

## **VISTA Assignment Description (VAD)**

**VISTA Host Site:** Community Action Center

**Site Supervisor:** Anika Rychner - Program Director, CAC

**Project Goal:** Implement and support the launch of a new food access program in Faribault, MN. Build capacity to increase the quantity and access of healthier food options for low-income families to help reduce the burden of food insecurity and poverty in the Faribault area.

**Objective:** Ensure low-income community member food access experience is trauma-responsive, person-centered, and culturally responsive through regular quarterly and continual assessments

1. *Activity:* Research and identify best practices for trauma-responsive, person-centered, culturally responsive food access system
2. *Activity:* Develop regular evaluation to ensure that SuperShelf stocking standards align with food sourcing practices, physical layout, and client identified needs
3. *Activity:* Ensure that client/participant feedback is integral to evaluation and reflection of operations and experience

**Objective:** Support the transition from Emergency/short-term needs to models that engage and support the long-term health and wellbeing of community members

4. *Activity:* Develop messaging, communication, and community outreach strategies to inform and educate broader community about a new choice model food shelf
5. *Activity:* Coordinate logistics involved in transitioning from a pre-pack model to choice-model food shelf
6. *Activity:* Explore partnership/satellite opportunities throughout the community to build choice into mobile/delivery model
7. *Activity:* Identify and support potential post-COVID food access models

**Objective:** Engage and include more community members in various food access roles (ie: volunteers, donors, clients, partners) in order to increase food access for low-income community members

1. *Activity:* Develop tracking system for volunteer hours and positions

2. *Activity:* Develop an orientation and onboarding process for 300 new volunteers
  - i. Processes, manuals, background checks, etc.
3. *Activity:* Develop and support information and materials for community-wide understanding and knowledge of food access needs/programming

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