

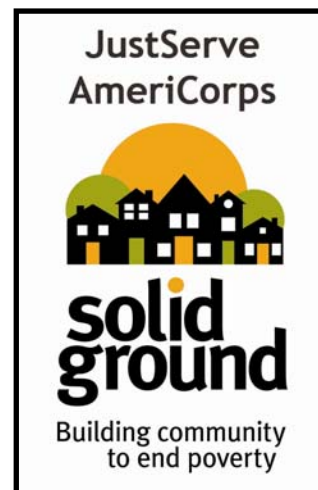
About Solid Ground

Solid Ground is a community action agency based in Seattle, dedicated to working for a just and caring community free from poverty, prejudice and neglect. We believe that...

- Our community has the resources, will and ability to end poverty.
- All people have the right to food, shelter, social justice and opportunities.
- Racism perpetuates poverty. To end poverty, we must undo racism.

Our nearly 30 food, housing, transportation and advocacy programs directly assist more than 38,000 households throughout King County each year.

Our National Service programs extend that impact, helping more than 75 local nonprofits, faith-based organizations, schools and public agencies to increase their capacity, pilot new initiatives and mobilize youth and adults of all ages to work for positive change in their community.



What is AmeriCorps?

AmeriCorps is a national initiative that engages Americans of all backgrounds in service to meet our country's most vital needs.

AmeriCorps Members commit to a "year" of full-time service to the community in exchange for a small monthly living stipend, training opportunities and an AmeriCorps Education Award, which can be used to help finance college education or vocational training, or pay back college loans.

Solid Ground sponsors five different AmeriCorps and VISTA teams:

- ✓ **JustServe AmeriCorps:** preventing youth violence, domestic violence and recidivism.
- ✓ **MLK VISTA Corps:** expanding the capacity of a wide array of local anti-poverty projects.
- ✓ **Washington Reading Corps, Seattle and South King County:** early childhood education and literacy for elementary school children.
- ✓ **Apple Corps:** healthy nutrition for low-income children.

Each of these teams is dedicated to undoing racism and addressing the root causes of poverty.

For more information about any of the teams listed above, go to: www.solid-ground.org/AmeriCorps. For a list of other AmeriCorps and VISTA positions available in

Seattle/King County, go to: www.americorps.gov. You can also see a list of all of the different AmeriCorps and VISTA programs that operate in King County at: <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/servewa>.

About JustServe AmeriCorps

In the upcoming 2011-2012 National Service term, Solid Ground will be hiring **seven** full-time JustServe AmeriCorps Members to support the following Anti-Violence Advocate Corps projects in Seattle/King County:

- **El Centro de la Raza Hope for Youth Program:** One position helping youth to build leadership skills and preventing youth involvement in gangs and violence, by providing civil rights history and hip hop poetry classes in local middle and high schools.

- **King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Protection Order Office:** One position helping victims of domestic violence apply for DV protection orders and accompanying DV victims to court order hearings. The Member will also assist DV petitioners with safety planning and resource referral. This Member will be based at the Regional Justice Center in Kent, South King County.



- **Seattle Police Department Victim Support Team:** Two positions working with a community volunteer program that provides support, resources and referrals to victims of domestic violence at secured crime scenes. Each Member will help train and coordinate the community volunteers, and work one weekend crisis intervention shift per month. The Members will also make follow up phone calls to victims during the week, and manage and organize the program's resources, and equipment.
- **Village of Hope:** One position providing information and support to people who are re-entering community from incarceration, supporting families of the incarcerated, helping to organize Village Gatherings, and engaging community volunteers to strengthen the Village of Hope's work.
- **WAPI Community Services:** One position supporting a safe youth lounge at WAPI's main office in Southeast Seattle, developing a volunteer and artist in residency program, developing entrepreneurial opportunities for youth, and providing conflict resolution skill building and anti-oppression and social justice education to youth at risk of violence, substance abuse and incarceration.
- **JustServe AmeriCorps Team Leader:** One position working out of Solid Ground's Volunteer Resources Office providing technical assistance and support to the six projects listed above.

These positions are open until filled.

To apply, go to the JustServe AmeriCorps page on the Solid Ground website at www.solid-ground.org/AmeriCorps/JustServe. First, read the full Position Description and check the responsibilities and minimum qualifications for each position listed above. Then, submit a paper JustServe AmeriCorps application and two written community recommendations directly to Solid Ground. Those application forms are posted on the Solid Ground website.

Benefits:

In exchange for an 11-month term of service from September 1st, 2011 to July 31st, 2012, Anti-Violence Advocate Corps Members will receive a living stipend of \$1,100/month (before taxes).

All Members will also earn an AmeriCorps Education Award of \$5,350, on successful completion of their AmeriCorps term.

Health insurance coverage is provided for the Member.

Limited childcare benefits are also provided, if your household is income eligible and you don't already receive other government childcare benefits.

Our program does not provide housing or transportation benefits.

Commitment:

As an Anti-Violence Advocate Corps Member, approximately 80% of your time is spent on your AmeriCorps Work Plan at your site, and 20% of your time is spent in training, discussion, service and reflection activities as a 7-Member Anti-Violence Advocate Corps team.

We will start the year with a two-week Orientation. *If you are applying to our program, please block out the following dates in your calendar now: Thursday, September 1st to Friday, September 16th and do not schedule anything during those dates.*

Then, Anti-Violence Corps Members will continue to meet as a team with Solid Ground weekly from mid-September through July. These Anti-Violence Corps team meetings are mandatory and will include:

- Training, discussion and reflection activities provided from Solid Ground staff, outside speakers, project sites and Members. This includes extensive anti-racism training. *We are coordinating with sites now to determine the day of the week that Anti-Violence Corps Members will meet at Solid Ground.*
- Attendance at related community events that take place over the service year—including frequent evening and weekend events.
- One or two overnight retreats as a team (one in the fall, and possibly one in the spring); and
- Large group community service projects for 9/11 Day of Remembrance, Veteran's Day, MLK Day, National Volunteer Week and National AmeriCorps Week and other important dates during the AmeriCorps year.

These activities are part of your 40 hour/week AmeriCorps schedule.

Tips for writing your AmeriCorps application:

Become as familiar as possible with our specific AmeriCorps program and sites, including reading the full Position Descriptions posted on Solid Ground's website.

Think about why you want to serve the community full-time, for an 11-month term.

Reflect on what your life experiences have been, and the strengths that you can bring to the community as an AmeriCorps Member.

Think about your greatest weaknesses and areas where you need to grow, in order to be effective in serving the community.

Tips for your AmeriCorps interview at Solid Ground:

Make sure that you arrive on time for your interview at the Solid Ground Volunteer Resources Office on time.

Make sure that you go to the right address: 464 12th Ave., Seattle, WA 98122.

It's OK to dress casually for the Solid Ground interview.

We recommend taking the bus to our office, but there is some paid parking available in the surrounding neighborhood.

In case of emergency on the day of your interview, please call JustServe AmeriCorps program staff at 206-957-4779.

Take a deep breath and relax! We are excited to meet you, and the point of today's interview is to get to know you and find out where you might be a good fit within our sites.