



COVID Community Care Corps

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About us: Goodwill Industries of Northern New England enables persons with diverse challenges to achieve personal stability and community engagement.

NHCCCC AmeriCorps VISTA members serve in NH, helping communities recover from the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Members will serve to meet the immediate needs of their community through strengthening the state's social and civic infrastructure and mobilizing volunteers. As a full-time national service member, serving a 12-month term at a NH organization, members will participate in organizational development and capacity-building projects that may include, but are not limited to, public health services and contact tracing, emergency logistics, services that further recommendations of the Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), workforce and reemployment efforts, education support, and/or serving homebound seniors and vulnerable populations.

Impact on NH Communities: The NH COVID Community Care Corps is sponsored by Goodwill NNE. In the 2020 summer program, 15 members served at 8 Goodwill Host Sites, and accomplished the following:

- At the Boys and Girls Club of Manchester, managed 100 meals per day, five days per week, for ten weeks.
- Created a live list of 186 local nonprofits for the Nashua Emergency Management Department.
- Collected data and developed pilot programming for state-wide expansion of Police Athletic Leagues.
- Maintained Parks and Rec programming throughout Manchester, including enrichment for youth so that parents could get back to work and organized several community clean-ups.

Host Sites: Manchester Mayor's Office, Nashua Emergency Management and Public Health, Manchester Welfare Dept., Manchester Parks & Rec, Manchester Health Department, Manchester Boys & Girls Club, Nashua PAL, and Neighborhood Provisions through Dartmouth-Hitchcock.

Member Spotlight: Meet Michael, born and raised in Manchester, NH. After college and travel domestically and abroad, Michael joined an AmeriCorps Program in Los Angeles. This "was a deeply rewarding experience that drew me into the sectors of education and social work - areas I never thought I would pursue. I have since looked forward to future opportunities with similar organizations. After my experience, I applied for a local AmeriCorps pilot program [the NHCCCC] to give back to the town I grew up in, during the pandemic, as well as to carry out the duty I have always sought to fulfill - Service to Others," says Michael.

This summer, Michael served a term with the Manchester Mayor's office, working on things such as: joining city commission panels on topics like Police Use of Force Policies; collaborating with nonprofit organizations to generate more volunteer opportunities and volunteers; building program proposals and information databases that directly address issues the city is currently facing (homelessness, COVID protocols, remote learning, school changes, small business support, affordable housing), and more. While answering the Mayor's phone line, providing people with information, and taking note of their requests and concerns due to COVID, Michael reflects: "Each call is unique and offers a closer perspective of the individual lives within our city."

