



**Alliance VISTA Program**  
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# Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits, AmeriCorps VISTA 2015-2016

Arizona

Congressional Districts: 1-9

## PROGRAM FAST FACTS

**Congressional Districts: 1-9**  
**State Legislative Districts: 1-30**  
**Service Area by County/City: AZ Statewide**  
**Project Federal Share: \$249,010**  
**Project Local Match: \$81,732**  
**Community Volunteers Recruited: 779**  
**Volunteer Hours Served: 1454**  
**Value of Volunteer Hours: \$29,196.35**  
\*2013 Independent Sector Rate for the Value of a Volunteer Hour in Arizona is \$20.08

### Community Need

Through a series of focus sessions conducted by the Alliance throughout the state in 2006 and again in 2015, nonprofit leaders and key stakeholders voiced a need for more support in building strong organizations. The consistent trend over the past several years has been declining or plateauing revenues combined with growing demand for services, which is stretching many nonprofits to the breaking point.

### National Priority Area and Program Performance Goals

The Alliance VISTA Program supports projects in each of the following National Priority Areas: *Economic Opportunity, Healthy Futures, Education and Veterans & Military Families*. The Alliance gives special priority to community agencies that serve rural, non-metro communities.

Although the goals of each of our VISTA projects are unique based on the needs of our partner agencies, the Alliance VISTA Program has 3 main program goals:

- Increase community impact by increasing the number and depths of services offered by the community agency.
- Increase the awareness of the community agency and their services within the community.
- Help community agencies better measure and sell their impact.

### Program Activities

The Alliance VISTA program partners with local community agencies throughout the state of Arizona to develop and support unique community based VISTA projects. Alliance VISTA members work within a variety of nonprofits and government agencies in rural and metro locations in Arizona. Members serving in the Alliance VISTA program are focused on increasing community access and awareness of various services provided to support them and their families.

### Program Impact

From 2014 to 2015, Alliance VISTA members raised \$555,701.90 in cash and in-kind resources to support the mission of the organizations with whom they are serving. These resources came through grant writing efforts or supportive partnerships formed in communities throughout Arizona.

Priscilla Masciarelli is an Alliance AmeriCorps VISTA member serving with Catholic Charities in Yavapai County, AZ. Beginning in November, the Loft, a day drop-in center for the homeless at Catholic Charities, and volunteers with the Verde Valley Homeless Coalition came together to create a new project called One Person One Night which aims to get vulnerable homeless families and individuals off the streets on nights that are 32 degrees and colder. With the support of both donated funds and motel rooms, the homeless are able to be placed in warm rooms and off the street. This program is seen as a short term solution until the Verde Valley Homeless Coalition can create a more sustainable, long term solution.



# Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits, *AmeriCorps VISTA*

## Mission

The mission of the Alliance is to better people and communities by serving, supporting, protecting and promoting Arizona's nonprofit community. We serve nonprofits by providing quality information, training, capacity-building services and networking opportunities. We support nonprofits by offering savings through group-buying discount programs and other leveraged buying power. We protect nonprofits by advancing nonprofit advocacy on common issues with state, national and local decision makers. We promote nonprofits by projecting a collective voice to the public about the sector's essential contributions and significant challenges in our communities.

## Vision

A vibrant nonprofit sector that inspires and partners with the business and government sectors to create and maintain healthy and viable communities for all Arizona residents.

## History

The Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits, with more than 600 members, is a unifying association of nonprofits throughout the state. Formed in 2004 to advance the common interests of all nonprofits in Arizona, the Alliance's immediate beneficiaries are all Arizona's nonprofits and indirectly the communities they serve. One of the ways in which the Alliance supports and advances the nonprofit sector is through the partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service and VISTA. The Alliance has identified as a chief priority the need to grow the capacities of Arizona nonprofit organizations to serve and strengthen their communities, especially in rural areas, through AmeriCorps VISTA.

## Partnerships

Our work is accomplished in collaboration with over 30 nonprofit and community groups. Some of those partners in 2015 include:

- Children's Action Alliance
- Yuma Community Foundation
- City High School
- AZ Department of Education
- Support My Club
- Native Seeds
- Maggie's Place
- International Sonoran Desert Alliance
- Native Americans for Community Action
- Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
- Coconino County Superior Court
- Easter Seals Blake Foundation
- Local First Arizona
- Florence Crittenton
- Hirsch Academy
- Catholic Charities
- Read On Arizona – Gila County
- Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest
- Northern Arizona University



Project is sponsored by Federal agency CNCS. For more information visit: [www.nationalservice.gov](http://www.nationalservice.gov)