

YMCA at Virginia Tech
AmeriCorps Position Description
International Women's Program

In partnership with our sponsoring organization, Equal Heart, the YMCA at Virginia Tech is recruiting individuals to serve as AmeriCorps members to reduce hunger, provide engagement for youth, promote job readiness, and support environmental education. In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps Members receive a bi-weekly living allowance and an end-of-term education award – total living allowance is \$6,750, education award is \$2,474.

Applicants **must meet** the following minimum criteria:

- ✓ Available for the entire duration of the program
- ✓ 17 years old or older by program start date
- ✓ U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
- ✓ Commitment to serve the community!

General Description

The YMCA at Virginia Tech will offer one (1) AmeriCorps positions for 20 hours per week from September 2022 to May 2023. The focus of this work will be program development and delivery for the International Women's Program. This program consists of weekly and bi-weekly meetings / activities that offer cultural engagement and professional development for foreign-born women. Its aim is to help foreign-born women (especially newcomers) connect, adapt, integrate, and live better in the region.

Scope of Work

- I. Plan and co-lead weekly / bi-weekly meetings
 - a. Focus on community building by connecting the women to one another, as well as other supporters throughout the area, so as to develop a sense of belonging
 - b. Enhance cultural understanding among participants
 - i. Sharing elements of their culture with each other
 - ii. Learning about the United States, southwestern Virginia, and the local region
 - iii. Answer questions, dispel myths, assist with understanding difference
 - c. Organize outings (as possible and/or appropriate) to highlight regional resources (parks, museums, festivals/events, etc.)
 - d. Integrate some language competencies into meetings and activities to assist with acquisition of conversational English skills
 - e. Plan and deliver activities such as arts & crafts, cooking, recreation, etc.
- II. Assist with planning and delivering the "International Women's Recognition Day" event held every March
 - a. Identify 3 key women leaders in the area for recognition
 - b. Develop content and activities for the celebration
 - c. Help get the word out about the celebration and increase attendance & participation
- III. Identify and develop additional programs
 - a. Help uncover needs that are not otherwise being met
 - b. Assist with creating new projects and activities to address these needs

Required Skills and Knowledge

- Female
- Strong communication capabilities, particularly for individuals with limited English skills
- An understanding of, and appreciation for, the importance of cultural diversity
- A desire to help other people develop a sense of connection and belonging
- Skilled at group dynamics and developing connectivity among groups of people
- Valid driver's license
- Self-starter who possess strong leadership skills
- Demonstrated ability to establish and maintain working relationships