

**VISTA Community Involvement Director
La Puente Home, Alamosa Colorado**

Position Supervisor: Kristen Hartley

Service Impact: Over 20% of the San Luis Valley population lives at or below the poverty line. In order for people to continue receiving government assistance like food stamps or welfare, they must be working, attending school, or volunteering. La Puente offers volunteer opportunities to allow people to continue receiving assistance while obtaining critical skills, experience, and references to become more employable.

La Puente has six charities and three enterprises that rely heavily on volunteer support. Volunteers come face-to-face with issues of poverty, homelessness, and hunger and are inspired by their experiences by engaging in the programs. Whether a volunteer is trying to stay on food stamps or wants to serve out of the goodness of their heart, we are providing a hands on way to get involved that has transformed our community's understanding of poverty.

VISTA members will enhance the services provided by La Puente by expanding the capacity of the organization to operate and serve clients. VISTA members are not employees and do not displace, replace, supplant or duplicate current or recent staff or volunteer responsibilities. Any duties not specified in this description must support the member's role and may not violate the Prohibited Activities as outlined by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The member must average a minimum of 37 hours per week throughout the service term. During a normal service week (40 hours) the member will serve full days (8 hours) as the Vista Community Involvement Director. The position description is outlined below:

Position Responsibilities:

- Promote community understanding and awareness of issues related to poverty through fundraising and mission awareness opportunities
- Develop high quality publications to promote the work and impact of La Puente
- Develop consistent, high quality, and effective communication on various platforms including the organization's website, social media, and blog
- Act as a resource to the community and organization by acquiring a thorough understanding of social justice issues and advocacy platforms related to La Puente's mission

Other Responsibilities:

- Participate in training and enrichment activities including: site-specific training, trainings relevant to rural hunger, poverty, and homelessness; reading assignments, community nights, retreats, and other activities, trainings, or events that are applicable to the service year.
- Other allowable activities that contribute to the purpose of the position.

Required Qualifications:

- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Excellent organizational skills
- High energy level
- Highly motivated to complete tasks

AmeriCorps VISTA

This position will be filled by an AmeriCorps*VISTA member. To qualify for AmeriCorps*VISTA, you must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident, be team-oriented, and be willing to take on a wide range of challenges. Once chosen for this position, if not already a VISTA member, you must go through the necessary paperwork to become a VISTA member.

For more information, please visit: http://www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/choose/vista.asp

Program Benefits: Choice of Education Award (\$5,775) or End of Service Stipend (\$1,500) upon successful completion of service, Health Coverage, Living Allowance (\$973/month), Professional Development/Training, Housing

Service Term: February 2016 – February 2017

Application Requirements: Please submit a resume and cover letter. Interviews will take place in November and early December, and selection will be made by December 21, 2015. Submitting an application early in the timeframe will be advantageous.

To apply, please visit <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/search.do?&criteria.programState=CO> and find the “Community Involvement Director” position listing and complete a full application through AmeriCorps VISTA. Please contact Marissa Maurer at maurer@crcamerica.org if you have any questions on how to apply.

Community Resource Center: This AmeriCorps VISTA position is managed through the **Rural Capacity Building VISTA Project** of the Community Resource Center (CRC). CRC provides this resource to its partners in rural communities, and manages the recruitment, orientation, and reporting required for VISTA members. La Puente serves as a sub-site of the Project, and will provide project and on-site supervision of the Community Involvement Director.

For More Information

La Puente: www.lapuente.net

Community Resource Center: www.crcamerica.org