

Homelessness Services Liaison



Good Samaritan Haven: Montpelier, Barre, Berlin and Barre Town, Vermont

Gandhi said: “The best way to find yourself is by losing yourself in service to others”. Good Samaritan Haven has sheltered the homeless for 35 years. We are Central Vermont’s only shelter program for individuals. Service to others is at the heart of our mission. Throughout the COVID-19 crisis Good Sam served the homeless in safe and innovative ways. Now we are expanding our services. Join our service team. Turn your values into compassionate action. Gain a life experience that will change you forever, deepening your understanding of the human experience.

This position is part of the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board AmeriCorps (VHCB AmeriCorps). The VHCB AmeriCorps program supports the innovative dual-goal approach to creating stable affordable housing opportunities for Vermont residents while preserving the natural and working landscape. VHCB AmeriCorps is a national service program that places members with non-profit housing or land and energy conservation organizations around the state.

Good Samaritan Haven’s mission is to provide emergency shelter and support services, and offers stability, safety and hope for people experiencing homelessness. We expect to operate in four locations in Central Vermont in 2021-22. Learn and serve through engagement with shelter guests, in coordination with our staff and community partners.

Essential Functions:

- Meet, listen to and get to know individuals that use our shelter services.
- Share stories and photographs of shelter guests (as permitted) to inform and inspire the community.
- Support guests with applications for housing and employment. Provide resource support and referrals.
- Interface with other service providers to lower barriers to access; have knowledge of different services available in the community.
- Perform shelter support functions including answering phones and doors, conducting tours, orienting new guests.
- Assist with recruiting, training, and utilizing volunteers to provide meals and overnight shelter supervision as needed.
- Provide community outreach, including social media updates.
- Acknowledging and thanking shelter volunteers and supporters.
- Participate in an Independent Service Project under the guidance of VHCB AmeriCorps.
- Participate in VHCB AmeriCorps Trainings, Service Days, Events, and Program Initiatives.



- Engage in professional and personal development activities and networking opportunities.

Secondary Functions:

- Request and coordinate donations of goods on behalf of the guests.
- Assist and attend educational and outreach events on occasion

Desired Qualifications:

- Basic education (high school) plus three to five years of relevant work or life experience.
- Good listening and speaking skills.
- Ability to enjoy interaction with a variety of people.
- Interest in or knowledge of crisis intervention, conflict management and supportive counseling skills desired.
- Desire to resolve problem situations with determination, patience and grace.
- Digital and social media fluency is desirable but not essential.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Be US citizen or have permanent resident status;
- Be at least 18 years of age upon entering the Pre-Service Orientation or 17 years of age with verified parental permission;
- Be a high school graduate, have a GED certificate, or be willing to work towards a GED as part of the service-term. A member cannot have dropped out of high school to join AmeriCorps.
- Has not been convicted of murder or sexual assault and is willing to undergo an National Service Criminal History Check;
- Be committed to the VHC B AmeriCorps program's ethic of service and personal and professional development of its participants;
- Have the ability and enthusiasm to drive to, attend, and participate in all required training and events, and be prepared to drive up to 2-3 hours each way.
- Available to regularly serve 40 hours per week

Additional Information:

Service is performed in a shared office setting, in a homeless shelter. The hours vary and could be a combination of days and evenings. Possibly including the occasional overnight shift. The hours are flexible and we hope the prospective AmeriCorps Member will be flexible also. The setting can be very busy and sometimes chaotic due to the nature of working with people in crisis. It can also be very rewarding.



Position begins September 8th, 2021 and ends August 12th, 2022



This position is **Full Time**: Requires 1,720 hours for an average of 40 hours per week for 48 weeks. Member will receive a living allowance of \$20,400 (pre-tax), and an education award of \$6,345 (pre-tax) upon successful completion of service.

Other benefits include health insurance, federal school loan forbearance, and various training and networking opportunities.

To Apply: <https://vhcb.org/our-programs/vhcb-ameri-corps/positions>

For questions about this position or to send additional materials:

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802-479-2294

Application deadline: August 24th, 2021

Additional information on AmeriCorps is available at www.americorps.org.

The Vermont Housing & Conservation Board (VHCB) is sponsoring this AmeriCorps position through their AmeriCorps Program. VHCB is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Positions are open to all applicants without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation, veteran's status, religion or creed.

Member Name: _____

Signature: _____

