



The AmeriCorps VISTA mission is to **strengthen** organizations that alleviate poverty through volunteering and the mobilization of resources. An AmeriCorps VISTA member serves as a **catalyst for change**.

Core Principles

Anti-Poverty Focus

The project's goal addresses **helping individuals and communities out of poverty**, not simply making it more comfortable.

Capacity Building

Through activities such as fundraising, outreach and grant writing, VISTA members **mobilize local resources to achieve lasting solutions**.

Sustainable Solutions

VISTA's help **build the capacity** of an organization, creating a sustainable program over time, allowing the host site to outgrow the need for VISTA support.

AmeriCorps Accomplishments in WI in 2020

- **900** local service sites
- **7,900** AmeriCorps members & AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers
- **\$19.3 million** raised in cash and in-kind resources

Who are VISTA Members?



- At least 18 years old
- Are US citizens or legal permanent residents
- Pass a criminal history review
- Are college graduates or have equivalent experience.
- Serve full-time
- Make a one-year commitment

VISTA Benefits

VISTAs are not paid staff, though they should be valued as staff members. VISTAs are year-long volunteers who receive a modest living stipend of \$1,250/month and an education award of \$6,345. They also receive valuable professional development and experience in return for their year of service.

The VISTA Project

Ideally, a VISTA Project has a three-year life cycle: 1) Assessment and Planning, 2) Implementation & Evaluation, and 3) Development & Sustainability. VISTA members are like a project manager your organization hires to accomplish a specific goal. **VISTA members are not just an extra pair of hands.**

Our goal is to build a better Wisconsin by strengthening community organizations and increasing their capacity. With passion, commitment, and hard work, our VISTA members help WI nonprofits bring individuals and communities out of poverty.

Timeline

- Project applications accepted on a rolling basis
- Subsite/supervisor training
- Summer VISTAs start June 6* and serve for 9 weeks
- Full-year VISTAs start service on a rolling basis

**Some flexibility with the summer start date is available if necessary*

Start Date	Recruitment Deadline
3/14/2022	2/18/2022
4/11/2022	3/19/2022
5/09/2022	4/15/2022
6/06/2022	5/13/2022
7/05/2022	6/10/2022
7/18/2022	6/23/2022
8/01/2022	7/08/2022
8/15/2022	7/22/2022
8/29/2022	8/05/2022

Habitat for Humanity of Wisconsin Responsibilities

- Responsible for applying for and managing VISTA project grant
- Assist partner organizations with crafting project descriptions and setting project goals.
- Oversee member recruitment.
- Provide training for supervisors and members
- Provide member support
- Provide data collection tool
- Collect project data and submit reports to CNCS

Organization Responsibilities

- Create a project goal and objectives, including a work plan for the VISTA member
- Assist with local member recruitment. Interview approved applicants in a timely manner.
- Provide supervision/mentorship and training/development opportunities, including weekly one-on-one meetings
- Provide data for project reporting via monthly timesheets and quarterly reports
- Attend trainings for supervisors and members
- \$6,500/year program fee per VISTA member
- \$300 for one Summer VISTA or \$500 for two Summer VISTAs
- Reimburse member for project-related mileage
- Appropriate COVID-19 safety measures (remote work is also allowed)