Arizona State Office of Rural Health
Webinar Series

Today’s presentation

Addressing the Opioid Epidemic in Rural Arizona: AmeriCorps & VISTA

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Arizona State Office of Rural Health Monthly Webinar Series

Provides technical assistance to rural stakeholders to disseminate research findings, policy updates, best-practices and other rural health issues to statewide rural partners and stakeholders.

Thank you to our partners in delivering this webinar series:

[Logos for Arizona Telemedicine Program and Southwest Telehealth Resource Center]
Webinar Tips & Notes

- Enter your questions into the chat box.
- Webinar is being recorded
- Recording will be posted on the AzCRH www.crh.arizona.edu/ and SWTRC www.southwesttrc.org/
Today’s presentation:

Addressing the Opioid Epidemic in Rural Arizona: AmeriCorps & VISTA

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AGENDA

• NAU Civic Service Institute AmeriCorps Staff
• AmeriCorps & Who serves
• Impact of the Opioid Epidemic in Arizona
• Introduction to Alternatives to Managing Pain (AMP) AmeriCorps
• Introduction to CSI VISTA
• Becoming a Partner Site
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

• Identify the purpose of AmeriCorps and National Service.
• Recognize the role of AmeriCorps programs in addressing challenges faced in Rural Arizona in combating the Opioid Epidemic.
• Compare and Contrast the different types of AmeriCorps programs offered and which might be the best fit for your community/organization.
The Civic Service Institute (CSI) Mission is to Improve Lives and Communities Through Service and Volunteerism.

CSI connects people to national service opportunities statewide through Senior Corps and AmeriCorps programs.
WHAT IS AMERICORPS?

• What is AmeriCorps?
• What is a Term of Service?
• Who is the Corporation for National and Community Service
WHAT IS AMERICORPS?

• A National Service Program (Domestic Peace Corps)
• Federally funded, locally implemented
• Members complete Terms of Service
  • A Term of Service is a commitment of hours to service and training
  • Terms of Service run depend on the program.
• Participants receive an Education Award at the completion of their Term of Service
WHAT IS THE CNCS?

The Corporation for National and Community Service is the federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering.

CNCS administers two programs:
- Senior Corps: 450,000 volunteers
- AmeriCorps: 85,000 members
• **State and National AmeriCorps**: Funded through state commissions, these programs work to build safer, stronger, healthier, and united communities across the country through direct service. Members serve terms ranging from 300 to 1700 hours.

• **Volunteers In Service To America or VISTA**: Members serve as a catalyst for change, living and working alongside the community through capacity building activities. Members serve for 1 or 2 year terms.

• **AmeriCorps NCCC**: An intensive, 10-month service experience designed for young adults who want to serve full-time, on a tight-knit team.
WHO BENEFITS FROM AMERICORPS?

• **Youth, Seniors, and Others In Need** benefit from the tutoring, mentoring, health, housing, and other services members provide.

• **Communities** benefit from having better schools, safer streets, more affordable housing, a cleaner environment, and more engaged citizens.

• **Organizations** gain from having more reach and impact: 92% of sponsoring groups say members helped increase how many people they served to a large or moderate extent.

• **Members** acquire leadership and career skills, earn money for college, and learn how to be active citizens.
WHAT DO AMERICORPS MEMBERS DO?

AmeriCorps aims to meet three different goals:

- Getting Things Done
- Developing Participants
- Strengthening Communities
WHO ARE AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Individuals dedicated to providing meaningful service to the community.
WHO SERVES

Individuals who are:

- Committed to service
- Looking to give back
- Not “in it for the money”
- Personal and professional growth
- Re-career
- Current Volunteers
MEMBER BENEFITS

• Professional development and mentorship
  – Rx Matters
  – Alternative Treatments & History of Pain
  – Working with Older Adults
• Become part of a nationwide network of civically minded individuals
• Living allowance
• Education Award
• Student Loan Forbearance
• Health & Child Care Benefits (full time only)
MEMBER REQUIREMENTS

- At least 18 years of age when they complete their term
- High school diploma or GED
- Pass a background check
- United States Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident
- Able to commit to the length and hours of term
THE IMPACT OF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC IN ARIZONA
According to the National Center for Health Statistics, while drug-related deaths have increased among all groups, older adults have seen the greatest percentage increase over the last half decade.
While Substance abuse can develop at any stage in an individual’s life, Research shows that young adults are particularly susceptible to developing addiction and substance abuse. Annual surveys still reveal that nearly half will have taken an illegal drug before graduation.
How are these issues impacting your community?
ALTERNATIVES TO MANAGING PAIN

AMERICORPS PROGRAM
• Newly launched, statewide project.
• Direct service support to:
  – Older adults (50+), veterans and/or disabled individuals with chronic/acute pain
  – Youth/young adults at risk for developing substance abuse disorders
WHAT DO AMP MEMBERS DO: OLDER ADULTS

• Provide clients social support through friendly visitation. This can include:
  – Accompany to alternative treatments (Yoga or exercise classes, visits to chiropractor, etc.)
  – Providing companionship, listening, cheering up, playing cards or games, assisting with crafts
  – Providing health or nutrition information

• Provide education on non-medical alternatives to managing pain, as well as proper use, storage, and disposal of medications, particularly opioid based pain-medications.

• Transportation to medical and non-medical treatments.

• Connect clients and family members with community resources to fulfill unmet needs.
WHAT DO AMP MEMBERS DO: YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

- Provide clients social support through mentorship and positive role-modeling.
- Provide education on substance abuse prevention.
- Advocate on behalf of at-risk youth.
- Connect clients and family members with community resources to fulfill unmet needs.
POSITION TYPES 2019-2020 PROGRAM YEAR

• Full Time
  – 1700 Hours, 35-40 hours per week

• Half Time
  – Short: 900 Hours, 25-30 hours per week
  – Long: 900 hours, 15-20 hours per week

• Quarter Time
  – Short: 450 Hours, 32-35 hours per week
  – Long: 450 Hours, 12-15 hours per week
OPIOID MITIGATION EDUCATION

VISTA PROGRAM
NAU CSI VISTA PROGRAM

• Statewide project.
• **Indirect service across three focus areas:**
  – **STEM Education (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)**
  – **OME (Opioid Mitigation Education)**
  – **CCA (College and Career Access).**
OME FOCUS AREA

OME VISTA Members work with local nonprofits and health organizations to research, design, and implement comprehensive programs based on the organization and community needs with the goal of effectively educating volunteers, community members, and clients, so that they can reduce the effect of the opioid epidemic while utilizing non-medical alternatives to pain management in order to promote community health and safety.
WHAT CAN VISTA MEMBERS DO?

- VISTA members focus on capacity building i.e. indirect service (behind the scenes, coordination and planning) for the host site
- Provide marketing and outreach for your project/organization
- Write grants/raise funds
- Conduct program evaluation
- Develop or amend curriculum
- Recruit, train, manage, and recognize volunteers
• Each VISTA member serves for a full calendar year.
• VISTA members serve 35 hours per week for the calendar year (10 personal and 10 sick days to use during service).
• Currently accepting applications for 2020 GY, members begin February 2020.
BECOMING AN AMERICORPS/VISTA HOST SITE
PARTNER SITE BENEFITS

• Expand services to serve your community
• Create a new talent pipeline
• New ideas and talents at your organization
• Low cost way to build your capacity
• Connect with the statewide AmeriCorps network
REQUIREMENTS: MEMBER SUPPORT

• Ensure Adequate Member support:
  – mentorship
  – work plans
  – member schedule
  – work space, office supplies, computer, etc.
AmeriCorps grantees are required to secure a portion of our funding to support members through cash-match.

- Cash Match for Direct Service 2019-2020 GY
  - 1700 Hour Member = $8,500
  - 900 Hour Member = $4,500
  - 450 Hour Member = $2,750
- VISTA Cash Match for 2020-2021 GY = $8,000
HOW TO APPLY?

• Submit the 2019-2020 AMP Partner Site Application or the 2020 VISTA Partner Site Application to AmeriCorps@nau.edu
• Complete a position description for each position you are requesting with application
• Email a copy of your liability insurance with partner site application (AMP)
QUESTIONS?
CONTACT INFORMATION

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Thank you! Be sure to save the date for Upcoming AzCRH Webinars

**January 16, 2020:** “2020 U.S. Census”

**February 20, 2020:** “Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances (ECPS)”

Find this and our previous webinars at:  
http://www.crh.arizona.edu/programs/sorh/webinars

Your opinion is valuable to us. Please participate in this brief survey:

https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0Oi6m5IKdv1JnCZ

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