills a plus
- Ability to exercise considerable initiative and independent judgment and follow-through
- Maintains regular and timely attendance
- Thrives in a fast-paced work environment

Applications will be accepted until Monday, May 2, 2022. For more information or to apply, contact Heather Ibrahim at hibrahim@dpgr.org.