

# ***LA VISTA*** ***(Louisiana AmeriCorps\*VISTA Project) . . .***



providing a way for parishes, communities and local residents to “own their plan for fighting poverty in their neighborhood.”

## **What is *LA VISTA***

*LA VISTA* is a statewide project designed to provide support to parishes, communities and residents working to improve Louisiana life. *LA VISTA* helps the people of Louisiana reduce the level of poverty found in many of our parishes.

*LA VISTA*'s Site Projects strive to address poverty through:

- Creating long-lasting public/private partnerships
- Increasing citizen involvement through volunteerism
- Moving forward with hurricane recovery efforts
- Increasing grant writing capacity

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**NATIONAL &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE** 

and



Louisiana Division of Administration,  
Office of Community Development,  
State Grants Management Section

## Who Is A VISTA

VISTAs, Volunteers in Service to America, are individuals eager to share their knowledge and experience with your Site Project and volunteers. They can be a local recruit (your next-door neighbor) or chosen from a national



Rebuilding Together Calcasieu's VISTA at Swearing In

database of applicants. They commit to you and your Site Project for one year of service. During that year they will live in your area. Their entire focus will be helping your Site Project succeed and continue beyond their year of service.

## How Much Will It Cost To Have A VISTA

Your VISTA will be provided with a monthly stipend by the Corporation for National and Community Services. As a Site Project, you will be required to provide appropriate office space and equipment for your VISTA to successfully fulfill their assigned tasks and activities on your Site Project.

## What Will The VISTA Do

Your VISTA will focus on one or all of the following broad goals: 1) developing collaborative efforts in the area, 2) increasing grant writing capacity, 3) developing or reinforcing a volunteerism system, and 4) hurricane recovery efforts.



State of Louisiana  
Office of Community Development  
State Grants Management Section



Claiborne Parish, LA worked with their VISTA member to create "Keep Claiborne Beautiful"

## What Can A VISTA Do

VISTA Members can only perform "INDIRECT" service. The following example illustrates the difference between "INDIRECT" and "DIRECT" service:

### **PROJECT: To repair a school playground**

#### **INDIRECT SERVICE:**

- recruit and organize volunteers
- train volunteers to run project
- find the money to pay for the project
- obtain media coverage of the project

#### **DIRECT SERVICE:**

[VISTA Members are not allowed to perform these jobs]

- fix the playground equipment
- clean the school grounds
- paint the playground equipment
- install fencing

## Become A LA VISTA Site Project

First, tell us about yourself:

1. Briefly describe your organization's contact information, mission, history & who benefits from your programs.
2. Describe the tasks and activities you want your AmeriCorps\*VISTA member to do.
3. Tell us how long it will take to complete the project.
4. How many AmeriCorps\*VISTA members are you requesting?
5. Who will supervise your AmeriCorps\*VISTA members and the Site Project?

This should be a one to two page document. Send your answers to the attention of Rebecca Tedford or Chrissy Spearman at the mailing address, email address or fax number on this brochure. We will work with you to develop an appropriate work plan under our grant and find a VISTA member to serve on your Site Project.