



<u>HeartCorps</u> is a joint initiative of the <u>American Heart Association</u> and <u>Public Health</u>
<u>AmeriCorps</u> to advance cardiovascular health in rural communities. Members help lead work around chronic disease, nutrition, tobacco, CPR, and more! (<u>Hear from some current members about their work!</u>)

There is an opportunity for host sites in across the Midwest to collaborate on bringing this impact to life in their community. There is no direct cost for hosting a Member, and thanks to a generous supporter, sites will even receive a small operational stipend once a Member starts.

HeartCorps Host Sites must:

- Be a non-profit or local government agency in or serving rural areas. FQHCs, hospitals, local
 public health departments, Tribal entities, Salvation Army, Boys & Girls Clubs, public
 housing, and more serve as current host sites.
 - Note: Rurality can be difficult to define. The RHI Hub's <u>Am I Rural? Tool</u> can help, but sites that selfidentify as rural-focused are encouraged to reach out.
- Identify a workspace within their organization for the Member. It does not need to be fancy but should be functional and welcoming.
 - Note: AmeriCorps rules limit the ability of members to serve virtually. They are to be serving in communities
- Identify a supervisor who will collaborate with AHA staff to guide the Member in the formation and execution of a workplan while also helping manage timesheet approval and performance evaluation.
- Help with efforts to support recruitment of Members locally.
 - Note: Because recruitment of Members has been a challenge in some very rural areas, the ideal host site
 will generally have at least 10k people and/or a college/university within about 30 minutes. Recruitment
 potential will be part of the conversation with interested host sites.







More about HeartCorps Members

- Can serve in full (40 hr/week) or part time (25 hr/week) roles based on host site needs and candidate profiles. The preference is full time status in order to maximize the impact.
- Must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or equivalent, and be a US Citizen, US National, or permanent resident of the US.
- Often come from a variety of backgrounds including health care, public health, education, social services and many more. Current Members range from age 22-59.
- Receive a living allowance which equates to \$15/hr., an educational award of around \$7k for a full-time position, access to comprehensive, premium-free, health insurance and (based on overall income) childcare assistance. Those costs are all covered by the American Heart Association.
- Are hired by the American Heart Association in consultation with the local host site.

Next Steps

- Reach out to <u>Tim.Nikolai@heart.org</u> with any questions and/or complete this <u>host site</u> <u>interest form</u> to begin the process.
- Approved host sites will sign an MOU with the American Heart Association which will allow for the creation of a Member position specific to that location. (View a sample job listing.)
- MOUs will need to be signed by mid-late May to allow for Member recruitment over the summer.
- A cohort of Members will start in late September 2024 with additional cohorts likely for November 2024 and January 2025.



heart.org/heartcorps