VISTA Assignment Description (VAD)

Title: Technology Coordinator

Sponsoring Organization: United Way of the Piedmont
Project Name: VISTAs in the Piedmont
Project Number:
Project Period: 07/23/2018– 07/19/2019

Site Name (if applicable): Union County Carnegie Library

Focus Area(s)
  Primary: Economic Opportunity

Note:
If your VAD is not accepted, the State Office will note the reason(s) why here.

VISTA Assignment Objectives and Member Activities

Goal of the Project: To improve technology resources available for rural Union County residents lacking home access to technology. VISTA will evaluate the current state of technology available, and will develop a device management plan, create resource guides, and provide technology training to key members of the community. VISTA will enable low-income residents to improve their quality of life and increase earning potential by providing resources to successfully further their education, seek out employment opportunities, and ensure that residents have access to various benefits and healthcare, and are able to access other resources that may only be available electronically. The VISTA will also identify technology infrastructure issues and barriers to access for low-income residents and seek out funding opportunities to address these issues and barriers.

Objective of the Assignment (07/23/2018– 07/19/2019)
Assess status of technology in updated library facility in order to expand available resources for technology education for residents who are looking to further their education, seeking employment, or pursuing career advancement

    Member Activities:
1. Evaluate Union Library's technology infrastructure and its effects on public access to technology resources
   a. Identify technology issues and gaps in service
   b. Identify and implement solutions
2. Identify and secure funding for additional technology resources
3. Add new technology resources to the library collection
   a. Create order lists
   b. Receive items
   c. Process items to make them accessible to the community
4. Promote new technology resources to the community
5. Create instructional resource guides for all library technology
6. Lead instructional training for community partners in facility on new technology

Objective of the Assignment (07/23/2018– 07/19/2019)
Develop a program to improve technology proficiency in Union County to decrease unemployment rates and increase academic achievement.

Member Activities:
7. Assess technology education opportunities in the County to identify education and resource gaps
   a. Create and distribute assessment
   b. Compile results in a user-friendly document
   c. Create a summary report to be distributed to community agencies that provide access to resources to high-need groups, such as those qualifying as low-income
8. Assess technology proficiency in Union County among high-need populations
   a. Create and distribute assessment
   b. Compile results in a user-friendly document
   c. Create a summary report to be distributed to community agencies that provide access to resources to high-need groups, such as those qualifying as low-income
9. Compile a user-friendly list of technology resources available county-wide
   a. Identify gaps in technology resources
10. Create a program implementation timeline
11. Identify key community partners, including volunteers
12. Identify program sites in coordination with community partners
13. Identify and secure program-specific funding and additional funding for resources to support technology efforts
14. Implement technology program
    a. Train and coordinate necessary staff and volunteers
    b. Promote program and recruit participants
15. Evaluate effectiveness of program
    a. Use previous assessment tool to determine progress made by participants
    b. Prepare quarterly progress reports
    c. Propose changes to the program based on evaluation
16. Create sustainability plan for technology program
    a. Identify and secure funding to continue program
    b. Create a timeline with action steps for continuing program
    c. Create a program guide and train necessary staff or volunteers to continue program

Objective of the Assignment (07/23/2018– 07/19/2019)
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).