



Tennessee | **Campus Compact**

Tennessee Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTAs 2009-2014:

Campus-Identified Community Needs and Project Goals



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2013-2014 TNCC VISTA Project Goals

Goal I. For the focus area of education, VISTA members serving with the Achievement School District, both direct-run K-9 schools and affiliated charter schools, will serve to increase parental engagement and community support for the students at these low-performing schools. The goal is to increase student achievement by developing “wrap-around” services that provide support to meet both the individual student needs and the needs of the families in the community. Also, VISTA members who serve through our higher education campuses will focus on increasing educational achievement and college access/success through partnerships with surrounding public schools. These campuses have demonstrated commitment to helping local students be “college ready” through increased tutoring connections to raise GPAs, ACT/SAT preparation, and bridge programming to ensure that students from a low SES background can succeed in postsecondary education.

Goal II. Within the area of increasing economic opportunity, our higher education campuses have developed plans to utilize university faculty, students, and resources to increase the capacity and skills of their community’s citizens who are in poverty so that they are able to acquire steady employment, have better access to options for housing needs, and develop financial skills that will better sustain them for the long-term. Roane State will develop a computer lab to assist clients in obtaining basic computer literacy skills, financial understanding, and to learn how to access employment resources and opportunities. Cleveland State will connect their first-year seminar students, many who are at-risk students themselves, in projects addressing the need for transitional and low-income housing support in Bradley County and beyond. UTK will leverage university and community resources to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of three community agencies.

Goal III. Many higher education campuses are finding themselves poised to address the issues of health and hunger in their communities. Through the development of backpack programs, food banks, campus kitchens, food drives, healthcare provision programs, and nutritional education, several of our campuses will be able to give aid and support to the impoverished students and citizens in their communities through building the capacity of community partnerships to provide resources.

Goal IV. Three of our higher education members have found that impoverished veterans and military families in their areas of service do not have adequate access to information and resources to receive assistance. Martin Methodist, Pellissippi State Community College, and Lee University will continue their work in engaging veterans in the community to the resources available through their campuses and nonprofit partners. Austin Peay State University is located in Clarksville, which is new Ft. Campbell Military Base and is additionally home to over 25,000 veterans. It is estimated that 15-20% of Clarksville’s homeless population consists of veterans. APSU intends to expand their services and connections to support veterans and military families suffering from poverty through building the capacity of local agencies to serve their housing and hunger needs

2013-2014 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Achievement School District	Ana Conteras; Ashaki Clark; Beverly Johnson; Joia Thorton; Marie Thomas; Myles Moody; Patricia McGee	7 Full Time VISTAs	Education: K-12 Success	\$155,904.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Develop at least 9 networking, collaboration, and/or resource meetings and events with parents, community stakeholders and school staff. Develop strategies and plans to ensure that the community/public is fully aware and supportive of the ASD/TFT initiatives. Establish 10 partners with MOUs that will help with barriers to achievement by providing services and that we can use for our community service/Service-Learning projects.			
Project Goal(s)	VISTA members will develop active, sustainable, and collaborative alliances between students, parents, community and faith-based organizations, schools, and the ASD. The alliances will support students by providing resources to address barriers to their academic and lifelong success			
Austin Peay State University	James McCoin	1 Cost Share VISTA	Veterans and Military Families	\$11,136.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	The VISTA will build capacity for collaboration and maximization of accessibility of university resources (i.e. Service-Learning students, campus food pantry, and military student center) to the agencies focusing on low income veterans and food insecurity.			
Project Goal(s)	The goal of the APSU VISTA for 2013- 2014 is intentionally create and build relationships with community agencies in the Clarksville community that focus on assisting low income veterans and those in the community dealing with food insecurity. The VISTA will be using specific university resources such as Service-Learning program, co-curricular engagement, military student center, and the campus food pantry to build the capacity of these agencies.			

2013-2014 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Belmont University	Allison Long	1 Cost Share VISTA	Education	\$11,136.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Develop a college readiness program for Belmont to offer high school students through their new partnerships staff to develop the capacity to provide academic and social support to the “Bridges to Belmont” scholars, 26 inner city youth given full ride scholarships to Belmont.			
Project Goal(s)	The main goal of this project is to prepare and support low income students from Maplewood and Stratford inner city high schools so that they can have increased access and success for post-secondary education.			
Cleveland State Community College	Kourtney Yonge	1 Full Time VISTA	Economic Opportunity	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Develop capacity for the brand new First Year Seminar programming to include a service component to address homelessness and housing needs. Develop partnerships with staff and clients of Family Promise, Habitat for Humanity, The Caring Place, and United Way. The VISTA will become familiar with each agency’s mission, vision, role in the community, 2013-20014 calendar of events and activities, and expectations of the VISTA/FYS/Service-Learning program.			
Project Goal(s)	The goal is to utilize First Year Seminar students to partner with Habitat for Humanity, United Way, Family Promise, and The Caring Place to make a positive, measurable, sustainable impact on people who are homeless or have insufficient housing. The VISTA will work with agencies to understand their goals and specific needs and to develop strategies to utilize FYS students to meet those needs through existing programs and the development of new programs. The VISTA will develop systems to engage up to 700 FYS students in service to the community. First generation college students will be among those who volunteer, many who come from low SES backgrounds, giving them an opportunity to have a positive impact on their own environment.			

2013-2014 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Jackson State Community College	China Horton	1 Full Time VISTA	Healthy Futures, Education	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	The JSCC VISTA will strengthen the community's response to impoverished populations throughout our 14-county service area by developing a Healthy Choices mentoring and educational campaign. This will involve the development of a variety of discipline-specific projects to empower impoverished populations to make good choices in areas such as nutrition, healthcare, literacy, social skills, & financial management. Projects will focus on building the capacity of existing community agencies and initiative serving in this focus area. At the end of the one year period, a minimum of 5 member agencies (3 current, 2 new) will be able to report that our VISTA member helped make their organization more sustainable and effective.			
Project Goal(s)	Develop strategies and plans with RIFA, Boys & Girls Club of Jackson, and the STAR center, along with a minimum of two new community partner agencies, to increase their capacity to assist low-income and impoverished children in the area of Healthy Futures/Choices. Utilize the JSCC Allied Health program, nursing program, and other disciplines to increase and develop health care opportunities in the community and to build capacity of agencies serving this area of need.			
Lipscomb University	Nakia Hines	1 Full Time VISTA Leader	Capacity Building	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Review Concept Papers and VADs for clarity, accuracy and consistency with the CNCS Priority Areas and suggest improvements. Continue developing central office mechanisms to conduct outreach to member campuses and high schools to utilize VISTA resources to focus keenly on poverty-related issues in CNCS programmatic areas through community agencies and organizations.			
Project Goal(s)	Enhance VISTA project success and sustainability by facilitating the VISTA team, supporting VISTA members in their work, and working in partnership with the VISTA project supervisor on project management tasks, including professional development opportunities, training and recruitment development, and reporting/impact assessments. VISTA Leader will partner with TNCC staff to engage with VISTAs related to both the higher education sites and K-12 initiatives.			

2013-2014 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Pellissippi State	Matthew Callo	1 Full Time VISTA	Healthy Futures, Education	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Create a sustainable community garden and replicable urban gardening hub at Pond Gap Community School. Intended outcomes include: 1) Neighborhood families benefiting from educational opportunity, healthy food, and economic security, 2) Strong support from Pellissippi State volunteers leading to a community-focused urban agriculture initiative/courses, 3) The creation of a model for local non-profits to network and develop additional school-to-community urban gardening partnerships. The goal is designing sustainable ways to connect low-income school children and their families to food access, urban agriculture education, and greater economic security.			
Project Goal(s)	Develop strategies to garner project buy-in and long-term participation from stakeholders, including neighborhood families and personnel from City government, Knox County School District Office, Pond Gap Elementary, Pellissippi State, TNAchieves, West High School, supporting business leaders, and selected food-access non-profits.			
Roane State Community College	Nikki Smith	1 Full Time VISTA	Economic Opportunity, Healthy Futures	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	In partnership with Trinity Out-Reach Center of Hope (TORCH), RSCC will establish a computer lab and employment training center for unemployed members of Anderson County. Develop capacity for RSCC's Service-Learning program on RSCC's multiple campuses to ensure further sustainability and to fully engage in building the capacity of community partners in the need areas of economic opportunity and healthy futures.			
Project Goal(s)	The goal of this project is to reduce hunger and increase the employment and economic opportunities for residents of Roane and Anderson Counties. This will primarily be accomplished by providing food insecure individuals with food assistance and providing the unemployed with basic technological literacy and employment training. These goals are designed to address two AmeriCorps VISTA focus areas concentrated on employment and food security.			

2013-2014 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Tennessee State University	Charmin Bates	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: College Access	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	VISTA member will develop bi-weekly workshops, seminars and meetings for the students and their parents. Establish a committee comprised of YEP Advisory Board members, parents, community partners to assist in developing the workshop series template and manual.			
Project Goal(s)	The primary goal of the College Access Now Initiative is to develop structured bi-weekly programming for Pearl Cohn High School YEP students that will lead to academic success, on-time graduation, improved ACT scores, and successful application and entry into a post-secondary education program.			
Tennessee Wesleyan College	Matthew Harper	1 Full Time VISTA	Healthy Futures	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	The VISTA project at Tennessee Wesleyan College seeks to establish a functional community/campus food pantry to be located in the Center for Servant Leadership on TWC's Campus in partnership with local nonprofits and businesses. Tennessee Wesleyan College seeks to establish a campus kitchen that would provide, at minimum, bi-monthly meals to The Grace House and Grace and Mercy Ministries.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA project at Tennessee Wesleyan College seeks to establish a functional community/campus food pantry to be located in the Center for Servant Leadership on TWC's Campus in partnership with local nonprofits and businesses. Tennessee Wesleyan College seeks to establish a campus kitchen that would provide, at minimum, bi-monthly meals to The Grace House and Grace and Mercy Ministries.			

2013-2014 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
University of Tennessee	Sarah Guy	1 Full Time VISTA	Healthy Futures, Economic Opportunity	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Partner with the City of Knoxville to identify and prioritize neighborhoods most affected by poverty, food insecurity, and blight in which to conduct community needs assessments around food security and employment. Develop partnerships with City of Knoxville departments, including the Economic Development and Sustainability Office, Food Policy Council, and Chamber of Commerce, and enlist support in serving on the planning and implementation committee.			
Project Goal(s)	Develop infrastructure for a sustainable partnership between the City of Knoxville, the University of Tennessee, local non-profit community kitchens, the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce and other public and private stakeholders to create over 35 community gardens and solidify partnerships across the urban food corridor network to eliminate food deserts across the city by 10 percent.			
Volunteer State Community College	Stewart Parks	1 Full Time VISTA	Education, Healthy Futures	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Build relationship between key agencies through consistent communication about services and resources available. Develop a community agency newsletter & networking meetings. Create a database of local partners, contact information, community services offered, and agency needs/resources.			
Project Goal(s)	Utilizing VSCC's resources to alleviate poverty, the VISTA will partner with the Sumner County Anti-Drug Coalition (SCADC) to build their capacity as an umbrella community organization. The VISTA will focus on the needs of K-12 academic achievement by networking 3 community agencies: COMPASS (Community Outreach Making Partnerships at Sumner Schools), CAP (Children Are People, Inc.), & Gallatin Shalom Zone. Objectives include developing better volunteer recruitment/management systems and creating capacity to expand organizational impact on K-12 students in poverty. The VISTA will also ensure that these organizations are partnering successfully with VSCC and others to address the hunger-related needs of these K-12 students and their families.			

2012-2013 TNCC VISTA Project Goals

Goal I. A first time VISTA member resource will establish sustainable civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure outreach capacity to build campus-community partnerships. Where possible, campuses will be encouraged to focus service-learning projects on CNCS theme areas such as high-poverty low-performing schools, creation of new economic opportunities (financial literacy, housing, and employment), improvement in the distribution of food and nutrition services, and the development of services and resources to veterans and military families.

Goal II. TNCC will raise a minimum of \$50,000 to fund a full-time central office administrator position.

Goal III. VISTAs will develop active, sustainable community partnerships between local community-based and faith-based groups/organizations and ASD schools. Partnering community organizations will collaborate with school staff to focus specifically on the improvement of student attendance, behavior, academic achievement and (where applicable) post-secondary enrollment. State ranking of ASD schools will rise from the “bottom 5%” category to the “top 25%” category by June 1, 2017.

Goal IV. Over the past four years, CNCS has invested VISTA resources at Belmont University, Lee University, Martin Methodist College, Tennessee Technological University, Rhodes College, Southwest TN Community College, and Volunteer State Community College to build internal on-campus infrastructure to support community outreach for poverty alleviation. Tennessee's poverty rate of 16.5% is higher than the national average of 13.8%. For the 2012-2013 year, CNCS envisions that these institutions are better able to expand the scale, reach, efficiency or effectiveness of, or leverage resources, for campus-community partnerships that fight poverty. In alignment with that expectation, Lee, TTU, Southwest, and VSCC have proposed projects to support healthy futures. Belmont, Lee, and Rhodes have proposed goals related to education and youth development. Lee, MMC, and Southwest have proposed activities related to veterans and military families.

2012-2013 TNCC VISTA Project Goals				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Achievement School District	Sheneetra Wilson, LaShundra Richmond	2 Full Time VISTAs	Education: K-12 Success	\$44,544.00
Achievement School District	ASD schools are ranked in the bottom 5% of all Tennessee schools. They are characterized by significant student under-achievement, student attendance and behavior problems, low parental involvement, high student dropout rates, low rates of FAFSA completion, and low rates of post-secondary enrollment.			
Project Goal(s)	ASD VISTAs will develop active, sustainable community partnerships between local community-based organizations and ASD schools. Partnerships will have a focus on addressing student attendance, behavior, academic achievement, and post-secondary enrollment.			
Austin Peay State University	Liza Kurtz	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$21,408.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	APSU has identified a disconnection between campus-led service projects, and the absence of service in the classroom, and the need for infrastructure development to bridge this disconnect. There is no support center or headquarters currently available to provide expertise on Service-Learning for faculty at APSU.			
Project Goal(s)	The APSU VISTA will create and expand civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration, and develop and expand an institutionalized veteran's service-learning focus at APSU with the Ft. Campbell campus.			

2012-2013 TNCC VISTA Project Goals				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Belmont University	Robert Quarles	1 Cost Share VISTA	Education: K-12 Success, College Access	\$10,704.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Belmont lacks both proper internal coordination for service initiatives, and a centralized system for ensuring focus on meeting true community needs rather than those that are most convenient for an SL curriculum. Only 38.1% of Carter Lawrence's students scored Proficient or Advanced on the state comprehensive reading/language (TCAP) test, and only 34.4% scored Proficient or Advanced on the math TCAP test during the 2010-2011 school year.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will improve Belmont's ability to address preparation for and success in post-secondary education in its surrounding community. The VISTA will develop an after-school club at Carter Lawrence School, implement an initiative to form more strategic relationships between the university and neighborhood, and develop strategies to maximize the Easley Center's impact on the community.			
East Tennessee State University	Kayla Pennington	1 Cost Share VISTA	Education: College Access	\$10,704.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	The Hispanic population in Tennessee increased 134% from 2000-2010, making Tennessee's Hispanic population the fourth-fastest growing in the country. In 2009 only 2% of Hispanics in Tennessee had attained a bachelor's degree (Pew Hispanic Center). High schools in Northeastern Tennessee are unprepared to meet the needs of their growing number of Latino students, or lack the resources to fully address their specific barriers to postsecondary education access.			
Project Goal(s)	The ETSU VISTA project will focus on expanding programs (including Greater Opportunities and Access for Latinos) which increase access to secondary education, with a focus on outreach to the marginalized Latino community in Northeast TN.			

2012-2013 TNCC VISTA Project Goals				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Lee University	Stephen Van Gorp, Ward Jones	1 Full Time VISTA, 1 Cost Share VISTA	Impoverished and Low Income Veterans and Military Families; Healthy Futures: Food Security	\$32,976.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Approximately 3,000 of the estimated 150,000 nationwide homeless veterans live in the TN Valley Region, and 28% of all veterans in Bradley County are no longer in the labor force. Of the 7,900 military veterans living in Bradley County only 2,500 are served through the local VAO. A reported 13,810 individuals in Bradley County are food insecure, with 25.1% of children in TN categorized as food insecure.			
Project Goal(s)	The Veterans and Military Family focus VISTA project will develop the local Veteran's Affairs Office and establish a clear identification process for veterans living at or below the poverty line. The project aims to increase the number of Bradley County veterans using VAO resources by 10% (an additional 3,239 veterans served) in the first year. The Food Security VISTA project will address childhood hunger by building a minimum of 5 community gardens for local elementary schools, and expand outreach and impact of the Campus Kitchen program at Lee University.			
Lipscomb University	Shandereen White	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Success	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	In 2012 the unemployment rate in Nashville was 8.5%. Underemployment and unemployment in Nashville can in part be attributed to low high school graduation rates, with 27% of students in Metro Nashville Public Schools dropping out before graduation.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop tools to expand civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and projects with an emphasis on economic opportunity, education, and healthy futures through Lipscomb's service-learning initiative, the SALT Program, and collaboration with anti-poverty community partners, specifically Youth Life Learning Centers.			

2012-2013 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Martin Methodist College	Paul Jones	1 Cost Share VISTA	Impoverished and Low Income Veterans and Military Families	\$11,136.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Approximately 10,000 veterans, 30,000 dependents, and 1,300 National Guard personnel live within the South Central Tennessee Development District, a third of who have an annual household income of less than \$25,000. Martin Methodist has targeted an estimated 3,300 impoverished and disadvantaged veterans in the community who are under-employed and do not take advantage of available resources designed to lift them out of poverty.			
Project Goal(s)	MMC will work with the Veteran Service Officers and National Guard Units to provide, support, and/or facilitate veterans and military service members and their families' access to: educational attainment related services and benefits, workforce development resources and services, and will develop an on-campus veteran's club.			
Pellissippi State Community College	Catherine Carr-Campbell	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning, Healthy Futures: Food Security, Impoverished Veterans and Military Families	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 American Community Survey, approximately 19.1% of Knoxville's children under 18 are living below the poverty level. Knoxville has 7 neighborhoods where the poverty rate is over 40%. In Knox County, according to Second Harvest estimates, 60,730 people are at risk of hunger. In Knoxville 10% of sheltered homeless individuals are veterans and 40% of those veterans are chronically homeless.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will create and expand civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration for all 4 PSCC campuses with a focus on poverty. The VISTA will develop infrastructure and establish a Second Harvest Food for Kids program and a Veteran Support program at the Strawberry Hills campus.			

2012-2013 TNCC VISTA Project Goals				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Rhodes College	Chidimma Emuele	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$21,408.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	71% of Rhodes' "adopted" schools in Midtown North Memphis are eligible for free or reduced lunches and have low graduation (below 50%) and high dropout (more than 30%) rates. Despite Rhodes' 100 committed community partners and high number of students regularly serving community needs, few students sustain a commitment to serving poverty needs.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will facilitate system development to promote Community Integrated Education (Service-Learning), enable community partners to become co-educators for students engaged in service, strengthen programming for at-risk, underprivileged children and adults in neighborhoods adjacent to the college, and improve educational outcomes in partner schools through the Learning Corridor.			
Roane State Community College	Kara Lynn	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$10,704.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	RSCC is in need of program infrastructure for the successful development of community partnerships and Service-Learning courses. RSCC's Scott County campus in Huntsville, TN has the highest need as it serves one of the lowest income areas in the state. In March 2012, Scott County had the highest unemployment rate in the state at 17.1%.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA Project will ensure the successful creation and expansion of civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration with a first-time VISTA project.			

2012-2013 TNCC VISTA Project Goals				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Southern Adventist University	Megan Sutherland	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$21,408.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Service-Learning was formally introduced into the general education curriculum as a graduation requirement at SAU in 2011-2012. SAU currently lacks sufficient infrastructure, curricular integration, and grant funding to sustain this development and the successful continuation of service-learning.			
Project Goal(s)	The SAU VISTA will create and expand service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration. This will develop in part through the VISTA's contributions to a comprehensive community needs assessment, which will serve as the primary guidance in SAU's community initiatives.			
Southwest TN Community College	Ashley Turner	1 Full Time VISTA	Healthy Futures: Food Access, Impoverished and Low Income Veterans and Military Families, Education: College Access	\$21,408.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Memphis has a high poverty rate (40%), and was ranked #1 for hunger in America in a 2010 Gallup poll. 70% of Southwest students receive financial aid, and 85% are required to take some form of academic remediation. A centralized and focused effort on behalf of SWTCC is needed to ensure the sustainability of current projects designed to reach both students and community members.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop an urban community garden and related workshops to address food access and nutritional education. SWTCC's VISTA will increase partnerships and programming dedicated to serving veterans and military families, and increases the outreach of the veteran's club on campus.			

2012-2013 TNCC VISTA Project Goals				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Tennessee Technological University	Kaitlin Salyer	1 Full Time VISTA	Healthy Futures: Food Access	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	17% of Jackson County is labeled “Food Insecure” with 87% of children on free/reduced meal plans. 17% of Clay County is labeled “Food Insecure” with 86% of children on free/reduced meal plans. There is currently no program in place to address these children's hunger needs during weekends and school breaks. 5,000 TTU students live below the poverty line, and an estimated 35% of TTU students have suffered from hunger since their enrollment at TTU.			
Project Goal(s)	TTU will create a Back Pack program to address weekend hunger for local K-12 students on free and reduced lunch programs, targeting 4 Jackson County schools and 4 Clay County schools. The VISTA will research and develop plans for a TTU Campus Food Bank to address TTU student hunger.			
Tennessee Campus Compact	Rochelle Mayberry	1 VISTA Leader	VISTA Program Development	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	12 TNCC member sites and five ASD schools are located in four counties with TN poverty rates reported as over 20% in 2010 by ERS/USDA data. Without a VISTA Leader or similar personnel, TNCC is unable to ensure TNCC VISTA success in meeting community and campus goals or TNCC's continued success in service-learning and civic engagement initiatives.			
Project Goal(s)	The TNCC VISTA Leader will strengthen and expand the capacity of the TNCC central office to collect and distribute impact data, best practices, and increase funding for programs, services, and personnel via new awards and fundraising campaigns.			

2012-2013 TNCC VISTA Project Goals				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
University of Tennessee at Knoxville	Jayanni Webster	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	UTK's lack of a centralized source for coordinating and monitoring campus-community service efforts and Service-Learning courses has significantly limited the university's outreach and community impact. UTK has been unable to move forward in a purposeful and strategic way toward identifiable community need outcomes.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA project will create and expand civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure on campus to develop cohesive and sustainable campus-community connections. The VISTA will research and compile best practices for a Service-Learning program at UTK that will effectively address community needs.			
Volunteer State Community College	Sara Curp	1 Full Time VISTA	Healthy Futures: Food Security, Education: K-12 Success	\$22,272.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	In Sumner County, 40% of students qualify for the system's Free or Reduced Breakfast and Lunch programs. In VSCC's surrounding community a linked 4 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, and 1 high school have 55% to 82% students who qualify for the Free/Reduced Lunch programs.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will partner with the Sumner County Anti-Drug Coalition (SCADC) to develop better volunteer recruitment/management systems, expand organizational impact on K-12 students in poverty, and address hunger-related needs of K-12 students and their families.			

2011-2012 TNCC VISTA Project Goals

Goal I (Campus Specific): Create and expand civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration with an emphasis on the 2011-2015 CNCS strategic plan priority issues areas: (i) disaster services; (ii) economic opportunity; (iii) education; (iv) environmental stewardship; (v) healthy futures; and (vi) veterans and military families.

Goal II (TNCC Central Office Specific): Strengthen and expand the capacity of the TNCC central office institutional infrastructure to collect and distribute impact data and best practices as well as increase funding for campus and central office programs, services, and personnel via new grant awards and fundraising campaigns utilizing TNCC VISTAs placed at member institutions.

2011-2012 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Achievement School District	Melody Freeman, Kimberly Spears, Kendrick Ingram, Darrell Hughes, Aisha Fowler-Barker, Cyteria Ray, Venisha Jackson, Eric Dunn	8 Full Time VISTAs, 2 Summer Associates	Education: K-12 Improved Academic Performance, K-12 Success, School Readiness	\$172,736.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	ASD schools serve approximately 10,854 students. Nine out of eleven of these schools have graduation rates ranging from 54.9% to 82.5%. The average ACT score is 15, and the average writing score for these schools is 3.8 on a 6-point scale with 4 being proficient. Suspension is high, with 98% of suspended students being African American.			
Project Goal(s)	Full Time VISTAs will identify, assess, and address student and family needs through a community mapping campaign, build sustainable partnerships with school and community-based organizations, and implement systems to decrease school truancy rates at Achievement School District schools in Memphis and Chattanooga. ASD Summer Associate VISTAs will ensure the successful opening of 3 ASD direct-run schools in the Frayser community of Memphis through student recruitment drives, organizational development, and community awareness initiatives.			
Belmont University	Summer Elliot	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Currently, only 13% of students and 8.5% of full-time faculty engage in service-learning at Belmont. There has been no coordinated effort to organize student volunteers and service-learning opportunities, and there is a lack of “institutional wisdom” concerning poverty and issues for public education in current service efforts. According to Metro Nashville Public Schools, 12.6% of the school population is English Language Learners, and 75.9% of students are economically disadvantaged (qualifying for free or reduced lunches).			
Project Goal(s)	The Full Time Belmont VISTA will serve as liaison between community partners and Belmont in order to refine and enhance service-learning programs for both groups through assessment, training, and the creation of resources.			

2011-2012 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Carson Newman College	Amie Misaiphon	1 Cost Share VISTA	Healthy Futures: Food Security, Education: K-12 Success, Service-Learning	\$10,296.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Jefferson County is a rural area that is coping with the negative health effects of poverty. It is estimated that over 80% of Jefferson County leads a sedentary lifestyle, 70% has a poor diet lacking in fruits and vegetables, and a third of the population is obese. In Jefferson County, 60.6% of students in grades PK-12 come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, and reports from 2010 indicate that one third of K-12 students are below proficiency in math.			
Project Goal(s)	The Full Time VISTA will expand C-N's capacity and increase campus and community sustainability in addressing rural poverty in Jefferson County, TN. Focus will be on designing methods to assess and improve nutrition access and eating habits among low-income K-12 students, while leveraging ongoing volunteer participation to create sustainable, long-term initiatives.			
East Tennessee State University	Calan Charlton	1 Cost Share VISTA	Education: Service-Learning; Education: K-12 Success	\$10,704.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Southern Appalachia is historically economically depressed, and ETSU has identified current community need for access to education, technical assistance, and focus on the special needs of the growing migrant and Hispanic community. Several counties in East Tennessee, especially Unicoi and Hamblen Counties, have large migrant farm-worker populations in need of educational success and attainment programs.			
Project Goal(s)	The Full Time VISTA will create and expand civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and create a strategic plan to enhance economic and educational opportunity. This will ensure ETSU's continual attention to addressing the educational and developmental needs of citizens in local Title I schools, Title II schools, and after-school programs. The VISTA will also strengthen and expand the capacity of TNCC central office to collect data and offer best practices solutions for other TNCC site operators.			

2011-2012 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Lane College	LaShauna Wilcoxon	1 Full Time VISTA	Economic Opportunity: Housing, Financial Literacy, Education: Service-Learning	\$10,704.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	The neighborhood identified for the Allenton Heights Choice Neighborhood initiative has a poverty level of 41.04 and an extremely low-income housing rate of 42.9 according to census data. At this time, 100% Allenton Heights residents qualify for public housing.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will assist in originating plans for Lane's initial foray into intentional Service-Learning with the Allenton Heights Choice Neighborhood. The VISTA will generate systems to empower students and faculty to strategically and sustainably serve poverty needs in the community through Service-Learning and civic engagement.			
Lee University	Stephen Van Gorp, Rochelle Mayberry, Ward Jones	1 Full Time VISTA, 2 Cost Share VISTAs	Education: K-12 Improved Academic Performance, Service-Learning	\$42,816.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	The Tennessee State Report Card on Pre-K-12 education reports that of Bradley County's 9,946 K-12 students, 61.6% are economically disadvantaged. According to the U.S. Census Bureau 15,699 individuals in Bradley County were considered to be in poverty. Among that number, 5,037 persons were under the age of 18. 10 of 11 elementary schools in Bradley are classified as Title 1. Lee University has developed measures to address community need through service, but a more concerted effort with a focus on assessment and attainment of local poverty goals is needed.			
Project Goal(s)	The Full Time VISTA will promote tier-model service-learning programs through Leaf Academy at three local Title 1 high schools. The Cost Share VISTAs will create and expand civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration with an emphasis on the poverty areas of disaster services, economic opportunities and food access, and education. A cost-share VISTA will have a focus on creating a high-school Service-Learning conference that will educate and train students on how to expand service-learning initiatives on their campuses while strengthening service-learning infrastructure and assessment at Lee. The second cost-share VISTA will have a focus on expanding the Campus Kitchens program by developing and hosting an on-site culinary job training program that will empower low-income individuals to obtain necessary skills for employment.			

2011-2012 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Lipscomb University	Shandereen White	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$21,408.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	The Middle Tennessee area is experiencing challenges in persistence and literacy in primary and secondary school, with 27% of Metro Nashville high school students never reaching graduation. Lipscomb's SALT (Serving and Learning Together) program currently falls short of meeting these educational community needs despite institutional support for the Service-Learning program.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA project will expand the capacity of Lipscomb's service-learning program to address community educational needs, and develop sustainable systems for developing and maintaining new campus-community partners.			
Martin Methodist College	Brandi Belcher	1 Cost Share VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$10,296.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Giles County has an unemployment rate of 11.6%, 14.5% poverty rate, 19.4% poverty rate for persons under the age of 18, and 27.5% of persons age 25+ without a high school diploma. MMC is committed to serving these poverty-related needs, but lacks the necessary supportive infrastructure.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will build MMC's capacity to incorporate Service-Learning into students' first year of education at MMC, and develop service-learning pedagogy with a focus on poverty areas. This will be accomplished primarily through refining assessment processes for all entities related to Martin Serves and promoting Service-Learning resources for program sustainability.			
Middle Tennessee State University	Alexandra Alvarez	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	There is currently no database that aids in easy identification of not-for-profit agencies that are willing to partner with MTSU faculty and students for Service-Learning projects, or for Rutherford and surrounding rural counties in general. This has led to disjointed efforts to create and sustain service-learning projects at MTSU, and a low number of partnered agencies seeking service-learning partnerships with MTSU.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop with MTSU staff a database to be used by both students and faculty in Service-Learning projects. The database will be structured with a focus on not-for-profit agencies in the middle Tennessee region addressing poverty, beginning with Rutherford County and surrounding counties.			

2011-2012 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Pellissippi State Community College	Samantha Ramsey	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$21,408.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Although several PSCC instructors have informally offered service-learning opportunities to their classes, the college as a whole has never integrated their efforts to create a sustainable Service-Learning program. This has led to disjointed efforts to meet community needs that are rarely sustained in a beneficial manner.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA project will address the creation and expansion of civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration. This will take place with a focus on establishing a sustainable system for developing new community partners in poverty areas.			
Southwest TN Community College	Joy Heath	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Memphis has a high poverty rate (40%), a significant minority community (64% African American, 12% Hispanic), and a 74% single parenting rate. SWTCC currently lacks the necessary organizational resources for faculty training, addition of new and development of existing community partners, and easy to use registration and information documents for service-learning, to sustainably meet these community needs.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop a sustainable framework for a deep commitment to Service-Learning & Civic Engagement at SWTCC and the surrounding community, with a focus on poverty issues.			
Tennessee State University	Brenita Seay	1 Cost Share VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$10,704.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	According to the 2010 North Nashville Community Plan, housing, education, and economic development are pressing needs that must be addressed collaboratively. TSU is in need of strengthened organizational capacity to continue to build a culture of engagement and build momentum to address local poverty needs.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will ensure the sustained success of TSU's new "Service to Leadership Course" that engages all 1500 new freshmen students in at least 12 hours of service as an introduction to service opportunities at TSU. The TSU VISTA will create a Guidebook detailing steps for easy replication in future semesters. This VISTA project will result in training and curriculum resources and strengthened community partnerships for an enhanced TSU focus on poverty.			

2011-2012 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Tusculum College	Jonathan Calloway, Andy English, Ryland Sighting	1 Cost Share VISTA, 2 Summer Associate VISTAs	Education: Service-Learning; Healthy Futures: Food Access	\$18,296.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	According to studies by the USDA, 17.8% of Greene County residents live in poverty, with 23.9% of who are children. Tusculum's Center for Civic Advancement is in need of additional and increased capacity to sustainably address child health and hunger. In 2012 Feeding America reported 42,300 children living with hunger in Greene County. At this number Greene County has the highest percentage of children living with hunger in the state of Tennessee.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will create and expand Tusculum's civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration, strengthen and expand TNCC's capacity to collect and distribute impact data and best practices, and increase funding for Tusculum College and TNCC programming via new grant awards and fundraising campaigns. The VISTA will develop and further expand upon existing programming that promotes nutrition, health, and food security through the expansion of a community gardening/child obesity reduction program with the Greeneville Boys and Girls Club. The VISTA Summer Associates will work with the USDA's Summer Feeding Program, Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee, and Upward Bound to provide nutritious meals out of Doak Elementary School and The Tabernacle Mission Soup Kitchen.			
Tennessee Wesleyan College	Chris Young	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$17,297.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	In 2005-2006, institutional research at TWC indicated that students' critical thinking skills were weak, and that many students struggled to connect their learning to real-world applications. MMC's McMinn County, located in Southern Appalachia, is poverty-stricken and in need of sustained support to address the 16.3% poverty rate for all ages (compared to 15.5% state-wide), and 30.7% of persons age 25+ without high school diplomas.			
Project Goal(s)	The TWC VISTA will develop a training program for faculty and staff on guidance for service-learning graduation requirements, and implement a corresponding service-learning placement system for students. The VISTA will develop a model for TWC to direct student outreach efforts based on needs expressed by community partners and a student's talents and interests.			

2011-2012 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
University of Tennessee at Knoxville	Lee Mitchell	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Of the 26.8% percent of Knoxville's total population living in poverty, children under the age of 18 comprise nearly 27%. UT-K's 5 partnered Knox County elementary schools all hold a Title I distinction, with 90% of their student population qualifying for free or reduced lunch.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will facilitate the University-Assisted Community School Regional Training, and develop capacity for the Technical Assistance Center to broaden Service-Learning opportunities at the University of Tennessee with a focus on educational attainment for impoverished children.			
University of Tennessee at Martin	Katie Noles	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	UT-Martin serves the rural poor in West Tennessee as well as urban poor from the Memphis area. However, UT-Martin has identified the need for a more sustained and consistent flow of volunteers, and more skill-oriented services available, to more fully support individuals living in poverty in current and new community initiatives.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will create and expand service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration at UTM. This will include the development of a sustained system for faculty professional development and effective service-learning teaching methodologies, and development of the Federal Work Study Program.			
Vanderbilt University	Charlotte Hassen	1 Cost Share VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$10,296.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Vanderbilt University has identified organizational gaps at OACS that are stalling improvement of Vanderbilt's role and relationship with the community, as well as the mobilization of students and faculty in community engagement. There is no system currently in place to track and monitor service-learning at Vanderbilt, and there is a lack of regular communication with community partners and campus partners.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop systems for Service-Learning curriculum integration and civic engagement capacity building through the Service Organization Development project, develop a strategic plan for the Service Council Program, develop a Community Communication Streamline framework, and institute a system for tracking service-learning at Vanderbilt.			

2011-2012 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Volunteer State Community College	Chelsea Hawkins	1 Summer Associate VISTA	Healthy Futures: Food Access	\$21,408.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Sumner County's population holds a 52.4% education attainment level of high school equivalency or less. Service initiatives to address academic attainment are currently barred by insufficient programming and a lack of supportive infrastructure at VSCC and in Sumner County.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will create and expand civic engagement and service-learning infrastructure and curriculum integration with an emphasis on at-risk youth and education.			

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Project Goals

Goal I: TNCC VISTAs must develop systems to collect and aggregate data for TNCC reporting.

Goal II: TNCC VISTAs must develop capacity to increase the number of service-learning courses via organizing service-learning curriculum integration workshops.

Goal III: TNCC VISTAs must create infrastructure to establish new central coordinating units and campus-community partnerships to increase student civic and community engagement.

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Achievement School District	Danielle Olison, LaShundra Richmond, Amberly Curry, Ariel Anderson, Atlanta Edwards, Christian Sledge, George Williamson, Gwendolyn Gray, Jordan Douglas, Lyneshia Sanders	8 Summer Associates	Education: K-12 Improved Academic Performance, K-12 Success, School Readiness	\$32,000.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	ASD schools serve approximately 10,854 students. Nine out of eleven of these schools have graduation rates ranging from 54.9% to 82.5%. The average ACT score is 15, and the average writing score for these schools is 3.8 on a 6-point scale with 4 being proficient. The average cohort dropout rate is 31.47% and event dropout rate is 11.6%.			
Project Goal(s)	Summer Associate VISTAs will foster High School student development in the Memphis City School's Extended Care Program/Extended Year Program, facilitate student Dual Enrollment, and engage in school readiness initiatives.			

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Belmont University	Summer Elliot, Gabrielle Hampton	1 Full Time VISTA, 1 Summer Associate	Education: K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$24,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Currently at Belmont 13% of students and 8.5% of full-time faculty engage in service-learning. Belmont has identified a need for improved assessment of service-learning programs, and more training opportunities for faculty and community partners. Of the poverty needs in Belmont's surrounding community, Edgehill in particular is faced with overwhelming poverty, unemployment, and instability for families with children under 18.			
Project Goal(s)	Belmont's VISTA will create systems to develop Belmont's involvement with Alignment Nashville, develop Belmont's involvement with Nashville's new Poverty Initiative Plan, and develop assessment, training, and the creation of resources for community partners and Belmont service-learning participants. The Summer Associate VISTA will pilot a literacy summer program for 20 children ages 6 – 10 focusing on the Edgehill neighborhood.			
Carson Newman College	Megan Morgenson, Gretchen Hill	1 Full Time VISTA, 1 Summer Associate	Education: K-12 Success, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$24,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Jefferson County is a rural area that is coping with the negative health effects of poverty. In Jefferson County, 60.6% of students in grades PK-12 come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, and reports from 2010 indicate that one third of K-12 students are below proficiency in math.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will address the community issue of poverty in Jefferson County, TN by helping to build organizational effectiveness and capacity of C-N's Bonner Center Community Connections, the C-N Service Corps, and the Journey Program that works with the Jefferson County Juvenile Court. The Summer Associate VISTA will spearhead C-N's BOOST Summer Program. This 8 week program serves 35 children ages 6-13 in order to increase academic performance and promote college access.			

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Dyersburg State Community College	Amy Hall	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	In DSCC's seven county service area, 16.3% of the population lives below the poverty level and the per capita income is \$15,315.00. Lake County ranks 95th and has the lowest income level in Tennessee with 19.2% living below the poverty level and a per capita income of \$10,794.00. DSCC lacks the necessary infrastructure to meet these community needs through intentional and sustained service-learning courses.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop a service-learning training program and develop a plan to help faculty members integrate service-learning into course curriculums, and develop appropriate assessment tools and techniques to document service-learning progress.			
East Tennessee State University	James Wampler, Krystal Visser, Samantha Stuart	1 Cost Share VISTA, 2 Summer Associates	Education: K-12 Success	\$18,296.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	ETSU has identified current community need in historically economically depressed Southern Appalachia for access to education, technical assistance, and focus on special needs of the growing migrant and Hispanic community. Several counties in East Tennessee, especially Unicoi and Hamblen Counties, have large migrant farm-worker populations in need of educational success and attainment programs.			
Project Goal(s)	ETSU's VISTA project will operate out of ETSU's Language and Culture Resource Center (ETSU LCRC) on seven projects specifically designed to build the capacity of the University's service-learning programs and community outreach efforts, and make sustainable the valuable contributions of ETSU student body and volunteer network. The XCELL Program will serve the Hispanic and English Language Learning (ELL) student population at ten different high schools, where there are approximately fifty students eligible to participate in the mentoring program. Summer VISTAs will assist in a variety of projects that seek to serve community partners and assist in education priorities in the Title I schools and the Migrant Farm Worker Community.			

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Lee University	Kyle Hinch, Rochelle Mayberry, Ward Jones, Erica Gulbrandson	1 Cost Share VISTA, 1 Full Time VISTA, 2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Success; Healthy Futures: Food Access	\$38,888.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	According to the U.S. Census Bureau 15,699 individuals in Bradley County were considered to be in poverty. Among that number, 5,037 persons were under the age of 18. 10 of 11 elementary schools in Bradley are classified as Title 1. Lee University has developed measures to address community need through service, but a more concerted effort with a focus on assessment and attainment of local poverty goals is needed.			
Project Goal(s)	The Full Time VISTA will develop assessment tools and build infrastructure to support Service-Learning, as well as create a student-led Service-Learning Council to create sustainability and direct students in decision-making, event planning, and ways to effectively meet needs in the community. The Cost Share VISTA will create, launch, and document a mentoring program (for at-risk K-12 students), and expand and develop the Campus Kitchen project to serve more community members and develop a more effective tool for student volunteer training and involvement. Summer Associates will strengthen educational partnerships with the Bradley County Law Enforcement Academic and Fitness Academy by adding a service-learning component to benefit 40-50 at-risk cadets during the 6-week summer program.			
Rhodes College	Allison Yu	1 Summer Associate	Education: K-12 Success	\$4,000.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	In Midtown North, the community just north of Rhodes' campus, about 47.4% of all households are below poverty level. Of Rhodes's "adopted" schools 71% are eligible for free or reduced lunches. Rhodes has established its ability to meet state, national, and international need through the Bonner Center for Faith and Service, but has not been able to most effectively meet local community needs.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop systems for Rhodes to maximize communication and engagement between Rhodes College and its adopted schools, and develop a Midtown North Civic Engagement Project to address the needs of Title 1 students and their families.			

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Sewanee: University of the South	Erin Smyth, Sarah Stock	1 Full Time VISTA, 1 Summer Associate	Education: K-12 Improved Academic Performance, Service-Learning	\$24,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	<p>In 2009, Sewanee's tutoring program lost a long-time funding source, and federal work-study dollars were discovered to not be strategically coordinated, with work-study students working predominately at one elementary school while other local schools with more profound needs were neglected. No database or similar system is in place to track service-learning courses, service hours, or outcomes, limiting Sewanee's ability to continually improve and meet relevant community needs, or to coordinate service efforts in an intentional and cohesive manner. Grundy County is rated the second worst county in Tennessee for economic and social factors. Its unemployment is nearly three times the national average, only 28% of its adult population have had some post-secondary education (as compared to the national 68% average), and 40% (3x the national average) of children in Grundy County are living in poverty.</p>			
Project Goal(s)	<p>The Sewanee VISTA project will expand service-learning and civic engagement capacity at Sewanee. The VISTA will engage community partners with Sewanee faculty, staff, and students in a community engagement summit and document a replicable model, pilot a new work study model incorporating work-study recipients into an existing tutoring program, develop and build capacity of the South Cumberland Community Council (SCCC), and develop and maintain a baseline service database for assessment and reporting. The Summer Associate will develop a newly established relationship for Sewanee with the EYES (Educating Youth Ensures Success) grass-roots after-school and summer school program. This 8-week program offers mentoring and physical activities with an educational component for 30-50 1st – 4th grade students.</p>			

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Tennessee Campus Compact	Laura Malugade	1 VISTA Leader	Education: Service-Learning	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	With a growing number of TNCC VISTAs, the TNCC office needs additional support to coordinate the VISTA on-site orientation, offer feedback on VADs and Concept Papers, facilitate quarterly assessment reports, and prepare VISTAs for their end of service. In order to expand the programs and services offered to member institutions and provide value for membership beyond the VISTA project, the TNCC has a strong need to develop data collection systems and additional funding resources.			
Project Goal(s)	The TNCC VISTA Leader and VISTA activities will directly address the year's TNCC project goals by facilitating the VISTA project recruitment, retention, and training to build community service and service-learning infrastructure on member campuses.			
Tennessee Technological University	Alex Lisic	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	TTU has identified a widespread lack of simple, highly needed computer based knowledge in the rural counties TTU serves. TTU's partnered agencies are furthermore currently unable to maintain their own volunteer needs and contact information within their organization as there has been no formalized training with TTU to employ the "Give help, Get help" website. With 50-70 existing community partners and a potential for many more, TTU has recognized a need for a website to gather information for volunteer needs, identify CBO needs, train community partners on the database, and provide service-learning opportunities for TTU students.			
Project Goal(s)	The TTU VISTA project will develop and expand TTU's ability to connect University resources with community needs. This will be accomplished through: development of permanent infrastructure for website maintenance and development with community partner input, and development of regular (fall, spring and summer semesters) adult computer trainings within TTU's surrounding community. The VISTA will develop and maintain current service data for all Tennessee higher education institutions and institute systems to assess and report the educational, social, and economic impact of campus-community partnerships to TNCC for dissemination and updating.			

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Trevecca Nazarene University	Tera Kurtz	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning; Healthy Futures: Food Access, Economic Opportunity: Financial Literacy	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	According to 2000 Census data, 66% of Napier families and 41.2% of Chestnut Hill families have incomes below the poverty level. Hunger is a growing reality as prices for vegetables rose a remarkable 20% in 2008 according to the Labor department, and there is a lack of affordable quality produce in the Chestnut Hill and Napier community. There is a need to survey the city of Nashville, with intense focus on the Chestnut Hill and Napier communities, to identify areas of need that are not being serviced as well as to empower local non-profits to increase their service potential.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will expand and strengthen Trevecca's community outreach infrastructure. The VISTA will develop oversight techniques for existing community partner sites to ensure a sustained partnered relationship, and locate new project sites for future service projects. The VISTA will focus on expanding Trevecca's programs addressing the poverty areas of food security, financial literacy, through development of The Farm Stand and entrepreneurship training.			
University of Tennessee- Knoxville	Lee Mitchell	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	26.8% of Knoxville's population is classified as below the poverty line, and as of February 2007 all five Title I schools had 90% of their student population qualifying for free or reduced lunch. There is no centrally coordinated system or program in place to address these needs with University resources, and no formal service-learning infrastructure in place at UTK.			
Project Goal(s)	The full time VISTA will build a framework for civic engagement and Service-Learning at UTK to sustainably meet local community needs.			

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
University of Memphis	Brian King, Laura Anglin	1 Full Time VISTA, 1 Summer Associate	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Success	\$24,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	At the University of Memphis there are few concrete policies in place to encourage Service-Learning or engaged scholarship, and there is no central authority at the university level to coordinate it. This is particularly true in addressing poverty-related needs of the community, with Memphis's poverty rate at 40%. MCS struggles to overcome low graduation (below 50%) and high dropout (more than 30%) rates. Of the schools cited as under-performing by the State of Tennessee, 60% are in Memphis.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop systems to build capacity of the Strengthening Communities Initiative, expand U-M's assessment tools and cross-departmental collaboration in Service-Learning, and develop service-learning/engaged scholarship efforts with strategic community partners. The Summer Associate will assist in the development of a model a University relationship with Memphis City Schools (MCS) to develop a place-based service-learning curriculum, a map of assets available to the project at the University of Memphis, and a model for community engagement built around the target schools.			
University of Tennessee at Martin	Suzanna Peckham	1 Summer Associate	K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$4,000.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	UT-Martin serves the rural poor in West Tennessee as well as urban poor from the Memphis area. However, UT-Martin has identified the need for a more sustained and consistent flow of volunteers, and more skill-oriented services available, to more fully support individuals living in poverty. Martin's public elementary, middle, and high schools are all Title 1 classified.			
Project Goal(s)	The Summer Associate will create community service and Service-Learning opportunities for UTM's campus with area Title I schools, and add an educational component to an existing afterschool program.			

2010-2011 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Vanderbilt University	Charlotte Hassen	1 Cost Share VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$10,296.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	VU has identified a lack of coordination among student service groups, disjointed efforts to address poverty needs of the community, a need for increased needs-assessment of community partners, and the absence of a streamlined communication forum which would greatly improve Vanderbilt's relationship with community partners and more efficiently connect campus resources to the community.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop and maintain tools to ensure the effective institutionalization of service-learning at VU's Office of Active Citizenship and Service (OACS) to sustainably work with students, community partners, and faculty at Vanderbilt University.			
Volunteer State Community College	Alex Sircy	Summer Associate	Education: School Readiness, K-12 Success	\$4,000.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	VSCC's community partner Children Are People (CAP) serves the at-risk youth of Gallatin. Pulling from all 10 elementary, middle and high schools in the greater Gallatin area, 92% percent of the students at CAP are on some form of government assistance, from housing to free/reduced lunches.			
Project Goal(s)	The Summer Associate will serve and expand capacity for the summer CAP program serving 65 at risk children (K-12) of the greater Gallatin, Tennessee area. The VISTA will contribute to curriculum development for the Summer Reading Program, CAP Center educational material review, organization and suggestions for improvement, as well as direct educational services.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Project Goals

Goal I: Create and expand community service and service-learning infrastructure in Tennessee colleges and universities

Goal II: Create and expand mutually beneficial college-community partnerships that link university resources and needs with community resources and needs.

Goal III: Develop training programs that will ensure sustainability of high quality service-learning on TNCC Member Sites.

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Belmont University	Justin Owings	1 Full Time VISTA	Healthy Futures: Food Security	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	In Belmont's targeted service area in East Nashville (zip code 37206) an estimated 29.5% of residents live below the poverty line, and 15.9% of residents live at 50% of the poverty level. In Belmont's neighboring Edgehill neighborhood, an estimated 37.7% of residents live below poverty, with 22.9% living at 50% of poverty level. There is no grocery store in Edgehill and the neighborhood is considered a food desert.			
Project Goal(s)	Belmont's VISTA will create systems for Belmont to support its community partners in the elimination of poverty, especially the area of food security. This will be accomplished through developing recruitment models for student, staff and faculty volunteers to support poverty elimination, and developing systems to educate the Belmont community about food security issues in our neighboring communities.			
Carson Newman College	Andrew Lauber, Channing McLain	1 Full Time VISTA, 1 Summer Associate	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Success, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$24,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Jefferson County lacks a critical mass of long-term volunteers who are adequately screened, trained, evaluated, and mentored to assist the work of local government and nonprofit organizations that address poverty-related problems manifested in high levels of educational failure (low graduation rates, high drop-out rates, and low college readiness). C-N currently has an informal, improvisational approach for working with at-risk youth, and is in need of a planned and research-based program for better risk management in recruiting, training, and monitoring the service of students to vulnerable populations.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop a framework to build and sustain the Bonner Center Community Connections initiative. This includes the development of strong, sustainable community partnerships with a focus on K-12 at risk youth, designing and leading a model to recruit, mentor, and coordinate/sustain student volunteers and student service staff, and documentation of best practices for community partnership initiatives in Youth Literacy, and Youth Empowerment and College Readiness Programs. The Summer Associate VISTA will conduct research to increase educational opportunities, and analyze the research to determine which resources are being under-utilized and what gaps exist. The Summer Associate will also implement a new nutrition and fitness program for K-12 students, and plan and execute a summer enrichment program for at-risk elementary and middle school students with the Hillview Housing Authority Summer Program.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Cleveland State Community College	Brandy Ball	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	CLSCC serves five counties that all fall below the state average per capita income, ranging from \$14,551-\$18,108 compared to Tennessee's average of \$19,323. A critical need in the CLSCC service area is to help its citizen's complete high school and receive a college education. In CLSCC's next QEP five year plan, service-learning was selected as a key area of focus based on the survey results of faculty, staff and student groups.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will develop systems to establish a framework of sustainable service-learning at CSCC. This includes the facilitation of faculty and student involvement in service-learning, recruitment of community partners, service project planning models for faculty, and development of volunteer placement and management systems for student service activities.			
East Tennessee State University	Emily Goepel, James Wampler, Lydia White	1 Cost Share, 2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$18,296.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	The United States Census estimates that there are approximately 4,243 Hispanic individuals living in the region East Tennessee State University serves (Washington, Greene, and Unicoi Counties). Due to language, educational, and social barriers, many of the individuals we serve live in poverty. ETSU has seen a marked expansion of service-learning courses offered, but has not been able to meet these growing service initiatives with a sufficient number of suitable community partnerships.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA project will develop and expand the existing service-learning infrastructure at ETSU with a focus on addressing community needs of impoverished, marginalized, at-risk K-12 youth. This includes the development of service-learning curriculum materials for sustained faculty training, strategies to expand student involvement in service, development of the federal work study program, and a model for establishing strategic campus-community partnerships. The XCELL Program will serve the Hispanic and English Language Learning (ELL) student population at 10 different high schools, where there are approximately 50 students eligible to participate in the mentoring program.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Lee University	Kyle Hinch, Amber Bush, Rochelle Mayberry, Jessica Hill, Megan Foggin, Tyler Shores	1 Full Time VISTA, 1 Cost Share VISTA, 4 Summer Associate VISTAs	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Success, Healthy Futures: Food Access	\$46,888.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	<p>In 2004, the total percent of persons living below the poverty line in Bradley County was 13.9%. Over half of the Bradley county residents living in poverty reside in or around a community bordering Lee University campus, known as “East Cleveland”. Lee lacks the sufficient resources to successfully institutionalize service-learning, which would intentionally and sustainably address these community needs. Lee University's Leonard Center receives daily calls from individuals and community agencies for mentoring and tutoring needs that they are unable to fill. Although Lee University has institutional support to meet these community needs, it lacks the necessary infrastructure development.</p>			
Project Goal(s)	<p>The Education and Healthy Futures-focus VISTA will build capacity of the Leonard Center and Lee to build service-learning infrastructure to intentionally and sustainably meet local poverty needs. This includes the expansion of systems to address faculty development and service enhanced courses, and the development of new poverty-focused partnerships (homelessness, food access, mentoring and education). The Food Security-focus VISTA will build capacity of Lee's Food Program to address community hunger needs and to strengthen campus service-learning efforts addressing poverty needs. This includes the creation and implementation of a system to improve food program efficiency, expansion of food programs through new community partnerships and student-led initiatives, and the development of food program workshops for TNCC partner institutions. Summer Associate VISTAs will create systems to strengthen Service-Learning infrastructure. They also address individual projects including: establishment of a Mayor’s community service clearing house for the county and city governments, support for the Lee U. food bank through direct services, development of a leadership conference for High School students, and creation of a marketing plan for student recruitment among high schools in Bradley, Polk, and McMinn Counties.</p>			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Lipscomb University	Grace Biggs	1 Summer Associate	Education: Service-Learning	\$4,000.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Lipscomb University's academic service-learning program and SALT [Service and Learning Together] have laid the foundation for successful service-learning and civic engagement, but infrastructure capacity must be built in order to properly implement various aspects of the service-learning graduation requirement at Lipscomb University.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA Summer Associate will build Lipscomb's Serving and Learning Together (SALT) Center infrastructure capacity to provide effective programming towards the implementation of a service-learning graduation requirement.			
Martin Methodist College	Brandi Belcher, Alex Albernathy, Eric Hughes	1 Cost Share VISTA, 2 Summer Associate VISTAs	Education: Service-Learning	\$18,296.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Martin Methodist recently created Martin S.E.R.V.E.S. to intentionally and systematically address community need in Giles County, most particularly through service-learning. Giles County currently has a 19.4% poverty rate for individuals under 18, and only 10.6% of the population has any secondary education. Martin S.E.R.V.E.S. is in need of infrastructure development and expansion to ensure the continued capability of the program to bridge community need with college resources.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will build capacity of the new Martin S.E.R.V.E.S. community engagement/service-learning office. This includes developing systems to foster additional Service-Learning Courses through First Year Experience and discipline-based courses, familiarizing MMC personnel and local agency representatives with service-learning, and developing both best practice and training models and sustainable print resources. The MMC VISTA project will develop systems for MMC to expand service-learning infrastructure, and develop and maintain sustainable campus-community partnerships.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Middle Tennessee State University	Jason Goodrich	1 Summer Associate	Education: Service-Learning	\$4,000.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	MTSU is in need of a deep service model for practical hands-on experiences that bridge classroom experience with community need. There is no sustainable system in place for MTSU to meet Rutherford County's needs, despite the high demand for volunteerism and civic engagement to address its high 16.9% poverty rate.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will support MTSU's community outreach initiatives through the creation of mutually beneficial experiential and service-learning opportunities for students with local community-based organizations. Special focus will be on nonprofit organizations serving low-income and at-risk refugee and immigrant populations.			
Rhodes College	Lindsey Gibson, Emily Wheelwright, Fletcher Ferguson	2 Full Time VISTAs, 1 Summer Associate	Education: Service-Learning; Healthy Futures: Food Access	\$45,184.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Although Rhodes has faculty members involved in service-learning, the college currently lacks coordinated support for their efforts and strategies to expand service-learning. Changes in personnel have left some existing RLC programs without a strong infrastructure for continued success. Infrastructure development is needed to address the pressing community needs of Memphis, as 23.5% of all Memphis City residents and 42% of children live in poverty. In Midtown North, the community just north of Rhodes' campus, about 47.4% of all households are below poverty level.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will support Rhodes College's new community based learning/service-learning efforts through developing program assessment systems, capacity building measures, and facilitating the expansion of academic service-learning opportunities. The VISTA project will make gains in expanding Rhodes' capacity to: connect service to academics, strengthen programming towards at-risk, underprivileged children and adults in neighborhoods adjacent to the college, an enhance program assessment, student reflection, and build capacity of the student volunteer-run Soup Contact soup kitchen.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Sewanee: University of the South	Sarah Cardwell, Alexandra Namer, Deanna Wolford	1 Full Time VISTA, 2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning	\$28,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	<p>Grundy County is afflicted with poverty and in need of organized support, with unemployment at nearly three times the national average, and 40% of children living in poverty. In Sewanee and the city's surrounding community, approximately half the children in the tri-county area are classified as economically disadvantaged, with 78% in Grundy County so classified. Sewanee has locally identified 300 persons needing assistance to live independently, 15 families in need of affordable housing, and 60-100 persons needing help obtaining basic social network services. Sewanee has faced challenges in fostering long-term relationships with communities and community members and has been unable to institutionalize a model to sustainably meet community poverty needs.</p>			
Project Goal(s)	<p>The VISTA will develop systems for the Center for Community Engagement to centralize community-campus service partnership efforts, sustain strong community partnerships with organizations committed to addressing poverty needs, and implement new systems to encourage a campus culture that embraces community involvement. The VISTA will expand and strengthen community partnerships, including the new agency called Folks at Home, which provides paid and volunteer service to men and women of any age who need help to live independently. Summer Associates will develop four interlocking programs addressing poverty: job search assistance, personal finance training, home energy audit training, and computer skills training, and expand on the work-study tutoring program.</p>			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Southwest TN Community College	Deloris Boone, Tinsia Branch	2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning	\$8,000.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	SWTCC currently has no systems in place to streamline and monitor service-learning endeavors, and no successful model for adding new and maintaining existing community partners for service-learning. The need for engaged service-learning is felt both at the student and community level. <i>The Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness</i> reports that 57.30% of SWTCC students receive full financial Aid; 87% are required to take some form of academic remediation during their matriculation; after 4 years only 14.37% have achieved their stated academic goals, and many are parents of students targeted as “at-risk” in the public school system.			
Project Goal(s)	SWTCC Summer Associate VISTAs will support and build capacity of service-learning and community engagement at SWTCC by: creating and expanding Service-Learning infrastructure at STCC, providing support for and assisting in the development of volunteer generation and management tools, and developing service-learning & civic engagement opportunities for the 9/11 National Day of Service & Remembrance.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Tennessee State University	Andrea Coleman, Brittany Sims, Scott Young, Cynthia Cates	1 Full Time VISTA, 1 Cost Share VISTA, 2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$38,888.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	In TSU's North Nashville community only 42% of entering high school freshmen will graduate. The Pearl-Cohn Cluster of public schools in this neighborhood is primarily low-income, and Pearl-Cohn High School will be 98% African American in the fall of 2009 due to MNPS re-zoning. TSU is in need of a developed service-learning infrastructure to systematically and sustainably meet these needs.			
Project Goal(s)	The TSU VISTA will build capacity for TSU to more effectively meet the needs of the North Nashville Community. The VISTA will develop systems to expand community engagement/service-learning that address at-risk youth educational attainment and college access. The Cost Share VISTA will build the capacity of TSU to work more effectively with the North Nashville Community through building service-learning infrastructure and developing models for mutually-beneficial community partnerships, with a special focus on developing projects with local urban schools. The Summer Associates will build TSU's capacity to serve the community through expanding service-learning infrastructure and developing stronger relationships with local community partners that address K-12 education in low-income neighborhoods. This will be accomplished primarily through the implementation of two summer programs that serve at-risk youth: Youth Empowerment Program and the Summer School Reading Clinic.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Tennessee Technological University	Amy Green, Alex Lisic, Wesley Lisic	1 Full Time VISTA, 2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning; Economic Opportunity: Financial Literacy	\$28,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Of the three Appalachian sub-regions, the Central Appalachian region is the most impoverished with the lowest educational attainment. TTU's partnered agencies are currently unable to maintain their own volunteer needs and contact information as there has been no formalized training with TTU to employ the "Give help, Get help" website. With 50-70 existing community partners and a potential for many more, TTU has recognized a need for a website to gather information for volunteer needs, identify CBO needs, train community partners on the database, and provide service-learning opportunities for TTU students.			
Project Goal(s)	The TTU VISTA project will develop and expand TTU's ability to connect University resources with community needs. The VISTA will establish a model for a Sustainable Service-Learning Program, expand existing individual service-learning programs on campus, and strengthen and establish partnerships between the institution, the community, and local schools. Summer Associates will build awareness and usage of electronic service-learning resources at TTU, develop a service-learning website, and construct permanent infrastructure for website maintenance and development with community partner input.			
Tennessee Campus Compact	Laura Malugade, Trina Hughes, Carol Hall	1 VISTA Leader, 1 Full Time VISTA, 1 Summer Associate	Education: Service-Learning	\$45,184.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	With a growing number of TNCC VISTAs, the TNCC office needs additional support to coordinate the VISTA on-site orientation, offer feedback on VADs and Concept Papers, facilitate the quarterly assessment reports, and prepare VISTAs for their end of service. In order to expand the programs and services offered to member institutions and provide value for membership beyond the VISTA project, the TNCC has a strong need to develop data collection systems and additional funding resources.			
Project Goal(s)	The TNCC VISTA and VISTA Leader will directly address the year's TNCC project goals by facilitating VISTA project recruitment, retention, and training to build the community service and service-learning infrastructure on member campuses. The Summer Associate will develop and maintain current baseline service data for all Tennessee higher education institutions and institute systems to assess and report the educational, social, and economic impact of campus-community partnerships.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Trevecca Nazarene University	Tera Kurtz	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning, Healthy Futures: Food Security	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	The Chestnut Hill and Napier neighborhoods adjacent to Trevecca Nazarene University are marked by considerable economic distress. 66% of Napier families and 41.2% of Chestnut Hill families have incomes below the poverty level. There is no major grocery store serving the community, causing a lack of affordable food access. There is currently an absence of University-lead service initiatives that provide practical ways for Trevecca students to address these needs.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will establish sustainable links between the Center and undergraduate programs to create new opportunities for Service-Learning through the E ² Project, which provides “on-ramps” for students to serve in and learn from the school’s neighboring communities. Furthermore, the VISTA will oversee development and re-organization of leadership of The Farm Stand and its associated community education activities.			
Tusculum College	Rachel Edens, Catherine Hintz, Joshua Kilbert	1 Full Time VISTA, 2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$28,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Greene County in 2007 had a 19.7% poverty rate, with 30% of the population lacking a high school diploma. The Center for Civic Advancement receives requests from both the city and county school systems for college student assistance in tutoring and mentoring programs. The campus has identified an internal need to create opportunities for faculty development and service-learning training.			
Project Goal(s)	Tusculum's VISTA project will strengthen and expand capacity of the Center for Civic Advancement (CCA) to develop service-learning infrastructure at the campus and community level. Particular focus will be on strengthening a new mentoring program with at-risk middle school children from low-income communities.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
University of Memphis	Daniel Sturtevant, Gayla Shaefer, Rebecca Weatherford	1 Full Time VISTA, 2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning	\$28,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	<p>The Strengthening Communities Program will focus on five inner-city neighborhoods to foster neighborhood revitalization. These include: the Beltline neighborhood, a low-income African-American neighborhood faced with of blight, crime and poverty. Rozelle-Annesdale neighborhood, faced with high crime and poor access to public transportation. North Memphis, with its two middle schools (Vance and Humes) on the “High Priority List” for failing to meet “Adequate Yearly Progress”. The University District, struggling with low sense of place and identity. The Frayser community, with the highest number of foreclosures in Shelby County. U-M's lack of collaboration across departments has noticeably stalled expansion and improvement of its engaged scholarship/service-learning program. At present, the administration is in favor of community service, but there are few concrete policies in place to encourage Service-Learning or engaged scholarship, and there is no central authority at the university level to coordinate it.</p>			
Project Goal(s)	<p>The VISTA will be integrally involved in expanding University faculty/staff interest and participation in Service-Learning/Engaged Scholarship. This will be accomplished in part through planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the Strengthening Communities Program, which matches identified poverty-related community need with University resources. Summer Associates will develop systems to build capacity of the Strengthening Communities Initiative, expand U-M's assessment and cross-departmental collaboration in Service-Learning, and develop service-learning/engaged scholarship community partnerships.</p>			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
University of Tennessee- Knoxville	Jaclyn Barnhart, Eric Dixon	2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning, K-12 Improved Academic Performance	\$8,000.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	26.8% of Knoxville's population is classified as below the poverty line, and as of February 2007 all five Title I schools had 90% of their student population qualifying for free or reduced lunch. There is no centrally coordinated system or program in place to address these needs with University resources, and no formal service-learning infrastructure in place at UTK.			
Project Goal(s)	Summer Associates will develop resources to educate partnered K-12 students about civic engagement to make UTK and the Baker Center Museum more accessible to the Knoxville community, and develop tools to further improve and replicate the UACS program, including advancing Service-Learning opportunities at this site and others for University students.			
University of Tennessee- Martin	Katie Noles, Sean Boers, Angelica Tharpe	1 Full Time VISTA, 2 Summer Associates	Education: Service-Learning	\$28,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	Tennessee is one of the poorest states in the US with around 50% living at or below the poverty line and approximately 21% individuals with a complete college education. UT-M has newly developed an Institute for Civic Engagement to bridge campus resources with community needs, but it is in need of significant support to ensure its institutional success.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will research, review, and implement strategies based on FURCO to ensure proper institutionalization and success of the Institute for Civic Engagement and service-learning. The Summer Associate VISTAs will develop tools to build capacity of the Institute for Civic Engagement, assist the staff of the Institute for Civic Engagement, as well as successfully develop and create models to lead both a summer service-learning workshop for faculty, and the Fall 2010 First Year Initiative Community Service Effort.			

2009-2010 TNCC VISTA Members				
TNCC Member Site	VISTA Member	VISTA Type	CNCS VISTA Focus Area Addressed	TNCC Membership VISTA Value
Volunteer State Community College	Julius Virgo	1 Full Time VISTA	Education: Service-Learning	\$20,592.00
Poverty Related Community Need(s)	VSCC lacks a proper sustainable campus culture for service-learning. Service-learning courses have been taught by individual professors, but there is no central infrastructure in place to support continued service-learning programs that address the lack of school preparedness and persistence rates of children from low income homes and the developmental needs of high school and college students from low income, first generation homes.			
Project Goal(s)	The VISTA will create systems to develop the five national campus compact indicators of engagement: institutional culture, curriculum and pedagogy, faculty roles and rewards, mechanisms and resources, and community-campus exchange – campus wide, in an effort to institutionalize sustainable campus-community service programming.			

