



2021 COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR VISTA

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

Iowa Valley RC&D is a non-profit established in 1998 with the mission to enhance quality of life for Iowans by strengthening food systems, leading collaborative placemaking projects, and bringing technical assistance to rural communities. Iowa Valley works to help the social, environmental, and economic features of our food systems to be more equitable, more local, and more sustainable.

The Community Outreach Coordinator VISTA position will be primarily contributing to Iowa Valley's Grow: Johnson County program. Grow: Johnson County is a hunger relief and educational farm program based in Iowa City. Grow is working towards a just food system by producing fresh, organic vegetables for its hunger relief partners in Johnson County. Grow provides education opportunities for aspiring growers in sustainable food production practices, including cover cropping, on-farm habitat, and organic pest and weed management.

COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE

Diversity brings strength, creativity, and resilience. One of Iowa Valley's key roles is creating meaningful opportunities for Black, Indigenous, and people of color to engage in the food system. Iowa Valley seeks to empower marginalized people to become future leaders in a just, equitable food system.

Iowa Valley is a proud equal opportunity employer. There is **no tolerance** for discrimination or harassment of any kind in this organization. All qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply, especially those who have been marginalized by society due to race, color, religion, gender, gender nonconformity, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or veteran status.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Community Outreach Coordinator VISTA will be focused on building capacity within the Grow: Johnson County program. In order to advance Grow: Johnson County's effort to center racial equity and food sovereignty across all facets of the program's efforts, the Community Outreach Coordinator VISTA will conduct research into best practices on these topics, and then implement those practices in the form of racial equity policies, a Consumer Advisory Board, and farm-based educational programming for BIPOC youth. This position will focus on three key objectives:

1. Develop a set of recommended policies and indicators that incorporate Grow's racial equity goals and present recommendations to staff and Board of Directors;

2. Launch Grow: Johnson County's Consumer Advisory Board to create a shared-power structure that directly involves those receiving food from the farm in crop planning and program decision making;
3. Support the Grow: Johnson County Education Coordinator in creating educational and community programming to ensure that Grow's racial equity goals are accomplished;

To that end, this position will make important connections with Grow's partner organizations, as well as those who receive Grow's food and those who participate in the farm's educational programming. Through these relationships, the Community Outreach Coordinator VISTA will be charged with making the program more inclusive to and driven by the communities being served through the program.

This is a full-time, temporary position (July 2021 - July 2022). The Community Outreach Coordinator VISTA will report to Access and Equity Coordinator Míchi López. This position is primarily based at Iowa Valley RC&D's office in Amana, Iowa, though they will also spend time at the Johnson County Historic Poor Farm in Iowa City. The staff is currently transitioning to a hybrid-work model including a mix of remote and in-office work.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR VISTA

- Have an interest in issues surrounding food apartheid, food sovereignty, and sustainable agriculture, and be eager to get involved in addressing those issues;
- A mix of educational background and real-world experience in public health, community organizing and engagement, environmental issues, and/or community food systems;
- Excellent communication & facilitation skills;
- Proficient in the Microsoft Office Suite;

COVID-19 WORKER SAFETY

Iowa Valley RC&D follows strict adherence to public health guidelines regarding COVID-19. All staff must wear masks in indoor areas and follow social distancing practices. These policies will be revisited based on changes in CDC guidance.

COMPENSATION

The Americorps VISTA compensation package includes a bi-monthly stipend of \$513, as well as a \$6,195 Segal education award.

TO APPLY

To apply for the 2021 Community Outreach Coordinator VISTA, complete the form on growjohnsoncounty.org/vista and send a resume to Míchi López at michi@ivr.cd.org: Interviews will be conducted with qualified applicants on a rolling basis beginning on the week of May 31st and will continue until the position is filled.

CONTACT

For any questions or concerns regarding the position please contact Míchi López at michi@ivr.cd.org