

***VISTA: VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA - FIGHT POVERTY WITH PASSION!***  
***AmeriCorps VISTA members provide the nonprofit organizations they serve with an in-kind value of \$40k per year.***

**Our Community Foundation VISTA Project:**

OCF was awarded 10 AMERICORPS VISTA positions from the Corporation for National and Community Service to develop collaborative projects that provide our local nonprofits with full-time VISTA members to work within our community in the fight against poverty.

The goal of Our Community Foundation VISTA Project is to improve awareness, programming and resources throughout Eagle County for clients in poverty who need better economic opportunities, education and healthy futures by improving school readiness, success in school, college access, increased food security, and health and wellness services.

Each VISTA member makes a year-long, full-time commitment to serve on a specific issue, hosted at a nonprofit organization, working in collaboration with other nonprofits. VISTA members generally do not provide direct services, such as tutoring children or building homes. Instead, they focus their efforts on building the organizational, administrative, and financial capacity of their organizations. VISTAs develop programs to meet a need, write grants, and recruit and train volunteers. Some VISTA projects include:

- Creating marketing materials to enhance or develop an outreach campaign
- Develop and create assessment tools to assist the organization in evaluating its programs -- VISTA members may also provide assistance analyzing program service data and results
- Researching successful programs to meet a particular need the organization has identified
- Assist in writing foundation or government grants
- Work with other staff planning and implementing a fund development plan

**Who are VISTAs and what do they get out of service?**

AmeriCorps VISTA members are passionate and committed citizens, both young and older, working to bring individuals and communities out of poverty.

- Members may be local residents or relocate from across the U.S.
- VISTA is open to all U.S. citizens, nationals, or lawful permanent resident aliens 18 and older
- Members receive a **modest** living allowance, health coverage, and other benefits
- After successful completion of a term of service, members receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award or a post-service stipend