

Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps*VISTA Program 2004-2005

What is the MCC AmeriCorps*VISTA Program?

Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps*VISTA members placed on college and university campuses across have been working to further develop and strengthen campus programs that address the needs of low-income children and youth. MCC VISTAs leverage human, financial and material resources in order to create sustainable programs to make an impact in the lives of children and youth in poverty. In a very short time, the MCC VISTAs have become a critical extension of MCC, enabling our network to focus on community level impacts.

What is the Impact?

In just one year, Michigan Campus Compact's AmeriCorps*VISTAs have generated impressive human and financial resources in their efforts to build, support, and develop the capacity of college students to address the local needs of children in low-income communities and to gain a richer experience outside the classroom. MCC VISTAs have:

- Developed service programs, recruited student volunteers, and trained them to address the needs of low income youth.
- Assisted in **33** campus-wide days of service such as Make a Difference Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, World AIDS Day, and Christmas for Kids. They also assisted in **64** local community service projects for causes such as Cystic Fibrosis, the American Red Cross, the American Cancer Society, Juvenile Diabetes, and Habitat for Humanity.
- Generated on campus involvement of **3,250** college students performing community service or service learning which yielded a total of **6,682** new active community volunteers.
- These volunteers performed **99,987** hours of service. At \$17.55/hour (a figure developed by Independent Sector for 2004), this service equates to more than **\$1.7 million**.
- Assisted in **190** trainings, orientations, and reflection activities for service-learning courses and/or community service.
- Created numerous educational products and documented **25** "best practices" for those on campuses and in local communities.
- Assisted **110** faculty members in service-learning course development or expansion.
- Engaged **550** community partners, many of which were schools, mentoring programs, after school academic assistance programs, soup kitchens, housing commissions, and other youth serving organizations.
- Participated in **109** local advisory boards on such issues as mentoring, neighborhood safety, youth voice, domestic violence, illiteracy, pre-natal care, homelessness, academic access and success, and other human service concerns.
- Made **729** presentations to local businesses, local schools, community organizations and campus organizations about community needs and response strategies.
- Generated **\$12,474** of in-kind donated goods and services. These included donated food, baby clothes, books, T-shirts, speaker's fees, and meeting space.
- Leveraged **\$185,281** through fundraising events for local non-profit organizations, grantwriting, and donations from campus departments and student groups.