**Improving Kids’ Environment - Healthy Homes VISTA Position:**

The VISTA will be asked to work alongside the Healthy Homes Alliance, a group of various governmental, non-profit, and private groups and individuals advocating for healthy and livable homes for those living in poverty. Many states have established Health Home standards that can be used by organizations and municipalities to gauge what defines a quality home for families. Low income homes are hit hardest by these lapses in code enforcement and regulation because of their limited resources in addressing these issues on their own. The Healthy Homes VISTA will be eligible for a free training through the Environmental Management Institute and a monthly gas card.

The position will be two part, research and outreach. First, the VISTA will be asked to compare standards of other states and how they can translate to Indiana. They will then coordinate with other communities to see the strengths and weaknesses of some building codes, determining which create sustainable living environments and which are detrimental to their residents. The VISTA will be expected to collect data and translate it into statistics that support what the Healthy Home Standards should be. Finally, the VISTA will be expected to put that research into action preparing a report for the Healthy Homes Alliance. The report will be used to justify specific regulations and new codes of law. It will make recommendations for additional partners and courses of actions taken by members. The VISTA will be the hub of the alliance, connecting the partners in a way that has never been done before benefiting low income homes across the entire state through action items like the reduction of lead, mold, and dangerous environments while promoting homeowner and renter knowledge.

There will also be a placement site in Indianapolis with one of the following organizations:

- Purdue Extension: the VISTA member will focus on urban farming and food policy. Click here for a position description.
- The Office of Sustainability at IUPUI: the VISTA member will focus on partnerships and operations in a community kitchen. Click here for a position description.
- Conexus Indiana: the VISTA member will focus on education and technology in high schools across the state.
- KIPP Indy: the VISTA member will focus on education issues.
- The Mind Trust: the VISTA member will focus on education issues.
- Improving Kids’ Environment: the VISTA member will focus on housing, environment, and equality in low-income communities. Click here for a position description.