

Habitat for Humanity of Iowa AmeriCorps Program

Northwest Iowa Flood Disaster Response AmeriCorps Members

Why join Habitat Iowa's Disaster Response Team?

Are you passionate about making a tangible difference in your community? Interested in Travel and Disaster Response? Habitat for Humanity of Iowa is excited to invite applications from dedicated individuals for our AmeriCorps Mobile Response Team to join our response to the Northwest Iowa Flooding. This opportunity is perfect for anyone looking to step into the disaster world.

No prior experience in disaster? No problem! What we value most is your willingness to learn and collaborate with our team. We're committed to providing a space where someone can grow, lead, and thrive in disaster, construction, and service to the community.

How to apply? How long will it take?

Applicants will need to complete an application form on www.iowahabitat.org/apply-ameri-corps

Applicants will be contacted for interviews within 1 week

Selected applicants must complete background checks and employment paperwork before starting which can take anywhere from 3-14 days depending on how quickly background checks are returned.

What positions are available and what are the benefits?

Habitat Iowa is hiring 3 & 9 week commitments to join us in Northwest Iowa flood disaster response. Members would live and serve together throughout their service term in the local area and respond where needed.

	3- week commitment	9-week commitment
Start dates: There are many start dates available for members	July 26 August 2, 12, 19, & 26 September 3, 11	July 26 August 12 & 26
Living stipend is pay that is divided evenly over your commitment.	\$1,000 total (\$500 per pay period)	\$3,000 total (\$750 per pay period)
Education Award – a type of scholarship that can be used for cost of education or past federal student loans- available upon completion of service	\$416	\$1565
Housing and Food provided at the disaster headquarters. This will move around as space is available. Example locations will be local college campuses or youth camps.		
Training on AmeriCorps and disaster response will be provided. No experience needed		
Other benefits include workers compensation insurance, National Service Student Loan forbearance, and more		

What is the schedule for disasters?

Our disaster teams are joining other crews under FEMA. The response schedule is generally Monday- Saturday. The weekends are the most important because we generally have more community volunteers able to join our regular crews. The AmeriCorps mission assignment is scheduled to be in active response from June – September and may be extended if needed.

Members will have to commit to either a 3-week or 9-week position in order to receive the listed benefits and securing housing and food.

What does disaster response look like?

While every disaster is different it is expected that this team will be doing a lot of mucking and gutting of flooded homes, donation and warehouse management, debris removal, and community volunteer management and coordination. This is not an exhaustive list and we are seeking people willing to give anything a try. Disaster response is filled with long days and hard work. However many people enjoy the work, fun teams, and the impact they have on the community around them.

Who is the ideal disaster crew member?

This temporary position would be perfect for anyone interested in **travel, disaster response, and volunteering**. Disaster is hard work physically and emotionally. In exchange disasters responders, earn a little money, get hands on experience with local and federal disaster response, meet new and interesting people, and get to help their community.

Examples: Retirees, Students on summer break, recent grads, those in between employment opportunities,

What do we mean by communal housing and food?

While on deployment, many organizations or businesses will donate space for disaster crews to live. This could be college dorms in the summer or youth camps in the fall. Even hotels, churches, and sporting stadiums have been known to donate living spaces. Most of the time disaster crews are sharing space with other disaster members. This could mean sharing spaces with people in large spaces housing 40+ people regardless of sex or gender.

When it comes to food, most meals are donated to feed disaster crews and served in large mess halls. If food is not being donated, groups will receive grocery money to purchase and prepare food as a crew in donated kitchen spaces.

*Individuals can still join the team even if they do not wish to participate in the housing and/or food but they will not be compensated in any other way.

Want to volunteer but can't commit to a full service term?

You can join as an unpaid volunteer. For those serving more than 4 days in a row housing can be secured. Contact Katie Sylvis with more information at kzellmer@iowahabitat.org or 515-220-1287

Have more questions?

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