Job Title: Hunger Commission VISTA

Reports to: VP of Marketing & Community Engagement

Classification: Full-time AmeriCorps VISTA

United Way of Greater New Bedford (UWGNB) mobilizes people, partnerships, and resources to catalyze change that strengthens the communities we serve. UWGNB operates the Hunger Commission, which provides food and logistical support free of charge to programs that support families and individuals in need. Program partners include established pantries, shelters, soup kitchens, and Council on Aging centers.

As the Hunger Commission VISTA with UWGNB, you will be joining thousands of VISTAs across the country, who are united in the mission of lifting people and communities out of poverty. You will be helping local organizations expand their capacity to make change through activities such as volunteer recruitment, fundraising and community research. As UWGNB’s Hunger Commission Program VISTA, you will be addressing food insecurity and hunger in our community. You will build the capacity of our United Way and partner organizations to empower BIPOC families living in poverty so that they are better able to access nutritious food and receive health education that helps them maximize their food budgets and cook healthy meals. As a result of your efforts, UWGNB will better understand what food services are currently available in our area, where service gaps are, and which best practices can be adopted to enhance program impact and leverage resources to better achieve program goals.

UWGNB’s employee culture is one of service, kindness, and resourcefulness. This is a great opportunity for someone to join a small collaborative, supportive team. A successful VISTA candidate is a flexible, self-motivated, detail-oriented, and able to work with people from a variety of backgrounds.

By joining UWGNB team, you will work with some of the best professionals in the field and have opportunities for professional development, networking and building community and corporate partnerships. This experience will prepare you for a life of service in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Every United Way of Greater New Bedford staff member and volunteer serves as an ambassador for the organization, demonstrating a culture of fundraising, service, and volunteer engagement.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Identify and strengthen the capacity of United Way’s Hunger Commission and its initiatives that provide access to nutritious food, cooking and growing food, and financial stability programming for BIPOC communities
- Increase community awareness and support for program objectives
- Strengthen current partnerships and networks with organizations working to achieve similar goals and identify and build relationships expand programming
• Conduct a yearly review of distribution partners to identify the potential for growth or needs
• Work alongside partners to develop items such as culturally inclusive recipe cards for distribution at local farmer and mobile markets
• Support research and implementation of the SouthCoast Gleaning Program led by the Marion Institute
• Research/review resource development strategies and systems for food programs at United Way of Greater New Bedford and partners.
• Increase financial resources by developing targeted fundraising plans, organizing fundraising events and seek donations for specific projects through proposal writing and strengthened relationships with donors.
• Ensure volunteer-led and supported initiatives have a steady supply of competent and engaged volunteers by building each partner’s capacity to recruit volunteers through Volunteer SouthCoast, and manage and retain those volunteers.
• Develop relationships with community leaders and organizations that can open doors and advance project goals.
• Develop performance measurement tools and improve methods to collect, analyze and make decisions based on data.

BENEFITS
• Earn a $6,345 education award OR $1,800 stipend upon successful completion of service
• Monthly living allowance
• Healthcare coverage
• Childcare assistance
• Professional development training

REQUIREMENTS
• Must be 18 years old or older
• UWGNB requires new hires to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Candidates should email resume and cover letter to vgrasela@unitedwayofgnb.org. Please list subject as Hunger Commission VISTA. Resumes will be accepted on a rolling basis until service position is filled.