



2019-2020 AmeriCorps VISTA Postings

United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley has begun our search for our 2019-2020 AmeriCorps VISTAs! The deadline to apply is 7/1/2019.

Please consider this exciting opportunity to contribute to our mission, gain valuable work experience and receive a small living allowance all at the same time.

The United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley has committed to a goal of increasing the number of students reading on grade level by 2022. To reach this goal we will mobilize and coordinate a host of community partners to join the movement, align their efforts, raise the quality of strategies and programs delivered and value and celebrate a collective impact with students and families. We will accomplish this goal by leveraging individual, programmatic and systemic changes intentionally brought about through the implementation of the United Way Community School Model.

An AmeriCorps VISTA assignment is unpaid and lasts for one year. Participants must be 18 years of age and have a combination of community service and/or equivalent college experience. They receive an end-of-service stipend or education award, health coverage, training, a relocation allowance, a living allowance and childcare assistance if eligible. The work is full-time; VISTAs are permitted to do paid part-time work during their assignment to supplement their income.

Our AmeriCorps VISTAs work closely with our community team, assignments are based in our UW office, school districts and community schools. 12 assignments are currently posted.

Interested candidates must apply through the <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/login.do> website. To find our listings go to the Advance Search (<https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/publicRequestSearch.do>) and search for all opportunities with UWGLV in the program name (leave the program type and state blank).

If you have questions you may contact Jennifer Nicolosi, United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley VISTA Manager, 610-807-5741, jennifern@unitedwayglv.org

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AmeriCorps VISTA Positions
2019-2020**



Allentown School District Early Literacy Coordinator VISTA-Jackson Early Learning Center (1)

The ASD Early Literacy Coordinator is charged with organizing events to promote family engagement in the areas of literacy and math. The Early Literacy Coordinator will identify strategies to recruit community partners and school volunteers. This person will coordinate kindergarten readiness programs (summer) to prepare students to successfully enter kindergarten ready to learn and activities to successfully transition kindergarten students to first grade. The Early Literacy Coordinator is expected to coordinate attendance initiatives including, but not limited to Challenge 5: Strive For Less Than 5 Days Absent.

Allentown School District Chronic Absence VISTA (1)

The ASD Chronic Absence will build district's capacity in five major areas: 1. Assist in establishment of standard operating procedures for collection, analysis, sharing and use of attendance data 2. Assist in development and implementation of a district attendance committee structure 3. Assist in the development of a standardized series of attendance campaigns 4. Assist in the creation of a district-wide incentive acquisition and distribution for attendance awards 5. Assist in the creation of effective family engagement processes that clarify attendance expectations.

Allentown School District Kindergarten Transition VISTA (1)

The ASD Kindergarten Transition VISTA will support the creation of an effective set of practices or plan to help children and families successfully prepare for and begin kindergarten on time. The VISTA will build district's capacity in four major areas: 1. Understand the best practices that have been identified for creating an effective district level kindergarten transition plan 2. Identify the types of trainings that may be needed to facilitate the transition plan process 3. Organize calendar of regularly scheduled activities for transitioning children and their families across the district 4. Track data on effectiveness of methods used towards on-time kindergarten registration and readiness.

BASD Community Schools Alignment VISTA (1)

The BASD Community School Support VISTA will support the nine schools in the district that are in some stage of Community Schools development to ensure that all schools create strong practices that align to national standards. The VISTA will build district's capacity in three major areas: 1. Research recommendations from the Community Schools Needs Assessment, schedule and support regular meetings to standardize the work and support the schools, information sharing from schools to district level 2. Coordinate supports, services and information sharing throughout the network (internally/externally) by holding and supporting regular meetings with Community School Coordinators, VISTAs and the Lehigh Valley Community Schools Network Director 3. Creation, distribution and collection of Trauma-related and attendance related surveys around status of work in community schools and with district office and make recommendations to grow, standardize, align and improve the work.

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Challenge 5 Attendance Awareness VISTA (1)

Chronic Absence is a major barrier to children reaching important academic milestones – like reading on grade level by the end of third grade. Our Challenge 5: Strive for Less Than 5 Campaign is aimed at reducing chronic absence throughout the Lehigh Valley, so that kids can have a better chance of educational success in their early years. The Attendance Awareness Vista will help move the Challenge 5 campaign forward in Lehigh County and expand its reach into Northampton County by participating in research, coalition building, information sharing, data analysis, establishing a training program, and developing engagement strategies for students, parents and schools.

Community Building VISTA-Thomas Jefferson Freemansburg and Northeast MS-Bethlehem (3)

The Community Building VISTA will be serving inside of a public school building. Each VISTA build the school's capacity in four major areas: 1. Build a robust process to communicate school's needs, milestones and highlights with all stakeholders 2. Embed processes to gather and submit quarterly school data to UWGLV on indicators on end of year report 3. Gather information and data on all current partnerships and develop systems to track data related to performance of programs and outcomes of student participants 4. Build connections to resources in the community identified by the school as necessary to the success of students, should include programs and providers already funded by UW to serve school 5. Assess school staff's understanding of Community Schools and create an action plan to build more CS skills and knowledge.

Easton Area School District Support VISTA (1)

The EASD Students Supports VISTA will support the Director of Student Services by evaluating and then coordinating the resources being offered within the district to focus on better alignment of need and service provision. The VISTA will build district's capacity in four major areas: 1. Identify all current initiatives being implemented in the EASD from a Student Support Services lens 2. Evaluate where each of these initiatives fits on the priority and quality continuum and what is missing 3. Coordinate a quality chronic absence campaign and appropriate tools administered district wide 4. Create a solid rollout plan for the trauma sensitive schools professional development modules.

Easton School District Student Services VISTA (1)

The EASD Students Supports VISTA will support the Director of Student Services by evaluating and then coordinating the resources being offered within the district to focus on better alignment of need and service provision. The VISTA will build district's capacity in four major areas: 1. Identify all current initiatives being implemented in the EASD from a Student Support Services lens 2. Evaluate where each of these initiatives fits on the priority and quality continuum and what is missing 3. Coordinate a quality chronic absence campaign and appropriate tools administered district wide 4. Create a solid rollout plan for the trauma sensitive schools professional development modules.

Healthy Aging VISTA (1)

The Healthy Aging VISTA will support the "Take a Senior Out" program and grow awareness about social isolation and the impact it has on the health and well-being of older adults. The VISTA member will identify cultural opportunities for targeted groups of seniors to participate in activities. They will develop a schedule of activities and coordinate resources for participants and volunteers of the "Take a Senior Out" program. They will work on recruitment and training protocol for volunteers for the program. They will work to build relationships with organizations participating in the program to assess their readiness for replication and help identify funding resources. The VISTA will assist the seniors with determining what activities are important to them while encouraging them to promote their health and well-being.

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