



living our mission

CHP Says 'Hello' to New AmeriCorps Members

CHP extends a big welcome to its newest **AmeriCorps** members, a group of 23 individuals working to meet critical needs and improve resident life at CHP properties across Virginia.

AmeriCorps is a network of local, state, and national service programs that enroll over 75,000 citizens per year in various organizations to meet the country's needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment. The organization is made up of several different programs, including **AmeriCorps State and National** and **AmeriCorps VISTA** - each with its own focus and structure.

The largest of AmeriCorps programs, **AmeriCorps State and National** provides funds to local and national organizations and agencies committed to using national service to address critical community needs in education, public safety, health and the environment. Each of these organizations and agencies, in turn, use their AmeriCorps funding to recruit, place, and supervise AmeriCorps members.

With CHP's **Project RISE!**, AmeriCorps State and National members work directly with residents and communities across Virginia to increase literacy, teach conflict resolution skills, and provide service-learning projects which address community needs and issues.

AmeriCorps VISTA is the national service program designed specifically to fight poverty. As a **NeighborWorks®** member organization, CHP is participating in the sponsorship of the volunteer program in which VISTA members commit to serve full-time for a year in communities across the country. During this time, they will help strengthen areas hard hit by the recession and bolster financial fitness and asset building among low- and moderate-income homeowners and renters.

Each of CHP's VISTA members will work on a number of assignments designed to help revitalize and stabilize neighborhoods suffering the negative effects of a difficult economy. VISTA members will support our homebuyer education and counseling

program and the **Resident Services** department by creating and implementing programs that assist low- to moderate-income families with issues around money management and financial literacy. Other VISTAs will increase the capacity of our in-house architectural studio to design 20 new affordable, sustainable single-family homes, and rehabilitate 4 low-income rental properties.

Jasmin Cotman, CHP's AmeriCorps Director, says that the AmeriCorps program is important because, "it gives people an opportunity to make a big difference in their own life and in the lives of those around them. It's a chance for them to apply their skills and ideals toward helping others and truly making CHP's communities better places to live."

Full-time AmeriCorps members receive a modest living allowance, health care benefits, and child care assistance. After successful completion of their term of service, they are also eligible for a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award that can be used to pay for college or graduate school at Title IV schools, or to repay qualified student loans.

2009 - 2010 AmeriCorps Members

Emily Albright (VISTA) - Corporate office

Kathryn Bennett - Meadowview

Suzanne Burns - Yorktown Square/Woods at Yorktown

Leslie Channel - Blue Ridge Commons

Dan Emmanuel - Lafayette Apartments

Christine Foust - Yorktown Square/Woods at Yorktown

Corinthian Gillis Kelly - Lafayette Apartments

Teresa Green - Warwick SRO

Genivie Habib - Ansell Gardens

Lamyra Hale - Virginia Beach area properties

Brittney Humphrey - Cross Creek

Shadai Jones - Yorktown Square/Woods at Yorktown

Charlie McFarland (VISTA) - Corporate office

Mondo Mulemaza - Blue Ridge Commons

Jade Nguyen - Ansell Gardens

Jackson Simmons (VISTA) - Corporate office

Juanita Smith - Yorktown Square/Woods at Yorktown

Mackenzie Stagg (VISTA) - Corporate office

Dylan Stevens (VISTA) - Corporate office

Sandra Timmons - Lafayette Apartments

Leslie Weck - Friendship Village

Kali Williams - Meadowview

Shanise Williams - Cross Creek