

Engagement & Outreach VISTA Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership (SWMHP)

Be Part of the Solution—Help Build Thriving Communities!

Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership (SWMHP) is a nonprofit dedicated to creating vibrant, inclusive communities by developing affordable housing solutions, providing homeownership education, and supporting financial readiness programs. Since our founding, we've worked with communities across rural Minnesota to ensure everyone has a safe, stable place to call home.

As an **AmeriCorps VISTA member**, you'll play a vital role in expanding affordable homeownership opportunities for immigrant and BIPOC families while collaborating with local businesses to address workforce housing shortages. Your work will help bridge homeownership disparities, foster economic stability, and strengthen employer-community relationships.

What You'll Do:

This opportunity requires a one-year service commitment.

Your service will focus on four key areas:

- ◆ **Employer Engagement:** Work with local employers to develop **workforce housing solutions** that support employee retention and economic stability. You'll convene an employer cohort, facilitate discussions, gather insights on housing needs, and develop strategies to improve access to affordable homeownership.
- ◆ **Community Outreach & Engagement:** Engage directly with immigrant and BIPOC families in communities such as **Blue Earth and Nobles counties**. You'll **host community meetings**, conduct surveys to understand barriers to homeownership, and collaborate with cultural organizations and service providers to create **culturally responsive housing resources**.
- ◆ **Homeownership Program Support:** Strengthen and expand affordable homeownership programs. You'll **identify gaps in services, help streamline access, and develop new initiatives** that support long-term housing stability through financial education, homeownership counseling, and resource navigation.
- ◆ **Resource Development & Fundraising:** Help secure funding for SWMHP's housing programs by **researching grant opportunities, drafting proposals, and developing a five-year resource plan**. You'll also build relationships with donors and funders, ensuring sustainable support for housing initiatives.

What You Bring:

- ✓ Passion for **housing, community and economic development, and community outreach**
- ✓ Strong **communication, teamwork, and relationship-building skills**
- ✓ Ability to work independently and take initiative
- ✓ Some college experience
- ✓ Multilingual skills a plus!
- ✓ **Access to a vehicle** recommended for travel to community sites

What You'll Gain:

Living Allowance | Health Coverage | Relocation Assistance | Education Award or End-of-Service Stipend | Childcare Assistance (if eligible) | Training & Professional Growth | Travel Reimbursement

Why This Matters:

Your work will directly impact families looking for **stable, affordable housing**—a foundation for building financial security and generational wealth. By helping to remove barriers to homeownership and developing creative housing solutions, you'll be part of a long-term effort to **strengthen communities and expand economic opportunities in rural Minnesota**.

Schedule:

Please note the position is set to start April 7, 2025. The date may be subject to change.

This position is a full-time commitment (40 hours/week) and lasts for one year (12 consecutive months). Generally, the VISTA will work a Monday-Friday 9 am-5 pm schedule, which may be adjusted to accommodate organizational evening and weekend needs. Flexibility could be allowed in this schedule to accommodate other commitments of the VISTA, although this will be at the discretion of the direct VISTA supervisor.

Location:

Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership is located in Minnesota, with offices in Slayton and Mankato. It will be expected that the VISTA can commute in person to one of the SWMHP locations.

Apply Now!

Visit [AmeriCorps Application Site](#)

Contact **Jenn Lamb** at jennl@swmhp.org

Be part of the solution. Help us partner with communities to build places for people to call home!