



AmeriCorps VISTA Community Outreach Specialist

Are you committed to having a positive impact on the people in Mississippi?

A **VISTA Community Outreach Specialist** volunteer will help MS nonprofits enhance and increase their capacity to serve their communities.

Program Description: The Mississippi Alliance of Nonprofits and Philanthropy's mission is to serve, build capacity, and foster collaboration in Mississippi's nonprofit and philanthropic communities. The MS Poverty Reduction Through Needs Assessment/Asset Mapping VISTA project seeks to identify, assess, and build the capacity of nonprofit organizations serving the needs of communities throughout the 82 counties in Mississippi, helping the nonprofit and philanthropic sector benefit un-served and under-served individuals, families, and children to bring them out of poverty, increase their education levels, enhance their economic well-being and stability, and ultimately strengthen the communities in which they live. **Eight** (8) VISTA volunteers contribute to the goals of the project over the course of **one to five years** by conducting surveys, telephone interviews, and site visits with nonprofit and community organizations to gather data about needs, identify gaps and challenges, and document available resources (assets); researching best practices to eliminate and/or alleviate poverty; and conducting community conversations related to best practices.

VISTA Duties: You will help Mississippi nonprofits and philanthropies to enhance their collective impact on the quality of life of MS residents. You will collaborate closely with the MS Commission for Volunteer Service. You must be committed, compassionate, and excited about the nonprofit sector and work diligently to offer quality, focused, and integrated support and services that enhance nonprofit and philanthropic organizations serving local communities. Aspects of the work will include: **(1)** Conduct Needs Assessments and Asset Mapping to determine community and nonprofit organization needs across Mississippi; **(2)** Verify and update an on-line database of nonprofits and funders working to strengthen and improve outcomes in communities across the state; **(3)** Convene community conversations related to best-practices research; and **(4)** Attend professional developments courses (free) offered by the Alliance to increase your knowledge and understanding of the nonprofit sector.

Program Benefits: Training, Living Allowance (\$22,819 annually paid bi-weekly), Travel Expenses, Choice of Education Award equal to a full PELL Grant **or** an End of Service Stipend, Health Coverage, Child Care Assistance (if eligible)

Terms:

VISTA is a **full-time (40 hours/week) 90%-teleservice volunteer** commitment
Provides a Living Allowance
Permits working at another job during off hours
Permits attendance at school during off hours
Car is necessary
Successfully complete a criminal background check

If you are interested and qualified for this volunteer opportunity as a Community Outreach Specialist to help the people in Mississippi, the MS Alliance hopes you will apply at **myamericorps.gov** and select the **Community Outreach Specialist Year 2** position.