

# Early Childhood Development Volunteer

## Children's Programs

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### Little Learners, Big Dreams

The Little Learners is a great resource for residents of Our House and low-income families with infant to pre-k age children. Every year, we provide **over 200 children** from 6 weeks to 5 years old a safe, consistent, and comfortable place to learn and grow. The Children's Center is located on the Our House campus at **302 E Roosevelt Rd**. The Children's Program VISTA coordinates between the Early Childhood Development Volunteers (ECDVs), Children's Center staff, and AmeriCorps members.

## The Role of an Early Childhood Development Volunteer

As an Early Childhood Development Volunteer (ECDV), you will be working directly with our youngest clients to help them achieve their benchmarks and assisting the teaching team with any administrative duties.

### Description of Tasks

- Assist the teacher and AmeriCorps member with crafts, games or free-play
- Classroom management: general assistance in supervising activities
- Provide positive reinforcement and promote healthy, non-violent behaviors
- Keep the playroom and childcare areas clean and organized
- Effectively communicate with children, parents, and staff in support of our mission
- Help with snack and meal distribution

### Preferred Volunteer Times

<b>Year-Long</b>	
Monday - Friday	7:30 pm to 5:30 pm

### Preferred Skills and Qualifications

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Experience working with young children (infant to 5 years old)</li> <li>● Be a minimum of 18 years old. Exceptions are made for students who are participating in an ongoing social service/community service program (one semester or more)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be comfortable volunteering within a group or individually</li> <li>● Good verbal and communication skills</li> <li>● Approachable and friendly</li> <li>● Comfortable working with different temperaments and personalities</li> <li>● Flexibility, patience and the ability to work with young children</li> </ul>
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## **Training and Support**

All Our House volunteers receive a tour around the Our House campus, and they get training on the aspects of their volunteer role. All Children's Center volunteers must undergo a background check (typically taking around 1 week to process), a Child Maltreatment Check, and a volunteer orientation (lasting around 1 hour). They also receive support, advice, and guidance from the Children's Programs VISTA and Children's Center team.

## **Benefits to Volunteer**

All Our House volunteers will have the opportunity to make a difference in somebody's life. An ECDV is able to network and communicate with a range of individuals and groups. ECDVs learn about childhood development from a hands-on approach.

## **Application Procedure**

1. Application Form: available on the Our House website
  - a. Includes check with NSOPW (registered sex offender list)
2. Informal Interview and orientation with Children's Program VISTA
3. Child Maltreatment Check and Criminal Record check
  - a. If you have lived outside of Arkansas in the last 5 years, FBI Record check is required

## **Contact Information**

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