



THE SERVICE COLLABORATIVE

O F W E S T E R N N E W Y O R K



SERVE NEW YORK: AMERICORPS VISTA

FIGHTING POVERTY, EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES, CHANGING THE NATION!

Serve New York mobilizes AmeriCorps VISTA members to serve organizations, government agencies, and educational institutions focused on the needs of military families and veterans and improving and expanding educational opportunities for disadvantaged youth. The goal of Serve New York is to strengthen communities across the State, and to allow organizations within them to better provide services to impoverished individuals and families.

WHAT DO SERVE NEW YORK VISTA MEMBERS DO?

AmeriCorps VISTA members work behind-the-scenes at organizations to build capacity, create sustainability, and indirectly serve the organization's clients. Typical VISTA responsibilities include: grant writing, community outreach, fund development, curriculum building, creating partnerships, and program development and execution.

Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Interest and commitment to national service
- Previous volunteer experience
- Ability to adapt to changing environments
- Strong writing and communication skills

Required Academic and Experience Qualifications:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien
- 4 year degree in any major required
- Able to provide the following documentation: birth certification, driver's license or state photo ID, social security card, and high school diploma or college degree
- Must undergo a national criminal history check *REQUIRED*

Benefits members receive:

- An annual living stipend of \$11,881, which is paid out in bi-weekly increments.
- An AmeriCorps Eli Segal Education Award of \$5,775 OR \$1,500 cash stipend provided after the successful completion of the term of service
- Post Service federal employment incentives and opportunities
- Basic health insurance
- Ability to put qualified federal student loans on forbearance during the term of service
- Child Care assistance to those who qualify
- Monthly professional development and multiple training opportunities

This program is available to all, without regard to race, color, national origin, disability, age, gender, political affiliation, or religion.

For more information and application instructions:

Contact Hannah Spalding, Recruitment Manager
Email: hspalding@tscwny.org Phone: 716.418.8500 ext. 116



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GATEWAY LONGVIEW (BUFFALO, NY)

START DATE: MARCH 2017

Gateway Longview cares for over 3,600 children and families annually from across Western & Central New York through Behavioral Health, Community-Based Educational and Residential Treatment Services. Founded over 125 years ago, the 18 programs continuously evolve to meet the ever changing needs of our local region. Yet, the focus of inspiring a community where all children feel loved, safe, valued, and capable of great achievements remains steadfast.

The VISTA member will serve as a Community Engagement Specialist for the agency. They will coordinate special events and community-based initiatives that engage families, raise awareness of needs, and recognize those who contribute to the overall advancement of strong families in our community. As a result of this position, the agency will be able to have the capacity to expand their services.

PEACE PRINTS OF WNY (BUFFALO, NY)

START DATE: MARCH 2017

PPWNY has provided reentry services in Western New York for nearly 4 decades. Reentry is a comprehensive approach that includes human service programming and community supervision. This community-based initiative is designed to assist former offenders in acquiring the life skills needed to succeed in the community and become law-abiding citizens. PPWNY's reentry programming includes: Two Transitional Housing Programs, 9 in -prison support groups; 2 community support groups and community advocacy efforts.

The VISTA member would focus on housing development to include a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization effort that includes, at its core, a plan to expand services and supports, including affordable housing to at-risk populations.

PEOPLE INC (BUFFALO, NY)

START DATE: MARCH 2017

People Inc. has been one of the leading providers of human services for people with disabilities in Western New York since 1971. People Inc. exists so that individuals with disabling conditions have the supports they need to participate and succeed in an accepting society. Services include housing, vocational training, employment supports, transportation, behavioral and counseling services, and advocacy.

The VISTA member will assist the People Inc Foundation in expanding outreach and increasing their donor base. This work will enhance the agency's ability to offer the housing and employment services necessary to maintain independence and stability; thereby reducing the negative impact of poverty on their quality of life.

WESTMINSTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (BUFFALO, NY)

START DATE: MARCH 2017

WEDI empowers economically disadvantaged people in Buffalo, NY, with a primary focus on the West Side community. WEDI was founded in 2006 and primarily works with members of traditionally disadvantaged communities including refugees, immigrants, and low-income individuals through targeted programs in micro lending, business incubation, and education.

The AmeriCorps VISTA member will expand WEDI's educational programming through the design and implementation of a financial-literacy and entrepreneurship curriculum and merged summer program. This initiative will better unify WEDI's different programs under the organization's unified, economic-empowerment-based mission. The VISTA will also improve WEDI's volunteer outreach, intake, and management procedures to increase recruitment and retention rates. Lastly, the VISTA will facilitate the growth of WEDI's catering services for prospective business clients.