

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

POSITION OVERVIEW:

Position Name: NACDD Public Health AmeriCorps Service Member
Position Type/Hours: Three Quarter Time/1200 hours
Service Location: Iowa Health and Human Services, Public Health Division
321 E. 12th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319

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 to 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 Iowa Department of Health and Human Services food and nutrition, access to physical activity, and social connectedness strategies. They will specifically support goals and activities related to these strategies through the implementation, promotion and facilitation of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program. The Service Member will: 1) promote self-care behaviors that mitigate the social isolation often linked with chronic conditions through a 6-week workshop designed to hone skills, facilitate experience-sharing, and provide mutual support, 2) offer guidance on exercise tailored to maintain and boost strength and endurance, and prevent falls, 3) share resources and knowledge about nutritious eating habits, 4) advise on effective communication strategies with peers, family, oneself, and the healthcare providers/system, and 5) instruct participants in the arts of action-planning, problem-solving, and informed decision-making.

In addition, the PHA Service Member will prepare and participate in statewide webinars, meetings and learning collaboratives to share knowledge, program information and resources related to promoting social connectedness, physical activity and food and nutrition security. Duties and responsibilities to support the activities include:

- Complete the Chronic Disease Self-Management Peer Leader training prior to conducting workshops.
- Manage participant engagement and technical/webinar issues remotely while conducting training and support meetings.
- Create partnerships with organizations to facilitate workshop delivery and participant recruitment efforts.
- Develop and disseminate participant recruitment materials.

- Conduct CDSMP workshops on-site/in-person and via remote options with a partner Peer Leader. Workshops are offered for 2.5 hours, once a week for six weeks.
- Set goals, develop timelines and write reports using clear, concise language with minimal errors.
- Clearly communicate with program participants
- Facilitate meetings using provided curriculum, maintaining fidelity and successfully engaging participants.
- Document and track data, using it to evaluate activities and outcomes.
- Participate in Peer Leader group meetings organized by Iowa HHS for networking and shared learning.
- Collaborate with Diabetes Program state employees on the further development of work plans, budgets and reports related to CDSMP offered by Iowa HHS.
- Participate in other department projects and partner-requested events related to food insecurity, increasing physical activity, and social isolation issues with approval of the on-site supervisor.
- Participate in Chronic, Congenital and Inherited Conditions Bureau meetings, including Prevention and Intervention Section meetings as possible based upon work schedule.

DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED SERVICE SCHEDULE:

- Hybrid service hours
- Service hours are to be completed Monday-Friday with flexible hours between 8:00am and 8:30pm CT.
- A maximum of 20% of your service hours may be training, education, or other similar approved activities

DESIRED SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

- Communicates clearly and professionally with individuals with varying levels of economic status, ages, and educational backgrounds
- Clear, concise language, both written and verbal is demonstrated
- Follows guidelines and policies
- Works successfully both independently and as a member of a team
- Demonstrates experience with group facilitation
- Communicates effectively with sensitive issues and maintains confidentiality

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

- Be required to submit service timesheets biweekly

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 school 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: Must be willing to comply with all Host Service Site vaccination requirements, including for COVID-19
- Required: Must use Department-provided email service, cell phone and laptop equipment for official business matters
- Required: Must pass Level 1 Background check prior to commencing work with the Iowa Health and Human Services agency

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 05/03/24:** Once you’ve completed your application, you’ll be able to submit your application.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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- [Public Health AmeriCorps](#)
- [National Association of Chronic Disease Directors](#)