



AmeriCorps Member Position Description



USI | URBAN STRATEGIES, INC.
Families at the Center of Results

Member Position/ Title: Health & Wellness Coordinator /Sojourner Truth

Immediate Supervisor Name: Zaccai Free

Days and Hours of Service: Monday-Friday 8:30AM-5:00PM with some weekends and evenings

Immediate Supervisor Title: Associate Project Manager

Organization Name: Urban Strategies Inc.

Address:

Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center
2200 Lafitte Ave
New Orleans, LA 70119

Website: www.urbanstrategiesinc.org

Organization/Agency Mission and /or Goals: All children and families are stable and thriving

Program Mission and/or Goals: The USI Serve Louisiana member will develop systems to enhance health and wellness programming for youth and families at USI sites. The member will develop curriculum and plan activities for youth, teens and adults. The goal of this project is to expand partnerships in health and increase community support and engagement in health and wellness programs offered at Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center and Harmony Oaks Community Center.

Community Need:

The Corps Member will specifically focus on the four Communities where USI provides services and will offer services at Harmony Oaks Community Center and Sojourner Truth Community Center to all families in and around each housing development. Harmony Oaks Community located in the Central City Neighborhood where the life expectancy is 69 years, 19 years less than the highest zip code in New Orleans and 6 years below the average for the City of New Orleans. The Harmony Oaks Community consist of 460 households, 193 of which are very low income, 144 are low income and 123 are market rate. The following demographics are based on 184 households enrolled in support services with USI: 460 participants, 50 families with children, 84% female, 94% singles, 95% African American, 10% disabled. 57% of adults have a high school diploma or GED, 46% of adults are employed, 44% have a chronic health condition with over 50% with hypertension, 53% are somewhat, high or severely stressed and 77% have health insurance mostly through Medicare or Medicaid. 94% have a primary care physician and have seen a doctor in the past 12 months. In addition to assessment data, families have shared that the COVID-19 pandemic has increased their stress level and given the risk of COVID-19 complications for individuals with underlying health conditions residents have also expressed interest in improving their health and nutrition.

Member Position Summary:

As the Health & Wellness Coordinator the Corps Member will create, implement and sustain a pathway to healing for families and communities by establishing systems to purposefully address trauma. The Corps member will engage community members, build partnerships, develop curriculum, implement a pilot program and assess the effectiveness of the program for duplication and expansion.

Member Impact:

Measurable short term goals include:

- # of volunteers participating for at least 3 months.
- # of staff and community volunteers that receive training by Serve Louisiana member through capacity building support
- # of youth and adults participating in wellness programs designed by Serve Louisiana member
- # of residents who are aware of secondary trauma

Measurable long term goals and difference made include:

- # of residents who report reduced stress
- # of residents participating in trauma-reducing programs that help to build safety, mastery and connection

Essential Functions of Positions: Become immersed in USI Communities and conduct focus groups and assessment to become familiar with family needs. Identify resident leaders and engage as volunteers for pilot program. Build strong partnership with health and wellness partners working on trauma relief. Develop health and wellness curriculum to support trauma-relief and stress reduction. Pilot trauma relief and stress-reduction program. Implement and track resident progress and make adjustment to program design. Develop plan to scale impact of program.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

Communications , Youth Developemnt , Team Work , Recruitment , Public Speaking , Fund raising/Grant Writing , Urban Planning , Non-Profit Management , Computers/Technology , Community Organization , Writing/Editing , Health and Wellness, Stress Relief and Trauma Reduction, Leadership , Conflict Resolution , Social Services , General Skills .

Required Academic and Experience Qualifications: HSD and experience working with high need population. Commitment to social justice and racial equity.

Required Transportation Needs; Corps Member will be expected to travel to USI properties which can be accessed via car, bike or public transportation.