

VISTA Assignment Description (VAD)

Title: Community Engagement VISTA

Sponsoring Organization: UNITED WAY OF THE PIEDMONT

Project Name: AmeriCorps VISTAs in the Piedmont

Project Number:

Project Period: 08/09/2021-08/08/2022

Site Name: CITY OF SPARTANBURG

Focus Area(s)

UWP will complete this for you.

VISTA Assignment Objectives and Member Activities

Goal of the Project: The VISTA member will support and increase the capacity of the City of Spartanburg to build an equitable community. The VISTA will create a comprehensive equity plan, including a racial equity component, collaborate to develop a master plan for a low-income neighborhood, and conduct community outreach designed to increase engagement around workforce development and entrepreneurship.

Objective of the Assignment (DATES:

Describe Objective: The VISTA member will collaborate with City staff and community partners to build an engagement strategy addressing homelessness and related collective impact initiatives surrounding financial stability.

Member Activities:

1. Research other communities to identify best practices.
2. Identify and establish relationships for collaboration with key stakeholders.
3. Maintain homeless workforce program.
4. Collaborate on the Homeless Action Plan being developed by the Homeless Taskforce.

Objective of the Assignment (DATES:

Describe Objective: The VISTA member will help develop the Office of Equity and Inclusion and create a city-wide racial equity framework around GARE and the city's internal process.

Member Activities:

1. Review existing community work related to equity, including community assessments, trainings, and ongoing efforts.
2. Develop a series of listening sessions to create an internal culture of equity.
3. Develop Equity 101 Training for current and new hires.

4. Organize and maintain equity accomplishments and resources.

Objective of the Assignment (DATES:

Describe Objective: The VISTA will increase community awareness and engagement around various city programs and initiatives including but limited to entrepreneurship, procurement, and business development.

Member Activities:

1. Research the City's existing community engagement and awareness initiatives. Involve community input of what happens next in those efforts.
2. Collaborate with the City staff to revise or create marketing strategies.
3. Develop presentations related to information about available programs to community groups, churches, service organizations, etc.
4. Research and establish a process and methods to track engagement and ensure ongoing communication with participants.

Objective of the Assignment (08/09/2021-08/08/2022)

VISTAs will spend 10% of their service participating in a supplemental project designed to foster collaboration and problem-solving for (a) community-wide issue(s). The VISTA team will gather one half-day each week to share different perspectives and experiences gained through their work on-site and work together on (a) project(s).