



# Syracuse-Onondaga Food Systems Alliance

## Double Up Food Bucks Outreach AmeriCorps VISTA Member- Syracuse

This is an AmeriCorps VISTA position. Information about this program can be found here:  
<https://americorps.gov/>

Are you passionate about local food and improving food access for your friends and neighbors? Are you looking to get into a career in food systems, community organizing, or non-profits? If you said yes to any or all of those questions, then apply to become a Double Up Food Bucks Outreach VISTA member!

Double Up Food Bucks (DUFb) addresses access to healthy foods by offering SNAP participants a \$1 for \$1 match to buy locally grown produce at participating farmers markets, mobile markets, small retail, and grocery locations. Our VISTA members will be serving in areas with high food insecurity to connect SNAP participants to community services. Embedded within the [Syracuse-Onondaga Food Systems Alliance \(SOFSa\)](#) and part of a statewide team supervised by Field & Fork Network, the VISTA Double Up Food Bucks Outreach Coordinator will focus on expanding access to and utilization of the DUFb program within the city of Syracuse and surrounding Onondaga County.

Primary responsibilities of the Double Up Food Bucks Outreach VISTA Member:

- Identify and assess barriers to food access among residents of Syracuse and Onondaga County
- Support implementation of a DUFb Community Ambassador pilot project
- Enhance regional network of community partners working to address nutritional security
- Coordinate outreach to increase awareness of DUFb and promote its use
- Provide operational support to existing DUFb retailers to increase utilization
- Identify prospective retailers who may be interested in offering DUFb to their customers and support adoption

### About the Syracuse-Onondaga Food Systems Alliance:

Established in 2019, the Syracuse-Onondaga Food Systems Alliance (SOFSa) is a network of food system stakeholders working collectively to strengthen our food system so that it works for all people in the city of Syracuse, Onondaga County, and Onondaga Nation. We bring communities together to foster relationships, develop projects, align resources, and advocate for policies to improve the health of our neighbors and our environment.

### About Field & Fork Network:

Field & Fork Network is a New York State food and farming non-profit organization that connects communities to innovative solutions that foster a sustainable food system. Our work focuses on four important areas: agriculture economic development, food access, youth development and healthy neighborhoods.

### About AmeriCorps VISTA

Since 1965, over 220,000 AmeriCorps members in the VISTA program have joined the fight against poverty by helping local organizations expand their capacity to make change. Through capacity building activities such as fundraising, grant writing, research, and volunteer recruitment AmeriCorps members in the VISTA program serve in an office setting and gain experience and leadership skills. This opportunity prepares members for a life of service in the public, private, or nonprofit sector.



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## Minimum Position Requirements:

- Be 18 years or older (no upper age limit)
- Hold one of the following citizenship or legal residency statuses: US citizen, US National, Lawful Permanent Resident (i.e. Green Card status), and persons legally residing within a state. Examples of persons legally residing within a state may include those holding the following classifications: refugee, asylee, temporary protected status throughout VISTA service, and holding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status.
- Valid driver's license and reliable vehicle required.

## Qualifications:

- Understanding of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and proven dedication to alleviating poverty and addressing food insecurity
- Experience gardening, farming, and/or selling produce preferred
- Strong proficiency with Microsoft Office and Google Docs/Sheets preferred
- Previous volunteer experience
- Experience working with marginalized, low-income communities
- Outreach and volunteer management experience preferred

## Benefits

- Living allowance
- Health coverage
- Childcare assistance, if eligible
- \$6,895.00 education award upon successful completion of service for either future education expenses or for payment of student loans OR a cash award of \$1,800 upon successful completion of service
- Non-competitive eligibility (federal jobs)
- 10 sick days and 10 vacation days
- Relocation allowance (if applicable)
- Student loan forbearance and full payment of any interest accumulated during service upon successful completion of service
- Training
- Professional Development Opportunities
- Phone stipend
- Food assistance
- Additional benefits to be determined

## How to Apply

Please apply via <https://forms.gle/FTFdQEPLcHqEqFv9>. **Priority deadline is June 30th, 2023.**

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Anticipated start date is August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

In addition to building its network across sectors of the food system, SOFA is committed to expanding representation among its leadership, membership, and workforce across dimensions of race, language, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status. Candidates are encouraged to include descriptions of their experience building connections across these dimensions in their application materials.