



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS

### Public Health AmeriCorps Maryland Service Opportunity I

#### POSITION OVERVIEW:

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

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

**Service Location:** Maryland Department of Health  
201 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland, 21201

**Living Allowance:** \$8,074.00

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

**Total Award:** \$13,250.50

#### PROGRAM PURPOSE:

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) is a national public health non-profit agency focused on improving 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 59 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 State Health Departments, local health departments, other community-based organizations, and/or local YMCAs or YMCA State Alliances, Service Members will be placed across twenty 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 AmeriCorps member will provide support for various health initiatives aimed at improving access to healthy food, promoting wellness, and supporting chronic disease prevention programs. This role involves collaborating with local health departments, community organizations, and state programs to address health disparities in Maryland, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

#### Key Responsibilities:

1. Healthy Corner Store Initiative Support
  - a. Provide support for the Healthy Corner Store Initiative, focusing on rural areas.
  - b. Assist in the development of a statewide healthy food retailer assessment to identify gaps and opportunities for improvement.
  - c. Collaborate with staff to create a Healthy Corner Store Resource Webpage tailored for Maryland corner stores, including resources, best practices, and promotional materials.
2. Community Gardening and Local Food Access
  - a. Support Local Health Departments (LHDs) in implementing community gardens within their jurisdictions, providing guidance and resources as needed.

- b. Assist with operations at the State Center's Farmer's Market, including the distribution of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) boxes to promote local and healthy food access.
- 3. CCDB Employee Health and Wellness Committee
  - a. Actively participate in the CCDB Employee Health and Wellness Committee
  - b. Promote wellness initiatives, such as the use of the employee gym, and develop nutrition activities to enhance the health and well-being of employees.
- 4. Chronic Disease Prevention and Healthy Weight Programming
  - a. Provide support for the Family Healthy Weight Program and Mind, Exercise, Nutrition...Do It! (MEND) Program.
  - b. Assist in Safe Routes to School initiatives promoting active transportation and safety for children and families
  - c. Support chronic disease prevention programs as needed.

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

- Hybrid service hours (10 hours onsite and 14 hours teleservice per week).
- Service hours are to be completed Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm time.
- A maximum of 20% of service hours may be training, education, or other similar approved activities
- A maximum of 10% of service hours may be fundraising activities

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

Communicates well with internal and external audiences

Applies principles of ethics, diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice

Establishes relationships to improve community health and resilience

#### **NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE**

- The NACDD PHA program operates in accordance with federal and AmeriCorps program requirements on non-discrimination. In accordance with applicable laws and regulations, the NACDD PHA program prohibits all forms of discrimination and harassment based on the protected categories of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation, disability (mental or physical), gender identity or expression, political affiliation, marital or parental status, reprisal, pregnancy, genetic information (including family medical history), military service, or their submission of a complaint. NACDD's compliance history is available upon request.

#### **REQUIRED COMMITMENT**

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

- The service year begins 02/03/2025 and ends 02/02/2026.

## **ORIENTATION AND TRAINING**

Members must participate in

- Pre-service orientation
- PHA-specific training
- Program-specific training
- Any other trainings deemed necessary by the Host 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 including 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 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 diploma or its equivalent
- Be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States
- Satisfy the National Service Criminal History Check eligibility criteria pursuant to [45 CFR 2540.202](#)
- Live within commutable distance of the Host Site to accommodate a hybrid service schedule

## **OTHER PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

- Must comply with any relevant [Maryland Department of Health policies](#) (i.e., nondiscrimination, ethics, data protection)

## **PUBLIC HEALTH AMERICORPS PROGRAM BENEFITS**

- Living allowance of \$8,074.00 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

- **Submit Your Application by 12/24/24:** Complete and submit the NACDD Public Health AmeriCorps Program Application through the following Smartsheet link:  
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/766fd3822c5942aa909458fef11dd12a>

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Tierney Thomison, Public Health AmeriCorps Program Manager, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors ([tthomison@chronicdisease.org](mailto:tthomison@chronicdisease.org)) and Chelsea Cole, Public Health AmeriCorps Senior Program Coordinator ([ccole@chronicdisease.org](mailto:ccole@chronicdisease.org))
- [NACDD Public Health AmeriCorps](#)
- [National Association of Chronic Disease Directors \(NACDD\)](#)