



We All Belong AmeriCorps* State Program

Hosted by the City of Burlington's Community and Economic Development Office

Vermont's population is becoming more diverse and reflective of a global citizenry. The We All Belong Program works with Burlington area non-profits, schools and city departments to help **create inclusive workplaces** and to offer more culturally competent **services, events and programming** for Burlington's increasingly diverse community. The City of Burlington seeks to address issues of race and gender inequity by making organizational shifts in programs and services. AmeriCorps* State members support these shifts by serving with a participating agency as a full or part-time volunteer.

Position Title: Family Room Outreach Support 2 x part time

VNA Family Room

Key Responsibilities

The AmeriCorps members will continue to provide **direct service support to our Family Room programs**. These positions provide an essential service to newly arrived families, providing a culture bridging connection for families with limited and developing English skills. We have structured many formal and informal opportunities for exchange within our programs, including storytelling, cooking, nutrition, gardening, games, exercise, baby massage and others.

Activities that the AmeriCorps member will be responsible for include:

- **developing and supporting food programming** for the children and families in the infant/toddler, preschool and Family Play Programs and teaching or coordinating small group workshops including gardening, canning and preserving, food safety
- daily wrap-up discussion immediately following programs to share and discuss daily events
- attending weekly staff meetings to provide program input
- weekly supervision meetings with Family Room staff
- **providing educational opportunities** to increase the community knowledge around food, nutrition and life skills.

AmeriCorps members will **utilize relationships** with cohort organizations to develop pathways for Family Room participants to build soft skills, use other education and employment, and legal services. We also want member input for thoughtful planning to drive workshop development for families, helping to prioritize and conduct outreach for housing, financial literacy, and weatherization workshops.

Additionally, we would like to foster intra-agency relationships for our members to be able to do better outreach and coordination of connections to VNA's adult day, hospice and respite care services and help them become ambassadors of these programs within the larger community.

Skills and qualifications

- The candidate should **enjoy family and community**
- **Good communicator and advocate** for both our program and our clients.
- **Helpful to have knowledge of early childhood development**, but in the absence of education in that domain, experience with and love and appreciation of children 0-6 years old is required.
- Members should have **a willingness to do any and all tasks of our center**, as all volunteers and staff members participate in the broad variety of tasks that help keep our work going smoothly.

- The VNA Family Room requires that all members have **respect for and interest in diversity and inclusion** as well as a willingness to discuss and problem-solve on issues that challenge participants from engaging in our programs or in community services.
- Comfort in using the online timesheet and other computer related jobs is helpful, but we will also provide limited training to support development of these skills.

Half Time AmeriCorps positions are 900 hours of service from September 2015 thru August 2016. Member benefits include a \$6,641 living allowance and a \$2,865 Education Award (upon successful completion of service) that may be used for qualified educational expenses or payment of qualifying student loans. We All Belong AmeriCorps* members join a team of up to 20 other members, each serving in agencies and organizations across the Burlington, VT area.

If you need an accommodation please call 802-865-7516 or for more information on the program see our website:

<http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CEDO/AmeriCorpsState-Program>

How to Apply

Send a resume, cover letter and two (2) references to Marcella Gange, Program Director. **Please send as one PDF document with email subject line listing the position title to weallbelongvt@gmail.com**