

Community Wireless AmeriCorps VISTA Member Job Description

Overall purpose of the position

The Little Tokyo Service Center (www.ltsc.org), a nonprofit Community Development Corporation (LTSC CDC), is hiring a fulltime Community Wireless AmeriCorps*VISTA Volunteer to support the development and deployment of Wi-Fi networks in Little Tokyo and other communities.

LTSC CDC is a multi-service agency that meets the critical needs of people and builds community. We accomplish this mission by improving the lives of individuals and families through culturally sensitive social services, strengthening neighborhoods through housing and community development, and promoting the rich heritage of the ethnic community.

LTSC CDC also manages and operates Little Tokyo Unplugged, a community wireless network that distributes free Wi-Fi Internet services to the local neighborhood and targets residents, small business owners, and visitors/tourists. We use a fiber backhaul to distribute point-to-point and mesh network services.

Under the supervision of LTSC CDC's Director of Community Technology Programs, the VISTA member will work closely with other LTSC CDC technology staff to support our initiative through community outreach and participant surveys targeting poor/underserved populations.

Responsibilities

- Conduct community outreach in the deployment of three community wireless networks
- Organize, coordinate, and facilitate community education workshops on community wireless networks
- Develop sustainability models for the deployment of community wireless networks
- Coordinate volunteer efforts to plan and deploy neighborhood wireless networks
- Meet with technology center managers to coordinate community workshop activities
- Work with project partners to build the technology skills capacity of youth in South Los Angeles
- Develop a volunteer base of technology and community activists to support the deployment and sustainability of community wireless networks

Hours, compensation, benefits

This position is a one-year commitment, with July 8, 2008 start date. In return for your service, AmeriCorps*VISTA and the CTC VISTA Project will provide the following benefits:

- ~\$11,000/year living allowance.
- \$4,725 Education Award or \$1,200 stipend paid at the successful completion of your year of service
- Student loan deferment
- Health benefits and prescription drug coverage
- Serve as part of a national team, facilitated by the CTC VISTA Project, to share resources, experience and advice

- The opportunity to gain high-level experience, skills and access within the nonprofit sector.

Qualifications

TECHNOLOGY

- Working knowledge of computers and applications (Mac/Windows)
- Familiarity/knowledge of basic (home/office) wireless networking
- Some webpage development experience desirable
- Some computer networking skills desirable
- Experience with a diverse range of computer operating systems and applications

SOCIAL AND COMMUNICATION

- Ability to conduct effective research
- Eagerness to learn
- Excellent organizational skills
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and written
- Attention to detail
- Able to work as part of a team
- High degree of self-motivation, initiative and responsibility
- Interest or experience in assistive technology and working with people with a diverse range of backgrounds
- Japanese and/or Spanish language fluency desirable

Application process

Please email a resume and a cover letter describing your qualifications to Davis Park at DPark@LTSC.org. No phone calls please. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for a follow-up interview. The position will be open until filled. Women and people of color are strongly encouraged to apply; LTSC CDC is an equal opportunity employer.