



American Legion Auxiliary Call to Service Corps AmeriCorps Project

Building and Delivering Services to Veterans, Military Servicemembers, and their Families



Project Operating Sites

Version 07/25/2016

Project Overview –The American Legion Auxiliary Call to Service Corps AmeriCorps Project utilizes AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps VISTA Members to build and enhance the capacity of military and veteran support organizations and civilian nonprofit organizations to serve and mobilize veterans, military servicemembers, and their families. The AmeriCorps Members provide organization capacity-building and direct service within each organization participating in the project as an AmeriCorps or AmeriCorps VISTA operating site. The range of Member activities includes organization needs-assessment, volunteer management, program marketing and communications, event planning and execution, program development, and service delivery.

Project Operating Sites and AmeriCorps Assignments

National Organizations

AMVETS (IL 1, MD 1) is a veteran service organization that provides not only support for veterans and the active military in procuring their earned entitlements, but also community services that enhance their quality of life. AMVETS career centers provide free-of-charge career training and employment assistance for veterans, active-duty servicemembers, National Guardsmen, Reservists, and their spouses. AMVETS utilizes two AmeriCorps VISTA Members to serve as career center coordinators, who support the career center volunteer managers by conducting outreach to schools, military facilities, and local, county, state and federal agencies to promote the career center and its services to veterans.

Code of Support Foundation (VA 2) works to ensure that all Americans understand and appreciate the service and sacrifice of the less than one percent who serve in uniform (including veterans and their families). COSF utilizes one AmeriCorps VISTA Member to develop programming to increase the public's awareness of the obstacles and challenges facing veterans, servicemembers and their families. A second AmeriCorps VISTA Member helps expand and strengthen COSF's Patriot.net, a database of resources and services to veterans, servicemembers, their families, and their service providers.

Operation Homefront (CA 1, GA 1, MA 1, MD 1, NV 1, OK 1, OR 1, PA 1, TX 2, VA 1, WI 1) is a nonprofit organization that provides emergency assistance for our troops, their families, and for wounded warriors when they return home. OH utilizes 11 AmeriCorps VISTA Members serving as Volunteer and Outreach Coordinators, who build the organization's capacity through the recruitment, retention, and training of volunteers and volunteer teams, and by conducting outreach to promote the organization's services. Another AmeriCorps VISTA Member serves OH by developing or improving resources, partnerships, and services for OH Villages. OH also utilizes five AmeriCorps National Members to organize, promote, and deliver OH emergency assistance, family support, and transitional and permanent housing programs.

Points of Light (DC 1) is the world's leading nonprofit volunteer organization. Points of Light puts people at the center of change. POL utilizes one AmeriCorps VISTA Member to organize, promote, guide, and support participation in military initiatives for national Days of Service.

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Soldiers' Angels (CA 1, CO 1, FL 1, MI 1, NV 1, SC 1, TX 3) is a national organization that provides aid and comfort to the men and women of the United States Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, their families, and the growing veteran population. Soldiers' Angels "Angel" volunteers assist veterans, wounded and deployed personnel and their families in a variety of unique and effective ways. Soldiers' Angels also utilizes 8 AmeriCorps VISTA Members responsible for recruiting, training, retaining, and rewarding volunteers to serve at their assigned VA facilities.

Student Veterans of America (DC 14) is a coalition of student veteran organizations on more than 950 college campuses nationwide. SVA utilizes 11 AmeriCorps VISTA Members to train and support volunteer chapter leaders. SVA also utilizes one AmeriCorps VISTA Member serves to develop strategies and processes for the SVA communications team. Another AmeriCorps VISTA Member develops curriculum and materials to train chapter leaders on the organization's web-based tools and interactive platform for communications and reporting. One more AmeriCorps VISTA Member analyzes and improves development processes and resources to build SVA's capacity to apply for and secure funding.

Military and Veteran Collective Impact Initiatives — The American Legion Auxiliary Call to Service Corps AmeriCorps Project supports the implementation of **Joining Community Forces**, an initiative of the National Guard Bureau to develop the network of and increase the capacity of non-profit organizations, government agencies, and other community partners to utilize state family programs and community resources to promote health and wellness of servicemembers, veterans, and their families. State National Guards receiving Joining Community Forces AmeriCorps VISTA members include **Minnesota Department of Military Affairs** (MN, one VISTA Member) and **Ohio National Guard** (OH, one VISTA Member).

Direct Service Organizations — The American Legion Auxiliary Call to Service Corps AmeriCorps Project supports organizations working at the local, regional and statewide levels to organize or provide direct services to veterans, servicemembers, and their families. Direct service operating sites include:

Genesis Prevention Coalition (GA 4) is a faith and community-based network committed to strengthening the overall well-being of youth, families, and communities through advocacy, education, and training to reduce health and social disparities. GPC utilizes two AmeriCorps VISTA Members to: develop an affordable housing plan for local servicemembers, veterans and their families (SMVF); promote workforce rights and services to the SMVF population and employers; and increase SMVF access to behavioral health services. GPC also utilizes an AmeriCorps VISTA Member to: develop a base of local funders; increase funding through grant applications; and develop a plan to increase in-kind donations. One more AmeriCorps VISTA Member serves GPC through marketing and outreach in the community.

Miami Dade College (FL 6), a state-supported college with seven campuses, two centers and numerous outreach centers, is the largest institution of higher education in the United States and one of the most highly regarded in the nation. The MDC Military and Veterans Services Department utilizes six AmeriCorps VISTA Members to develop outreach programs and resource centers to promote educational and support services for MILVET students, and to develop and pilot a college-wide VA Work Study Program.

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