

**Grant County 4-H and Youth Development
VISTA
Summer Position Description (2 Positions Available)**

Brief Description of Program

Grant County AmeriCorps*VISTA will work on reaching and serving underserved and underrepresented Grant County audiences through integration of various 4-H and youth development education programming efforts.

Program Description

Mission

AmeriCorps*VISTA in Grant County will, along with community partners and adult volunteers, engage youth in creative, research-based youth development programs designed to develop skills that support improved academic performance, problem prevention, and life transitions to college and to the workforce.

Audience Served

The primary audience for the programs is school age youth and adult volunteers in Grant County, Wisconsin. This rural county in southwest Wisconsin has a total population of 49,000 with an overall poverty rate of 11.2% compared to 8.7% statewide. Nearly 13% of Grant County youth live in poverty.

Program Highlights

AmeriCorps*VISTA will also partner with community organizations to implement various youth development programming in low income areas of the county. Outreach to youth with risk factors for continuing poverty will encourage youth and their parents to engage in these programs. Programming efforts will focus on life skill development, healthy lifestyle activities, pre-college programming, and problem prevention.

Qualifications

1. Potential members must be at least 18 years of age.
2. Potential members must be able to pass a criminal and DMV background check.
3. Potential members MUST be able to attend the Orientation on June 13 at Richland Center.
4. Potential members must accept position as a full-time priority with no other jobs and be able to complete 56 consecutive days of service.

AmeriCorps*VISTA Responsibilities

1. Serve as a member of the Grant County UW-Extension Youth Development programs team.
2. Work cooperatively with community organizations to organize youth development projects within Grant County.
3. Partner with UW-Extension Nutrition Staff to compile "Get Active" brochures and to plan and implement an outreach strategy for "Get Active".
4. Recruit youth and adult volunteers to help lead summer programs.
5. Work with others to plan and offer youth programs responding to identified needs.
6. Work with Cassville and Muscoda youth groups.

Benefits

1. Paid Stipend
2. Educational Award provided upon successful completion of service.

Direct Supervisor

Tom Schmitz, Grant County 4-H Youth Development Agent, University of Wisconsin-Extension
thomas.schmitz@ces.uwex.edu, (608) 723-2125

To apply for the VISTA position, please send a cover letter and resume to Tom Schmitz, Grant County Extension Office, PO Box 31, Lancaster, WI 53813 by May 15. For more information call 723-2125.