



Housing Action Illinois

A stronger Illinois begins at home

BREAKING DOWN THE COSTS: VISTA Members & VISTA Summer Associates

	VISTA MEMBER	VISTA SUMMER ASSOCIATE
Project Participation Fee	\$5,000 <i>2 incremental installments of \$2,500</i>	\$850 per Summer Associate <i>No incremental installments</i>
Ventra or Metra Monthly Transit Pass for Chicagoland VISTAs	\$100 - \$180 per month <i>Depends on distance</i>	\$100 - \$180 per month <i>Depends on distance</i>
Housing Action Membership Dues	\$35 - \$300 per year <i>(Depends on Annual Budget)</i>	\$35 - \$300 per year <i>(Depends on Annual Budget)</i>

Note:

These costs are the bare minimum requirements for host sites. **Housing Action strongly encourages organizations to offer supplemental benefits to VISTAs such as a housing stipend and/or gift cards to local establishments (grocery stores, gas stations, etc.).** Doing so drastically increases the chances of securing a candidate for your VISTA Position. What's more, there are other costs you should keep in mind that we cannot predict, such as the staff time it will take to supervise and support a VISTA, travel reimbursement for on-the-job travel, and the cost of marketing the position for successful recruitment.



Housing Action Illinois

A stronger Illinois begins at home

KNOWING THE DIFFERENCE:

Indirect vs. Direct Service

Direct Service – Activities that provide an in-person, measurable benefit to an individual, a group, or a community: working directly with people to make change or doing work that is involved in making that direct change.

Indirect Service – Activities that build the capacity of organizations to enhance the mission, strategy, skills, and culture, as well as systems, infrastructure, and human resources, of an organization that is meeting unmet community needs. Capacity-building activities help an organization gain greater independence and sustainability.

INDIRECT SERVICE	DIRECT SERVICE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Write Grants and Organize Fundraisers- Community Organizing- Enhance Marketing Tools- Recruit Volunteers to Build Houses- Write a Financial Literacy Course Curriculum- Set Up Partnerships in the Community- Create Volunteer Management System for an Overnight Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tutor Children in Reading- Reorganize a Food Pantry- Client Intake & Case Management- Build Houses- Teach a Financial Literacy Course- Deliver Meals on Wheels



KNOWING THE DIFFERENCE: VISTA Members & VISTA Summer Associates

	VISTA MEMBER	VISTA SUMMER ASSOCIATE
Term of Service	Full-time, 12-month commitment	Full-time, 8–10-week commitment (June–August)
Project Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Affordable Housing - Supportive Housing - Homelessness Prevention - Housing Counseling - Community Development - Financial Literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Affordable Housing - Supportive Housing - Homelessness Prevention - Housing Counseling - Community Development - Financial Literacy - Youth Summer Education - Hunger (Food Insecurity)
*How many can an organization host?	One Member at a time	No limit
**Type of Service	Indirect service	Indirect and/or direct service
Host Site Fee	\$5,000 <i>(2 incremental installments of \$2,500)</i>	\$850 per Summer Associate <i>(no incremental installments)</i>
Start Dates	6/8, 7/6, 7/20, 8/3, 8/17, or 8/31	6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, or 6/29
Position Benefits Click Here for Full Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Living allowance - Choice of Education Award (\$6,095) or End of Service Stipend (\$1,803) - Non-Competitive Eligibility Status for Federal Jobs - Healthcare Allowance - 10 Health Leave Days - 10 Personal Leave Days <p><i>If Eligible:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relocation payment (\$750) - Child Care Assistance - SNAP (Link card) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Living allowance - Choice of Education Award (\$1,289) or End of Service Stipend (\$345) - 1 or 2 sick days may be granted but must be made up by serving extra hours before the end of their term of service

* Organizations can apply for/host both VISTA Member and VISTA Summer Associate positions.

** See previous page for a description and examples of indirect service and direct service.