
One person... One year... A world of difference!

Become a Volunteer Maryland Coordinator



Volunteer Maryland (VM), a program of the Governor's Office, builds stronger communities across our state by developing volunteer and service-learning programs that meet critical needs in the areas of education, human welfare, public safety, homeland security, and the environment.

Our VM Coordinators have developed programs to tutor youth, renovate low-income housing, visit the elderly, counsel crime victims, and clean streams – to give just a few examples.

Tackling some of our state's toughest problems, VM Coordinators have made a difference from Garrett County to the Eastern Shore.



Who are the VM Coordinators?

Volunteer Maryland Coordinators (VMCs) are people like you who dedicate one year to full-time service as members of AmeriCorps, the "domestic Peace Corps."

They have ranged in age from 18 to 73, in educational level from GED to PhD, and in gender, race, religion, and geographic background. They share a willingness to take on a challenge, and a desire to create a lasting change in their communities.

Each VMC is matched with a nonprofit agency (called a Service Site) that fits his/her skills and interests.

"I feel luckiest for having met such wonderful and amazing people. It is incredible how an extremely diverse group of people can come together to support each other, learn with and from one another, and enable each other to grow as individuals."

"I learned that if you feel passionately about something you can go out and get something done in the community."

"VM allowed me to take ownership of something I believed was important and worthwhile. I gained confidence from working independently and having full responsibility for my program."

What do they do?

Volunteer Maryland Coordinators promote active citizen participation in their communities. They:

- develop program materials and policies;
- recruit, train, supervise, and recognize volunteers; OR, coordinate student service-learning activities within a school district;
- develop partnerships with local organizations and businesses to support their program; and
- train key staff members and/or volunteer leaders in the "best practices" of volunteer management and service-learning.

They also spend 10 percent of their time performing direct service activities.

What about training?

Volunteer Maryland provides an intensive training program at the start of the service year, as well as additional monthly training days during the year to support the VMCs in skill development. Training covers topics such as:

- program development and evaluation,
- volunteer management,
- service-learning,
- marketing, and
- leadership development.

"I could not have asked for a better experience. I learned more in one year than I did in my 20 or so years as a student."

What about benefits?

As AmeriCorps members, full-time VMCs receive a living allowance of \$13,000, a post-service educational benefit of \$5,350, and health insurance if they are not already covered. They may also qualify for a child care allowance. Part-time positions are also available.

Other benefits include valuable networking and leadership development opportunities, working with a dedicated team of AmeriCorps members and staff, and making a real difference.

"I believe that I have found my niche in the working world. Knowing that I have helped families become stronger and healthier and at the same time accomplish my dream of working in a small nonprofit has made me feel very gratified and content."

Sounds interesting, am I qualified?

You must be at least 17 years of age, and have a high school diploma or GED. In addition, VM looks for applicants who:

- are dedicated to service and are motivated to make a difference,
- have leadership potential and would be comfortable as a manager,
- have good interpersonal and writing skills, and
- have a positive attitude and a spirit of adventure.

How do I apply?

Just fill out an application and send it to the VM office! Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible—the greatest number and variety of opportunities are available in the late spring.

How would I be selected and matched with an agency?

All applications are reviewed by VM staff. Qualified candidates are then interviewed at VM's office in Baltimore.

If you appear to be a good match for one of our Service Sites, you will be asked to interview with that site. You, the Service Site, and VM must agree to the match before the selection is final.

How do I get an application or more information?

Contact:

Volunteer Maryland
301 West Preston Street
15th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201
Voice: 410-767-6203
Email:
volmd@volunteermaryland.org

Or visit us on the web at:
www.volunteermaryland.org

We consider applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status. Reasonable accommodations are available upon request.