Host Site: Rebuilding Together Baltimore
AmeriCorps Program: CapacityCorps
Title: AmeriCorps Community Partner Coordinator
Location: Baltimore, MD

About Our Community
Rebuilding Together Baltimore has been working on Safe & Healthy Housing and Community Revitalization in Baltimore neighborhoods since 1989. We have assisted over 1,500 low-income homeowners in that time. We focus on target neighborhoods, and work in partnership with other organizations to maximize our impact on those neighborhoods. In addition to helping individual homeowners, we also complete community benefit projects in our target neighborhoods which include public art projects, murals, community gardens, general community clean-up and more. As an AmeriCorps member with Rebuilding Together Baltimore, you will have the opportunity to experience the inner workings of a small nonprofit that is striving to make Baltimore a better place. You will also help build our capacity and continue to improve our services to the community.

Summary of Position
The AmeriCorps Community Partner Coordinator strives to build trust and awareness among targeted client populations most in need of our services and activate the local community to get involved. The AmeriCorps Community Partner Coordinator represents Rebuilding Together in the community and builds relationships with community groups and leaders. They identify opportunities to collaborate with community partners to better serve our clients and communities. The AmeriCorps Community Partner Coordinator identifies and implements outreach strategies and techniques to increase homeowner applications and engage volunteers (both skilled and unskilled). The AmeriCorps Community Partner Coordinator serves as a contact for all clients and volunteers, and ensures a good flow of communication before, during, and after volunteer projects.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities
- Meet with community organizations, neighborhood associations, and other local leaders serving or working with our targeted communities or client populations. Represent Rebuilding Together at community forums, coalition meetings, etc. Through these means, identify ways to collaborate to meet the needs of clients, share best practices, partner on volunteer events, and build a strong client referral network.
- Work with other team members to coordinate the client application process, including: assisting potential clients with the application, managing homeowner application intake, and completing initial interviews with clients.
- Develop and maintain community partnerships to support a strong pipeline of volunteers to participate in rebuilding events, including: conduct research to identify potential partners,
coordinate and participate in outreach meetings, and serve as main point of contact with partners for volunteering matters.

- Collaborate with staff to place volunteers with appropriate rebuilding projects, schedule projects and develop project timelines, get tools and materials on site, and meet with clients to ensure they know what to expect on project day.
- Interview or survey homeowners and volunteers after project completion to capture their experiences with Rebuilding Together. Report findings to the team and suggest solutions for improving our delivery of a high quality of services to homeowners and volunteer experience to volunteers.
- Pursue a robust client and volunteer outreach strategy that will increase awareness of our services among our target populations, including: attending community meetings and other events; creating and distributing materials; contributing client- and volunteer-focused content for social media, newsletter, and website; presenting at community organizations and tabling at resource and volunteer fairs.
- Complete direct hands-on repairs, including but not limited to: rough/trim carpentry, tile work, grab bar installation, wheel chair ramp/safe entry/egress repairs, interior/exterior painting, and weatherization.
- As a grassroots non-profit, all team members will have an active role in implementing larger rebuilding projects throughout the year. They will assist with project logistics several times throughout the year, including registering volunteers, checking in with homeowners throughout the project day, coordinating volunteer logistics such as lunches and bathrooms, assisting with set up/tear down, and taking photos.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

**Required**

- High School Diploma AND some equivalent work/volunteering experience
- Proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel or similar
- Solid interpersonal skills and ability make connections and build relationships with both volunteers and clients
- Comfort with speaking and presenting in front of large groups--experience training or teaching adults/volunteers is a plus
- Ability to work with diverse clients, volunteers, and staff to create a friendly, helpful atmosphere
- Ability to work equally well on independent projects as well as on collaborative, team projects
- Positive and optimistic attitude, good problem-solving skills

**Preferred**

- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent work/volunteering experience
- Experience with construction, home repair, and housing issues
- Ability to work on multiple tasks in a growing and changing environment, with flexibility/adaptability
- Volunteer service experience; managing or coordinating other volunteers is a plus
- Able to absorb complex information quickly and communicate that information effectively
- Well-organized, detail-oriented, self-motivated, flexible
Ability to compose professional written communications for a variety of audiences, including social media (Facebook, Twitter, e-Newsletter)

Description of Physical Demands

- Must be able to navigate an active construction site, including: climbing stairs and ladders, standing, lifting, and carrying for extended periods of time over difficult terrain.
- The majority of time will be spent in the office; they must be able to use a computer and phone for extended periods of time.
- Must be able to lift 30 pounds on a regular basis as part of their responsibilities to complete direct hands-on repairs and assist with the delivery of tools and materials.
- Must be able to lift 30 pounds on a regular basis as part of their responsibilities to bring materials to meetings, such as boxes of pamphlets, screen and projector, etc.
- They must be able to travel independently to meetings in the community and in client homes
- They will assist with several rebuilding days during the term—as such they must be able to walk, climb stairs, stand, lift, and carry for extended periods of time.

Other Requirements

- Access to reliable transportation for daily commute
- Access to reliable transportation for regular travel during the work day as part of core responsibilities
- Use of a personal vehicle is recommended due to inadequate public transportation
- Valid driver’s license and driving record to allow use of affiliate-owned or –rented vehicles or trucks
- Comfort backing up a vehicle with a trailer (or willingness to learn)

Program Location

Baltimore is quirky, which is part of why we love it. It's also rich with history and a great place to live and work. It's more affordable than many East Coast cities, which makes living on an AmeriCorps income easier. "Smalltimore" is a term we use to describe the fact that people in Baltimore are connected in numerous ways. The nonprofit community in Baltimore is full of young professionals, many of whom are AmeriCorps alums. Our office is situated in the Govans area (which is also one of our target neighborhoods) and is within walking distance to cool restaurants and other culture. Baltimore has a great arts scene, and almost every weekend there are free or cheap opportunities to enjoy something new and creative. There are also numerous opportunities to experience and learn about history and historical landmarks. And Washington DC is a quick train ride away.
Program Benefits

- Opportunity to address housing issues hands-on in your community.
- Work with and support 49 other AmeriCorps members across the country.
- Living allowance of $15,000 over an 11-month term of service, which amounts to $681 twice per month before taxes.
- Health insurance including dental and vision plans.
- Education Award of TBA May 2020 (was $6,095 for 2019) for qualifying education expenses or loans, upon completion of the term of service.
- Federal student loan forbearance and interest accrual payment.
- Positions are eligible for Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

Background Check

CapacityCorps members are required to pass an FBI criminal background check with fingerprints, applicable state background checks, and an NSOPW check. For more information about disqualifying findings, visit our FAQ’s on our website, www.rebuildingtogether.org/capacitycorps.

Prohibited Activities

AmeriCorps members may not engage in any of the AmeriCorps Prohibited Activities (see below) directly or indirectly by recruiting, training, or managing others for the primary purpose of engaging in one of the activities listed below. AmeriCorps members will not recruit or coordinate volunteers for the purposes of raising funds for his/her living allowance, Rebuilding Together’s general operating expenses, or write grant applications for funding provided by CNCS or other federal agencies.

Any volunteer recruitment, training, management, or coordination listed above as completed by the AmeriCorps member pertains to volunteers engaged in work directly related to rebuilding project implementation only.

AmeriCorps Prohibited Activities

Prohibited Activities. While charging time to the AmeriCorps program, accumulating service or training hours, or otherwise performing activities supported by the AmeriCorps program or CNCS, staff and members may not engage in the following activities (see 45 CFR § 2520.65):

a) Attempting to influence legislation;
b) Organizing or engaging in protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes;
c) Assisting, promoting, or deterring union organizing;
d) Impairing existing contracts for services or collective bargaining agreements;
e) Engaging in partisan political activities, or other activities designed to influence the outcome of an election to any public office;
AmeriCorps members may not engage in the above activities directly or indirectly by recruiting, training, or managing others for the primary purpose of engaging in one of the activities listed above. Individuals may exercise their rights as private citizens and may participate in the activities listed above on their initiative, on non-AmeriCorps time, and using non-CNCS funds. Individuals should not wear the AmeriCorps logo while doing so.

Citations: