

**Engagement. Voice. Success.**



## ALLIANCE AMERICORPS VISTA PROGRAM

The Alliance's AmeriCorps VISTA program builds capacity for organizations and communities to address education inequities, eliminate poverty, and connect and leverage resources already in communities and statewide.



### Building Capacity to address Educational Inequities

Alliance VISTA Members strengthen communities and bring youth out of poverty by serving at non-profits, government agencies, community-wide coalitions and statewide agencies to implement three key strategies:

- Build capacity at their host site organization to help address education inequities such as the achievement and opportunity gaps,
- Coordinate efforts that bridge and build the integration of school and community wide support for youth, focused on providing and sharing resources that increase a young person's school attendance, behavior and/or course performance (all indicators with a strong link to academic engagement and high school graduation), and
- Actively engage youth as agents of change in closing the opportunity and achievement gaps in their communities.

**Learn more at [www.mnyouth.net](http://www.mnyouth.net)!**

Alliance VISTA Member activities increase the capacity of their Host Site and community to support young people, and lead to significant increases in the number of activities able to be carried out by the host organization and its partners. Possible activities VISTA Members perform that provide a direct link to increasing educational equity in Minnesota include:

- Creating or improving data systems to increase a site's ability to track, evaluate, and replicate positive youth interventions
- Establishing/strengthening volunteer programs
- Developing and implementing a process for recruiting volunteers and caring adults to work with youth
- Convening partners to align goals and activities
- Assessing community needs and conducting asset mapping
- Researching best practices relating to educational equity
- Creating resources and materials to help inform the community
- Creating or promoting leadership and civic engagement opportunities for youth
- Researching youth-led programming models and identifying opportunities to engage youth in co-creating programming

### Past Alliance VISTA Host Sites

Minneapolis Public Schools Check & Connect Program

Minneapolis Public Schools Office of Black Male Student Achievement

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation's Youth Leadership Initiative

GradMinnesota and Minnesota Alliance With Youth



**Join the Alliance VISTA program!**

**Minnesota Alliance With Youth**

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