

Member Development

*"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know:
The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."
-Albert Schweitzer*

The New York Campus Compact is committed to providing ongoing professional and personal development opportunities to support our VISTA members throughout their year of service and beyond. Our member development curriculum provides members with knowledge and skills that assist them in their work on campus, while also helping to prepare them for their chosen path after VISTA. In keeping with the missions of Campus Compact and AmeriCorps VISTA, we encourage members to reflect on the impact that their service has on themselves and on their community. By investing in our VISTA members as individuals, NYCC aims to maximize the impact that they have on their campus and community and to enrich the experiences they cultivate throughout their service.

Pre-Service Support

- 4 day Pre-Service Orientation Conference
- Member Handbook/Training Manual
- Welcome packet and orientation to NYCC including resource toolkit and suggested readings
- Phone support from day of acceptance to program

Continued Development Training

Three 3-day conferences will be held during the VISTA service year incorporating topics such as:

- Leadership and Facilitation
- Marketing Your VISTA Project
- Networking/Power Mapping
- Volunteer Recruitment/Retention
- Fundraising/Grant Writing
- Effective Communication
- Building Community Partnerships
- StrengthsQuest™
- Evaluation and Assessment
- Service-Learning
- Community Organizing
- Issued Based Forums

Other Support

- Bi-weekly VISTA digest
- Issue-based conference calls
- Support to attend NYCC conferences
- Year-long capstone project
- Newsletters
- Site visits
- Monthly phone check-ins
- Personalized professional development plan

Host Site and Supervisor Support

NYCC and CNCS view the VISTA Supervisor role as part supervisor, part advocate, and part mentor. As the only individuals who have ongoing, daily contact with the VISTA members, VISTA supervisors are most aware of the members' professional development needs and interests. Sites are strongly encouraged to provide:

- Thorough on-site orientation
- Opportunities for reflection/growth
- Meaningful interaction with the impoverished community served
- Opportunities to attend relevant conferences
- Challenging/stimulating work environment
- Skill trainings necessary for the position

For More Information:

Alli Kitchner
NYCC VISTA Program Coordinator
95 Brown Rd. #1006 Ithaca, NY 14850
ph: 607.254.6239 f: 607.254.6397
email: ak558@cornell.edu
<http://www.nyccvista.org>

