

Excited about community organizing, social justice, service learning, and helping to end homelessness?

So are we!

**Join the
Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness (SKCCH)
for a year as an AmeriCorps/VISTA!**

Start date: August 24, 2009.

We are looking for a ***smart, enthusiastic, capable,*** and ***dedicated*** person who wants to be part of our lively Coalition. This is a wonderful opportunity to develop skills in ***community organizing, public education, volunteer engagement,*** and ***communications,*** and be active in the real work of ending homelessness today, tonight, and tomorrow.

This VISTA position will work within the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness to increase public understanding of child and family homelessness, and engage volunteers in education, service, and action.

About the host: The Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness (SKCCH)

is an independent 29-year-old homeless coalition made up of more than 50 program partners. Our mission is to ensure the safety and survival of people who are homeless, and to end the crisis of homelessness in our region. We do not provide direct services, but our members are responsible for most of the emergency shelter and survival services, transitional housing, and permanent housing and supportive services for people leaving homelessness in King County, WA. SKCCH advocates for good services, smart public policies, and the public and private investments necessary to end homelessness.

We organize the annual **One Night Count of people who are homeless without shelter**, involving more than 800 volunteers in one night, and coordinate **Project Cool for Back to School**, through which more than 1800 homeless children and youth receive backpacks, school and hygiene supplies, and new shoes at the start of each school year.

We are looking for someone who is comfortable working **respectfully** with people from many different economic, social, educational, and cultural backgrounds, and **committed** to working towards **more justice** and **less homelessness**. We seek a person who is **mature** and **self-motivated**, and can work both **independently** and as **part of a team**. We value strong **writing** and **problem-solving** skills, and good general communication skills (**listening and talking**). Computer skills: word processing, e-mail, Excel (*required*); database management; html or web experience; desktop publishing (*desired*). **Creativity and sense of humor** a plus!

Qualifications: A four year college degree OR an equivalent combination of college-level education and strong work or volunteer experience. Applicant must be comfortable speaking, reading, and writing in English. We strongly desire that our AmeriCorps/VISTA has previous paid or volunteer experience with people who are very low income or homeless, or people who are otherwise disenfranchised. Experience with or knowledge of one or more of the following topics would be extremely helpful: service learning, community education, advocacy, project management, event organizing, communications, conflict resolution; outreach; Spanish.

To apply: By Friday, July 31st, 2009, please send a cover letter describing why you are interested in this position, along with a current resume, contact information for three references, and a 3-5 page writing sample to: SKCCH 77 So. Washington St., Seattle, WA 98104 or e-mail to skcch@homelessinfo.org or fax to (206) 357-3101.

Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and interviews scheduled for qualified applicants*. Applications must be received no later than Friday, July 31st, at 5.00 p.m. Interviews (in-person strongly preferred) will be held during the week of August 3rd, 2009. **Note:** You MUST be available for AmeriCorps training in Yakima, WA, from August 24 through August 27, 2009. On-site work in Seattle, WA begins Tuesday, September 1, 2009.

To qualify, you must meet eligibility requirements of AmeriCorps (“Fighting Poverty with Passion” http://www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/choose/vista.asp), and the Washington Service Corps. You must:

- be a U.S. Citizen (must submit proof of citizenship);
- be over 18 years old;
- have a High School diploma or an equivalency (or must agree to obtain diploma or equivalent prior to using AmeriCorps education award);
- pass a criminal background check; not be listed on the National Register of Sex Offenders;
- not take classes or have outside employment during your term of service.

VISTA members commit to the following terms of service:

- Serving full-time (40 hours a week, including some nights and weekends) for a year;
- Living stipend is set at \$949 a month;
- Health insurance provided during the service year (for VISTA member only);
- Student loan deferment;
- Child care if qualified;
- At the end of a successful full service year, member is eligible to receive either a \$4,725 Education Award or a \$1,200 cash stipend

For more information, please contact Alison Eisinger, SKCCH Executive Director (alison@homelessinfo.org or 206-357-3148) or check the SKCCH web site: www.homelessinfo.org