



## **Oregon Pediatric Society AmeriCorps VISTA Position**

Improve pediatric health care across Oregon using your communication, project coordination, research, and design skills.

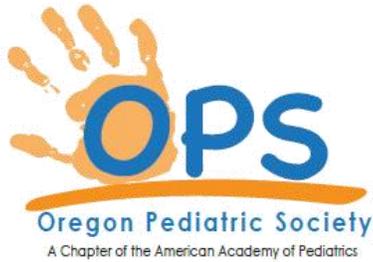
Based in Portland, you're part of the state's largest public health VISTA team!

**Dates of Service:** April 24, 2017 to April 27, 2018  
**Location:** OPS Office at 9155 SW Barnes Road, Suite 933, Portland, OR 97225  
**Apply:** National AmeriCorps recruiting portal opens Thursday, January 19 at [my.americorps.gov](http://my.americorps.gov) Phone interviews and selection will follow quickly.

This new Communications and Development VISTA position with the Oregon Pediatric Society (OPS) offers diverse experience in communications outreach, integrating mental health services in primary care, clinical quality improvement trainings, project planning and implementation, Medicaid patients, and physician culture. We are a small but mighty staff, and welcome your contributions to our team and state! Position duties include: (1) Build relationships with statewide child health providers and community partners to develop training that addresses poverty and the social determinants of health; (2) develop new and long-term strategies for board and member communications outreach and engagement, poverty screening in pediatric clinics, and organizational funding; (3) coordinate website, social media, email marketing, presentation and graphic standards for organization and evaluate effectiveness; and (4) assist in the planning of annual child health conference.

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- College graduate
- Comfortable with social media and websites
- Strong writing skills
- Critical thinking
- Reliability
- Self-directed and a team player
- Comfortable working with health care providers and nonprofit executives
- Design software skills, event planning, and donor relations are big bonuses
- Able to find housing in greater Portland area



## **BENEFITS:**

The national VISTA program provides a relocation allowance; poverty-level stipend paid bi-weekly; basic health benefits; post-service education award or stipend; student loan forbearance or deferment for qualified federal loans; and one year of noncompetitive status for federal government jobs. OHA provides professional development, travel, and regular support. OPS will provide Portland transportation allowance or Tri-Met passes.

Upon successful completion of the service term, VISTAs are eligible to receive a \$5,815 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award OR a \$1,500 end-of-year stipend. Loan forbearance and interest accrual payment on qualified student loans are available.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Pediatric Society (OPS) is the state chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). We are part of the largest child health advocacy network in the country. For example, it was an AAP member, with help from the state AAP chapter and national organization, who exposed the Flint, Michigan public-water crisis. Pediatricians are in a unique position to monitor and influence a child's health and family practices because of their trusted expertise and caring relationships built over time. At least 90% of US children are currently covered through health insurance, and there are very high attendance rates at frequent well-child visits across all racial and income groups.

On April 8, 2017, the AAP President will be the keynote speaker at OPS' annual conference, addressing the AAP's Statement on Poverty. OPS plans to follow up on this catalytic event by adding a focus on health equity and the social determinants of health to our existing programs, and launching a new project on training child health providers and clinic staff on how to screen for poverty and connect to local and state resources. The VISTA will help with new projects, as well as communications, funding, and quality improvement activities to achieve OPS' organizational goals.

This position joins the four OPS staff and Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) robust statewide VISTA team. In addition to activities at OPS, each member receives additional OHA orientation, training throughout the year, team retreats and meetings, and the support of the team leaders and project director. For more information, please visit: <http://go.usa.gov/cnayh> or contact the OPS Executive Director at [julie.scholz@oraap.org](mailto:julie.scholz@oraap.org).