



## South Suburban PADS VISTA Opportunity

South Suburban PADS seeks a motivated leader to join our team as a VISTA to help prevent and end homelessness in the south suburbs of Chicago.

**Position:** The VISTA leader will serve as a Capacity Building Specialist.

**Hours:** Full-Time

**Description:** The VISTA leader will increase South Suburban PADS' capacity to prevent and end homelessness by utilizing public speaking, creative writing, computer, social media and organizational skills to establish community partnerships, recruit volunteers and help create a new financial education program.

This work is critically important because of the growing housing and homelessness crisis in the south suburbs of Chicago. Today, nearly 50,000 people live in extreme poverty throughout the region.

The VISTA leader's community outreach and volunteer recruitment efforts will make it possible for South Suburban PADS to continue providing emergency shelter for over 800 homeless people per year.

**Member Duties:** South Suburban PADS seeks a motivated leader with excellent communication skills. The VISTA leader will receive training and mentoring to achieve the following goals:

1. Assess SSPADS volunteer recruitment needs;
2. Help create a financial education program;
3. Help create an in-kind donation program;
4. Conduct outreach and establish at least 20 community partnerships;
5. Utilize social media, newsletters, flyers and public speaking engagements to recruit volunteers for a variety of needs; and
6. Utilize a variety of communication tools to celebrate and thank our volunteers.

**Location:** The VISTA leader will be based in Chicago Heights but will travel throughout the south suburbs to recruit volunteers at churches, universities and local companies. South Suburban PADS will reimburse work-related travel expenses.

**About South Suburban PADS:** South Suburban PADS is an interfaith, not-for-profit organization that works to prevent and end homelessness. Over the past 27 years, the organization has provided shelter and meals to enable over 17,000 people to survive homelessness. South Suburban PADS ultimately seeks to provide pathways home, and currently helps over 500 people to preserve or access affordable rental homes every year.

**To Apply:** Deadline to Apply: **June, 15, 2018** (although we will be reviewing and responding to resumes on a rolling basis).

Send cover letter, resume, and two references via email to: [skidd@sspads.org](mailto:skidd@sspads.org).

**Benefits:**

- Gross Bi-Weekly Living Allowance for Cook County: \$542.22
- Choice between two End-of-Service Awards:
  - Segal Education Award: \$5,920
  - Cash Stipend Award: \$1,800
- Forbearance or Deferment of Student Loan Payments While in Service: More info here: <https://www.vistacampus.gov/chapter-6-benefits-toward-education>
- Non-Competitive Eligibility Status: More Info here. <https://www.vistacampus.gov/sites/default/files/Non-Competitive%20Eligibility%20Frequently%20Asked%20Questions.pdf>
- Healthcare Allowance: More Info here. <https://americorpsvista.imglobal.com/>
- Leave Days: 10 Personal and 10 Medical
- Link to all benefits of service: <https://www.vistacampus.gov/in-service/benefits-service>

**Requirements:**

- Applicants need to be over 18 years old when they start their AmeriCorps VISTA service.
- Applicants must have one of the following citizenship statuses: U.S. Citizens, U.S. Nationals, Lawful Permanent Resident Aliens, or persons legally residing in a state that have the following legal residency classifications: refugee, asylum or asylee, temporary protected status or deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA) status. By law, only VISTA members who are either U.S. Citizens, U.S. Nationals, or Lawful Permanent Resident Aliens—sometimes referred to as “Lawful Permanent Residents”—are eligible to receive an AmeriCorps Segal Education Award. All other members will receive an end of service cash stipend.
- There is no upper age limit to apply to AmeriCorps VISTA.

**Nondiscrimination:** South Suburban PADS does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, VISTA Members, vendors, subcontractors, volunteers, and clientele.