



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS Public Health AmeriCorps (Alaska) Service Opportunity I

### POSITION OVERVIEW:

**Position Name:** NACDD Public Health AmeriCorps Service Member

**Position Type/Hours:** Three Quarter Time/1200 hours

**Service Location:** Alaska Division of Public Health, Section of Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion, Alaska Injury Prevention Unit; 3601 C Street, Suite 722, Anchorage, AK 99503

Email: [margy.hughes@alaska.gov](mailto:margy.hughes@alaska.gov); Phone: (907) 334.5967;

<https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Chronic/Pages/InjuryPrevention/default.aspx>

**Living Allowance:** \$10,592.00

**Education Award:** \$5,176.50

**Total Award:** \$15,768.50

### PROGRAM PURPOSE:

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) is a national public health non-profit agency focused on the health of the public by strengthening state and national leadership and expertise for chronic disease prevention and control. NACDD's core membership is composed of the 58 State and Territorial Health Department Chronic Disease Directors and their staff who protect the health of the public through primary and secondary prevention efforts and work "upstream" on root causes of chronic conditions. NACDD promotes health and reduces the burden of chronic disease through various programs and initiatives in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity and the Division of Population Health, and a team of nationally recognized experts.

To enhance public health resources across the country and support state and local public health settings respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Public Health AmeriCorps (PHA) program supports the recruitment, training, and development of the next generation of public health leaders. In partnership with a State Health Department or similar agency, local health department(s) or other community-based organization(s), and/or a local YMCA or YMCA State Alliance, Service Members will be placed across fifteen states to advance existing efforts around food and nutrition security, safe physical activity access, social connectedness, and health equity, all within the context of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### SPECIFIC SERVICE FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The PHA Service Member will support the State of Alaska's Division of Public Health, Section of Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion's Injury Prevention Unit. Unintentional injuries are the leading cause of premature death for Alaskans of all ages. Between 2011 and 2015, more than 18,000 injuries in Alaska led to hospitalizations. The four types of injuries that were most likely to lead to hospital care include: (1) elder adults falls, (2) assaults, (3) car and ATV crashes, and (4) attempted suicides. The State of Alaska Injury Prevention Programs work with partners across the state to prevent these injuries and related health care costs and to help Alaskans be physically active and safe. For more information, please visit the unit's website: <https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Chronic/Pages/InjuryPrevention/default.aspx>.

This PHA Service Member will support the Alaska Injury Prevention Unit's elder falls prevention initiatives, which focus on increase safe and accessible places and programs for elders to be physically active and to socially connect with others in their community.

The general responsibilities of the Service Member include:

- Assisting Alaska Injury Prevention Unit to manage its evidence-based falls prevention/physical activity promotion program, [Bingosize](#). This may include, but is not limited to:
  - Conducting community outreach activities to recruit Alaska Bingosize participating agencies.

- Developing factsheets and social media posts promoting falls prevention programming.
- Coordinating sponsored agencies to implement the Bingosize program with fidelity to the model.
- Coordinating various stakeholders (e.g. AARP, State of Alaska Dementia Prevention Unit, State of Alaska Injury Prevention Unit, State of Alaska Physical Activity & Nutrition Unit, State of Alaska Commission on Aging, Anchorage Park Foundation) with similar program goals of increasing physical activity and social connectedness in elder populations.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED SERVICE SCHEDULE:**

- Hybrid service hours
- Service hours are to be completed Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm AK
- A maximum of 20% of your service hours may be training, education, or other similar approved activities.

#### **DESIRED SKILLS & COMPETENCIES**

- Listening to diverse partners/open, culturally sensitive communication skills
- Self-starter, independent worker, willing to do and learn new things
- Experience working with seniors and/or injury prevention (preferred) or has a desire to gain experience in this area

#### **REQUIRED COMMITMENT**

Service members are expected to complete 1200 service hours within a one (1) year timeframe.

- The service year begins 07/08/2024 and ends 07/07/2025

#### **ORIENTATION AND TRAINING**

Members must participate in

- Pre-service orientation
- PHA-specific training
- Program-specific training
- Any other trainings deemed necessary by the Host Service Site supervisor

Note: Trainings will be limited to 20% or less of PHA Service Members service hours

#### **EVALUATION AND REPORTING**

PHA Service Members will:

- Complete quarterly assessments of the PHA Program to include their host site experience, trainings, sense of belongingness and inclusivity, interest in pursuing a career in public health, etc.
- Complete monthly reflection forms
- Participate in quarterly performance evaluation and reviews with their Host Service Site supervisor

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH AMERICORPS ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

PHA Service Members must:

- Be at least 18 years of age at the commencement of service
- Have a high diploma or its equivalent
- A citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States
- Must satisfy the National Service Criminal History Check eligibility criteria pursuant to 45 CFR 2540.202
- Live in the geographic region and within reasonable driving distance of the host service site and support a hybrid work schedule

## OTHER PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- Preferred: Upper level (3rd or 4th year) undergraduate student or graduate level student enrolled at a college or university pursuing a public health degree or related degree or recent graduate
- Required: Compliance with all Host Service Site vaccination requirements, including for COVID-19

## PUBLIC HEALTH AMERICORPS PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Living allowance of \$10,592.00 over the course of the term of service
- \$5,176.50 Segal Education Award at the end of a successful service term
- Student loan deferment and interest forbearance
- Increased professional awareness and accumulated real-world experience to enhance job competence following completion of service year
- Join a network of like-minded leaders who are passionate about improving communities and the health and wellbeing of community members

## HOW TO APPLY

1. **Find An Opportunity:** Visit the [AmeriCorps State and National](#) page. Scroll to “Find an Opportunity”. Scroll to the bottom of the page and select “Refine Search”. Insert the following for program type: “AmeriCorps State/National”, select the state for the service opportunity you’re interested in applying, and for program name type: “NACDD PHA”. Select “Search” and then “Apply Now!”
2. **Register on the MyAmeriCorps Portal:** Before applying for AmeriCorps opportunities, you’ll need to create a profile in the AmeriCorps Portal. Creating your profile is a four-step process.
3. **Complete Your Application:** Complete the application for the Service Opportunity that you’re interested in by providing the requested information about your skills and experiences.
4. **Submit Your Application 5/3/24:** Once you’ve completed your application, you’ll be able to submit your application.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Tierney Thomison, Public Health AmeriCorps Program Manager, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, [tthomison@chronicdisease.org](mailto:tthomison@chronicdisease.org)
- [Public Health AmeriCorps](#)
- [National Association of Chronic Disease Directors](#)