

## BCRC Seeks 2022-2023 AmeriCorps VISTA

The Bennington County Regional Commission seeks an AmeriCorps VISTA to serve a one-year term in Bennington, VT beginning this August. The VISTA's intended work plan will address Housing, Workforce Development, and Food Security. The VISTA will support the Welcoming Communities Challenge, a broad and transformational effort to help new and vulnerable residents displaced by international conflict to build roots in Bennington County. This initiative will also require assisting service providers with efforts to tailor services to the needs of a new population. The VISTA will assist Bennington County Open Arms, a co-sponsoring organization working with refugees in Bennington, with potential to provide additional pilot programs in the northern part of the county with capacity and support.

The VISTA will also support the work of several cooperating organizations to improve community health through food access and security, particularly the Vermont Food Bank's "Veggie Van Go" program that provides locally grown produce and food products to families and individuals in need throughout Bennington County.

### Required Qualifications:

- A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work as part of a team in a small, fast-paced office environment
- Ability to work independently
- An interest in rural economic and community development

This is an AmeriCorps VISTA position managed by the Vermont State Service Commission, SerVermont. VISTA benefits include a living allowance, education award, time off and more. For more information about the VISTA program visit: [AmeriCorps VISTA | AmeriCorps](#)

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to Jonathan Cooper at [jcooper@bcrcvt.org](mailto:jcooper@bcrcvt.org).

### **About BCRC**

The BCRC's mission is to support resilient communities and promote economic prosperity and high quality of life by providing comprehensive planning and economic development assistance to the seventeen town and villages it serves. We are located in the vibrant and walkable downtown of Bennington, a mid-sized town that offers all of the recreational opportunities and beautiful scenery that Vermont is known for, and also provides easy access to Upstate New York and the Berkshires region of Western Massachusetts. Our staff of ten provides towns with expertise and planning in the fields of energy, the environment, transportation, emergency management, solid waste, public health, and community and economic development. The BCRC also has an incredible network in and around Bennington County that allows it to work collaboratively with organizations on all its endeavors. Community partners include local and state government, local and regional food systems groups, and non-profits in every field imaginable. The main economic development programs of BCRC include revitalization project supports, workforce retention and development, rural broadband expansion, housing, recreation and culture, vibrant downtowns, and small business/entrepreneur assistance.