



**AICHO**  
American Indian Community  
Housing Organization



## **American Indian Community Housing Organization (AICHO) Member Position** **Description**

### **Description of site:**

The mission of the American Indian Community Housing Organization (AICHO) is to honor the resiliency of Indigenous people by strengthening communities and centering Indigenous values in all aspects of our work. AICHO's philosophy is that every American Indian person deserves to live in a non-violent and non-threatening environment and has the right to be treated with dignity and respect. Our theory of change is Indigenous solutions will create a sustainable path forward and the belief that Indigenous vibrancy will transform the entire community.

AICHO's Gimaajii Healthy Families Initiative strengthens culturally-based healthy eating, access to Indigenous food systems and culturally-based physical activities with children and families who have experienced long-term homelessness who live in AICHO's permanent supportive housing programs. The program provides after school activities that focus on urban gardening, food preparation, cultural activities and educational and child-elder connections, with a focus on strengthening resiliency in a response to trauma experiences. The program serves 75+ American Indian and low-income individuals. The vision is to offset trauma so these children and families have a limitless future, with the health, education and well-being to succeed.

### **Responsibilities of member:**

- Develop and deliver consistent, healing-centered programming to strengthen the resiliency of the youth who live at AICHO. Program activities include the Gimaajii Youth Market, field trips and daily activities in our garden, gym, and children's room.
- Recruit, train and coordinate volunteers that would be a good fit to help facilitate programming
- Build trusting relationships with the youth involved in the after-school program
- Participate in and complete site orientation, including a tour of AICHO as well as at least one week of shadowing the program supervisor
- Document all service hours and submit time sheets to supervisor
- Collect and document evaluation data that will be used to best inform the direction of future programming
- Assist in maintenance of Gimaajii's two gardens
- Assist in meals program to ensure that the produce grown is utilized by the meals provided to families
- Assist with special projects as assigned and AICHO community events

**Qualifications:**

- Interest in community health, education, mental health, social work, or related fields
- Possess strong communication skills; listening skills, is personable, empathetic, open-minded and patient
- Able to work collaboratively with youth and young adults as well as independently to complete projects
- Demonstrates understanding and acceptance of cultural differences
- Experience working with at-risk youth and understanding of the principles of healing-centered (or trauma-informed) programming.
- Demonstrate awareness of Native culture
- Passion for gardening and cooking

**Benefits specific to this position:**

- Opportunity to build meaningful relationships with youth and their families
- Gain a more holistic understanding of the educational, economic and social barriers these populations face
- Opportunity to contribute to a growing organization recognized on a national level for the innovative work AICHO is doing in the field of Permanent Supportive Housing to address health disparities in the Native American Community and work toward health equity for the families served.
- Access to AICHO staff trainings

**Location:** AICHO, 202 W. Second St., Duluth, MN. Gimaajii building on site.

**Start/ end date:** August 2019-August 2020

**Position size:** Full time, year-round

**Hours:** Monday-Friday, hours determined by site supervisor

**To apply:** Please complete an application at [truenorthamericorps.org/apply](http://truenorthamericorps.org/apply)