



[Benefits Access, Markets, & Education Summer Associate VISTA](#)

Help fight hunger in Putnam County, NY! Work with Cornell Cooperative Extension to promote healthy eating and participation in free summer meals programming, SNAP and farmers markets.

Hunger Free America is a national nonprofit group building a nonpartisan, grass-roots membership movement to enact the policies and programs needed to end domestic hunger and ensure that all Americans have sufficient access to nutritious food. Our long-term goal is not just to ameliorate the problem, but also to build the people's movement necessary to enact the economic and public policies needed to end hunger entirely. Given that hunger drains our economy and tears at our moral and civic fabric, we know that eliminating it will boost the nation both economically and spiritually. Towards that end, we've adopted the motto: "Ending hunger lifts us all."

During the summer, Hunger Free America's Child Nutrition Department places a multitude of AmeriCorps VISTA members across the country at various hunger-fighting institutions with a focus on combatting child hunger during the summertime. Once school lets out, millions of children no longer receive school meals and face tremendous obstacles accessing the Summer Food Service Program, which offers free meals for any child under the age of 18. This placement is at the organization **Cornell Cooperative Extension**, and supervised by Hunger Free America.

The Position – Accepting applications now, deadline to apply is May 17th

The Hunger Free America Summer Associate Program aims to create more food secure families and support nutritious food choices. Summer Associate members will expand and support the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and nutrition education programming; improve awareness of nutritious food options at farmers' markets and the use of SNAP benefits at farmers' markets; and raise awareness of and eliminate barriers to SNAP and other food/nutrition-access services. We're looking for individuals to help us with the following tasks:

- Performing community outreach – **must be comfortable doing canvassing in neighborhoods, being outdoors during summer weather, and interacting with children and parents to raise awareness** – to promote summer meals, SNAP, farmers markets, and healthy eating
- Collaborating with partner organizations to screen and support low-income community members in accessing benefits

- Distributing summer meals and SNAP educational materials and stocking local organizations and businesses with benefits information pamphlets
- Distributing informational materials on farmers markets (particularly SNAP use in farmers markets)
- Researching, contacting, and partnering with community organizations in target neighborhoods for summer meals outreach
- Contacting community stakeholders, and emergency food providers to raise awareness on summer meals

The ideal candidate will have:

- Interest in child hunger issues
- Experience working with diverse communities
- Adaptability and willingness to work on all kinds of projects
- Ability to work independently and as a member of a team
- Reliability, responsibility, and a good work ethic
- Good organizational and communications skills

Time Commitment:

This is a short-term, 8-week, full-time position beginning June 23rd, 2019 and ending August 16th, 2019. You are expected to be available for the needs of your community and project at all times. Summer Associates may be able to have a part-time job outside of service hours; however, they will discuss this with their supervisor prior to starting their position.

Housing:

You are responsible for finding your own housing. No housing allowance will be provided.

Program Benefits:

- \$791.70 living allowance, paid biweekly
- End of service stipend or education award
- 4th of July off
- Experience in the nonprofit sector
- Access to Hunger Free America's national network of hunger-fighting institutions
- And many more benefits! View the full listing of AmeriCorps VISTA benefits [here](#). Be sure to click "Show Summer Associate Benefits Only" at the top of the page.

Apply using this link:

<https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?id=89101&fromSearch=true>

For more information, email Natalie Amstutz at namstutz@hungerfreeamerica.org