Opening for an AmeriCorps*VISTA
Farmers Market Incentives Development Associate
Full Time Year of Service with Stipend at a Maryland Non-Profit

The following position is a one year (July 25, 2014-July 24, 2015) AmeriCorps* VISTA position at Crossroads Community Food Network in Takoma Park, MD and sponsored by Greater Homewood Community Corporation (GHCC). Crossroads Community Food Network (Crossroads) aims to combat hunger and increase community food security through models mutually supportive of those who produce food and those who consume it.

It's hard eating healthy on a budget. Make healthy food choices easier for families in need by sustaining the Fresh Checks financial incentive program at the Crossroads Farmers Market! The Farmers Market Incentives Development Associate VISTA member will help to realize Crossroads’ vision of having more streamlined systems for community-based fundraising, volunteer and intern support for programs, as well as streamlined educational materials so that they are appropriate for all our audiences and readily available as needed. The VISTA will:

- Research different models of community giving and fundraising asks;
- Create a past and potential sponsor contact database and strategy for asks;
- Search for and sign-on annual community sponsors;
- Develop and implement an annual fundraising event;
- Recruit, train, and sustain volunteers/interns for programming;
- Create bi-lingual educational materials on healthy food choices.

The Crossroads Farmers Market was the first in Maryland to accept federal nutrition benefits, and the first in the country to launch a financial incentive program to match federal assistance with private dollars (“Fresh Checks”). When shopping at Crossroads Farmers Market, Fresh Checks participants receive additional dollar-value coupons that match the amount spent in federal nutrition benefits. Unfortunately, demand for Fresh Checks always exceeds the funding available in a given year, requiring Crossroads to reduce distribution to core participants in the final month(s) of each market season. The VISTA member will help to identify new funding sources and create internal systems for annual events and fundraising asks to sustain the Fresh Checks Program and effectively continue to bridge the gap between low-income consumers and healthy foods.

AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) is not a job per se, but a full time national service opportunity. Benefits include: living allowance, relocation assistance, health coverage, $55/month travel stipend, choice of an education award or cash stipend, and non-competitive eligibility for federal employment upon completion. Preferred candidates will have a college degree or equivalent work experience, leadership potential, and motivation to serve.

GHCC’s mission is to build and strengthen vibrant urban communities. For more than four decades, GHCC has secured the resources of VISTA members to build sustainable change and fight poverty in our neighborhoods. GHCC-sponsored AmeriCorps*VISTA members receive a solid foundation of skills they can use as a springboard for careers in government, non-profits, education, and much more. For more information please contact Allison Wilhite, VISTA Leader, at awilhite@greaterhomewood.org or (410) 387-0088.

To apply please visit www.greaterhomewood.org/give-to-ghcc/americorpsvista/

Application Deadline: May 16, 2014
Start Date: July 25, 2014 (non-negotiable)