



128 Union Street, Suite 105 · New Bedford, MA 02740 · Tel: 508-994-9625 · Fax: 508-994-9667

Mobilizing people, partnerships, and resources to catalyze change that strengthens the communities we serve.

Job Title: Southcoast Food Policy Council VISTA

Reports to: VP of Marketing & Community Engagement at UWGNB / Executive Director at Marion Institute

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. United Way is an active member and collaborator with the Marion Institute's Southcoast Food Policy Council (SFPC). Their mission is to connect, convene, and advocate for local food producers, consumers, and community leaders who seek policy and systems that strengthen our regional food system, improve community health, and eliminate food insecurity.

As the Southcoast Food Policy Council VISTA, you will be joining thousands of VISTAs across the country, who are united in the mission of supporting 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 outreach. As UWGNB's Southcoast Food Policy Council VISTA, you will assist us with addressing food security issues, specifically in the BIPOC communities, and expanding opportunities to provide local residents with healthy, culturally-relevant food options. You will engage residents to elicit feedback regarding creating an equitable food system for all its members and help build the capacity of UWGNB, the SFPC, and our partner organizations as we empower BIPOC residents living in poverty to access nutritious foods, receive strategies to help them maximize their food budgets, and tips for cooking healthy meals for their families. As a result of your efforts, UWGNB and the SFPC will better understand our BIPOC communities need and want to see changed, and improved upon, as we collectively work toward building an inclusive regional food system.

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 flexible, self-motivated, detail-oriented, and able to work with people from diverse 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

- Assist SFPC's Program Manager in the recruitment of Resident Equity Advisors (REA) to represent BIPOC people impacted by hunger on the SFPC's Community Advisory Board (CAB).
- Train REA's regarding the key outcomes of the 2021 Food System Assessment and provide an overview of the purpose and mission of food policy councils.
- Meet with REA's monthly to receive feedback about their concerns and ideas regarding building an equitable food system.



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- Identify people in each community who can provide in-person translation services and translate necessary documents, so REA's can communicate in their primary language.
- Increase community awareness and support for program objectives.
- Support, research, and implementation of the Southcoast Gleaning Program led by the SFPC in partnership with the Hunger Commission VISTA
- Work to eliminate service redundancies and address service gaps by adding new and/or expanding existing programs with SFPC members.

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 a resume and cover letter to vgrasela@unitedwayofgnb.org. Please list the subject as "Southcoast Food Policy Council VISTA." Resumes will be accepted on a rolling basis until the service position is filled.