

**THE MICHIGAN COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSION IS SEEKING
A LEARN AND SERVE - MICHIGAN AMERICORPS*VISTA MEMBER**

The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC), one of the nation's leading commissions on service and volunteerism, is seeking an energetic, organized, and committed individual to serve as the Learn and Serve - Michigan AmeriCorps*VISTA. ***The deadline to apply for this position is August 27, 2010.***

Learn and Serve – Michigan:

The Learn and Serve – Michigan grant program is part of the Learn and Serve America program for school age youth supported by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The Learn and Serve America program assists in the development of high quality service-learning programs in K-12 school districts. The Learn and Serve – Michigan VISTA Member will be responsible for providing specific resources to high poverty K-12 public schools in the area of service-learning and community engagement.

Service-learning is a teaching methodology that connects meaningful community service with academic learning, personal growth, and civic responsibility. These programs help youth see beyond the classroom, and into the community, where they learn by addressing community needs and solving real-life problems in the areas of education, public safety, human services, the environment, and disaster preparedness. Students benefit as they learn to understand more about the world around them, comprehend academic content and apply their knowledge in contributing to their community's well being.

Qualifications:

Candidates should possess the following qualifications:

- Willing to make a full-year commitment
- College Experience
- Knowledge of service-learning and community service
- Experience in grant writing preferred
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Knowledge of Microsoft computer applications and complimentary computer skills
- Experience with social media such as Twitter and Facebook
- Organized with excellent time-management skills
- Self directed, able to work independently
- Ability to work and communicate in a team environment
- Commitment to the mission of the project and its impact on communities
- Knowledge and interest in working with diverse groups of people
- Proven leadership ability, public speaking and event planning
- Access to reliable transportation

Responsibilities:

The Learn and Serve - Michigan AmeriCorps*VISTA position will enhance the ability of Learn and Serve - Michigan to expand the reach of service-learning and mentoring in areas across the state with high levels of poverty. Activities will include:

- Outreach and increased support for schools in high poverty areas:
 - Conduct outreach to various high poverty schools to assess interest in service-learning.

- Provide emerging programs with service-learning resources. Conduct an orientation to the program and set up professional development events based on school needs.
- Increase support to current grantees serving youth in poverty. Identify needs and provide support to current grantees so that they can grow and enhance their service-learning program.
- Coordinate the Service-Learning Youth Council (SLYC) and Global Youth Service Day to engage more youth in service and service-learning.
 - Recruit youth from targeted schools to participate in SLYC and other youth leadership opportunities
 - Plan and help facilitate SLYC meetings and conference calls to help them become service-learning advocates.
 - Facilitate communications between the MCSC and the SLYC members and ongoing communication among members.
 - Assist SLYC in planning a signature Global Youth Service Day project.
 - Assist in planning, implementing, and promoting statewide Global Youth Service Day efforts.
- Support grant development for Learn and Serve – Michigan and its grantees.
 - Identify and request funds to support innovative service-learning programs.
 - Identify and develop grant applications for teachers to grow their service-learning projects.
 - Create and distribute bi-monthly funding alerts with links to funding opportunities for schools and increase the number of individuals who access this resource.
- Development of tools and resources to support and promote service-learning.
 - Regularly update the website with service-learning/education resources particularly around high poverty communities.
 - Develop and coordinate webinars on service-learning and related topics.
 - Coordinate social media efforts to share resources and promote service-learning in Michigan and increase the number of individuals participating.
 - Create a report showing how service-learning is being used in Michigan to assist youth living in poverty.
- Other duties as assigned.

Benefits:

- Annual living allowance of \$10,296
- Education Award of \$5,350 or End-of-Service stipend of \$1,500 upon completion of full term of service
- Student Loan forbearance (if Education Award is elected)
- Training and professional development
- Health coverage
- Childcare assistance subsidies (if eligible)

*For more information on AmeriCorps*VISTA, please visit www.americorps.gov.*

Interested applicants must complete an online application at www.americorps.gov and send a letter of introduction and resume to:

Katherine Vasilion Robinson
Michigan Community Service Commission
1048 Pierpont, Suite 4
Lansing, Michigan 48913
Phone: (517) 335-3407
Fax: (517) 373-4977
Email: robinsonk13@michigan.gov

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Background on the MCSC

The Michigan Community Service Commission builds a culture of service by providing vision and resources to strengthen communities through volunteerism. In 2010-11, the MCSC is granting more than \$7.3 million in federal funds to local communities for volunteer programs and activities. The MCSC is funding 25 AmeriCorps programs and 25 Learn and Serve programs. The Governor's Service Awards and Mentor Michigan are also premier programs of the MCSC. The MCSC is firmly committed to providing access, equal opportunities, and reasonable accommodations in its programs, activities, and materials. Please call (517) 335-4295 to request accommodations or to obtain materials in an alternate format.