



**Service Announcement: Community Development Assistant**  
**LISC AmeriCorps Member: Native American Community Development Institute**

**The Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)** is dedicated to helping community residents transform neighborhoods into healthy and sustainable communities of choice and opportunity — good places to work, do business and raise children. LISC combines corporate, government and philanthropic resources to help community-based organizations revitalize neighborhoods. Since 1980, LISC has invested more than \$9.7 billion that has leveraged an additional \$31.3 billion to build or rehabilitate 271,000 affordable homes and develop 40 million square feet of retail, community and educational space nationwide in efforts to Build Sustainable Communities. This strategy extends to the LISC AmeriCorps program where we support placing AmeriCorps Members with local non-profit partners to assist in local efforts to revitalize neighborhoods across the country, creating vibrant places for people to live, work, and play. LISC’s AmeriCorps program seeks to attract talented individuals to serve for one year to help build organizational capacity. This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience and begin a career in the Community Development field.

The **Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI)** is an American Indian community development intermediary organization – the first of its kind – created by and for American Indians. NACDI is committed to transforming the American Indian community to effectively respond to 21<sup>st</sup> century opportunities and challenges. NACDI works to build partnerships that expand the American Indian community’s capacity to:

- Develop sustainable physical assets
- Develop economic assets and vitality
- Develop and maintain effective human and social relationships through cooperative efforts

For the past 40+ years, south Minneapolis has been home for many American Indian people, organizations, and businesses. The area continues to have the densest concentration of urban American Indian people in the country. NACDI’s efforts focus on this geographic area. NACDI has spent the past three years developing the American Indian Community Blueprint. This document encapsulates more than 10 years of community-based research, study, and engagement to define the future vision for the community. The document identifies implementation projects that build towards that vision. A LISC AmeriCorps Member will provide critical support to the broad initiatives outlined in the Blueprint.

**AmeriCorps Member Activities**

The AmeriCorps member working with the **Native American Community Development Institute** will serve as a **Community Development Assistant**. Specifically, an AmeriCorps Member will assist NACDI in performing the following tasks to forward the American Indian Community Blueprint development and implementation in 2010-2011:

- Engagement of American Indian community members in the Blueprint endorsement and implementation processes through direct one-on-one engagement and through larger group meetings
- Engagement of organizations and other stakeholders around Blueprint strategies, building partnerships and developing projects to implement that forward the vision of the Blueprint
- Distribution of the American Indian Community Blueprint
- Development of evaluation criteria for the community to track the progress of the American Indian Community Blueprint and collection of baseline data for comparison
- Assist in the implementation of one “State of the American Indian Community” address

- Promotion of the American Indian Community Blueprint, American Indian Cultural Corridor, and community development through marketing materials, newsletters, written articles, web-content, etc.
- Plan and implement community-based projects that advance the Blueprint. Possible projects include: landscaping for outdoor space, design work for permanent pow-wow grounds, public art/mural/sculpture, development of American Indian tour of the Twin Cities, planning work around a marketplace at Indian Center, neighborhood activities, digital signage, cultural corridor marketing materials, bike racks, tipi installation.

### **Minimum Qualifications**

- ◆ High school degree, GED certificate or agree to achieve GED within the year
- ◆ Minimum of 17 years of age, US citizen or permanent resident status
- ◆ Desire and ability to work with a diverse group of people
- ◆ Ability to work independently and in a team environment
- ◆ Computer skills
- ◆ Good written and oral communication skills
- ◆ Ability to work a flexible schedule (some night and weekends may be required)

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- ◆ Ability to communicate effectively in person, on the phone, and in writing with a wide range of people
- ◆ Strong work ethic and attention to detail
- ◆ A positive, creative and engaging work style
- ◆ Sensitivity to racial, ethnic and class differences among people with whom he/she will work
- ◆ Familiarity with the area is helpful but not required.
- ◆ Interest in community development and community organizing

### **Member Benefits**

Full time members are required to serve for a minimum of 1,700 hours and a full year at NACDI. Members will attend a national orientation the week of October 23-27 and monthly meetings and trainings hosted by the Twin Cities LISC office. NACDI will also make additional training opportunities available. Members will earn a stipend of \$18,000 and are eligible to participate in the AmeriCorps health insurance program and may apply for childcare benefits. Upon successful completion of the service year, members will be eligible for a \$5,350 education award to pay off existing student loans or return to school.

**Deadline to apply:** August 8, 2010

For more information on Twin Cities LISC, visit [www.tclisc.org](http://www.tclisc.org)

For more information on NACDI, visit [www.nacdi.org](http://www.nacdi.org)

**To apply, please email a cover letter and resume to Chris Wiger at [cwiger@lisc.org](mailto:cwiger@lisc.org) or mail to:**

Chris Wiger  
Twin Cities LISC  
570 Asbury St., Suite 207  
St. Paul, MN 55104

*LISC and NACDI promote equal opportunity in selecting AmeriCorps members. We are committed to diversity and inclusion in the selection process.*