

VISTA Position Description: VISTA Outreach Specialists (10)



Indian Waters Council, Boy Scouts of America

Title: AmeriCorps VISTA Outreach volunteer serving with the Indian Waters Council, Boy Scouts of America

Reports to: Terri Towle and/or Scott Hagler and/or Michael Shook

Hours: Full-Time with monthly stipend from Corporation for National & Community Service
One-year minimum commitment

Application Deadline: July - September, 2024, with start dates in July!

Program Summary

The Indian Waters Council, BSA's mission is to prepare youth in central South Carolina for life through Scouting's positive youth development programs. The proposed VISTA project aligns with the VISTA Education focus area. The VISTA project will seek to increase youth engagement with Scouting's research based best practices and expects to recruit 600 new youth members and 30 adult volunteers in nineteen counties of central South Carolina.

Position Summary

Ten VISTA members will contribute to the goals of the project by performing activities such as Capacity Building through: Partner & Resource Development, Communications to Youth, Families & Partners, and Recruitment of youth and adults to Boy Scouts of America programs. Each VISTA member receives a bi-weekly stipend, health insurance and at the end of the term to education award for college related expenses for yourself or your child or grandchild; or a monetary award (about ¼ of education award). Stipends start at \$22,800 per year and education awards are just under \$7,000.

A VISTA Outreach team of two members will serve each of the following:

- Columbia, SC (2 Outreach, 1 Development and 1 Program)
- Orangeburg, SC
- Florence, SC
- Conway/Myrtle Beach, SC

Preferred Qualifications:

1. Must be 18 years of age or older.
2. Education emphasis, work experience or interest in youth development or community organizing preferred; knowledge of the community in which you will serve.
3. Excellent verbal, written communication, interpersonal, organizational, time management and facilitation skills or openness to learning these skills
4. Demonstrated passion for community building and positive youth development
5. Demonstrated leadership skills & ability to communicate with groups/committees/volunteers.
6. Disposition toward identifying opportunities and taking the initiative to see success.
7. **Required** computer skills and knowledge: including, but not limited to, Microsoft Office Suite
8. Valid driver's license and personal transportation.

Essential VISTA Service Roles and Responsibilities

1. Under the supervision of Columbia or Florence Site Directors:
2. Serve with District Executives and volunteer committees recruit new youth and adult volunteers to Scouting and support the creation of new Units, with an emphasis on underserved youth.
3. Hold and/or attend meetings and encourage partnerships with key stakeholders, similar organizations, and collaborators in each community, like school districts and school boards, youth serving organizations, community collaborations like the Children's Trust or Housing Authorities and city/town/county councils
4. Coordinate and conduct outreach sessions, events, and connection opportunities to share information about the positive outcomes of Scouting; and become a weekly volunteer or "Reader" at identified schools.
5. Provide existing and develop new recruitment outreach tools and resources for youth and volunteers. Recruiting volunteers increases program quality and membership and increases visibility of Scouting in the community.

Community Outreach Specialists (VISTA) Position Description

Create and distribute promotional and educational materials regarding Scouting

Create videos documenting the impact of Scouting

In partnership with District Executive, attend all volunteer committees and support volunteer recruitment activities

Share key messaging about Scouting at partner events and meetings.

Attend Trainings to increase knowledge of Scouting Programs, general positive youth development and youth trauma informed practices

Contribute to the Indian Waters Council's overall mission to prepare youth for life during the project year through service supporting youth and adult volunteers

Participate in required training, meetings, and events with IWC VISTA co-hort and IWC Staff.

For more information, contact: Terri Towle, Director of Resource Development and VISTA Program Manager at terri.towle@scouting.org or call 803-606-9995