



AmeriCorps VISTA Program



Call for Workshop Presenters

VISTA In-Service Training

The Armory, Lansing
330 Marshall Street
Lansing, MI 48912
April 12-13, 2017

Application Deadline: Friday, February 3, 2017

Dear Colleague:

Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA) is pleased to announce the "Call for Presenters" for our 2017 VISTA In-Service Training. The training will be held **April 12-13, 2017** at the Nonprofit Center at the Armory in Lansing, Michigan. This professional development training will inspire and support 30-50 AmeriCorps VISTA members during their year of national service.

Training Goals

- **EDUCATE:** Provide the tools and resources necessary to allow a wide range of participants to plan for life after national service.
- **INNOVATE:** Foster a learning community in which participants share innovative ideas and best practices in VISTA service and community partnerships.
- **RELATE:** Provide a space for VISTA members to interact, learn and build a network of support, service, and civic engagement.

Format

Our members repeatedly tell us that they value interactive workshops with opportunities for dialogue, small group activities, and experiential learning. A workshop is an interactive "how to" session organized around a theme, issue or discipline, and will be 60-90 minutes in length. Ideal sessions will be expected to include the opportunity for participant interaction, reflection and dialogue.

Audience

In framing your workshop proposal, please consider the needs of the target audience(s) for this conference: AmeriCorps VISTA members. This training is specifically offered as an opportunity to bring together VISTAs who have only experienced a virtual training environment with other VISTA members and staff in-person up to this point.

VISTA members may be at any stage of their service year, which opens up a variety of needs and opportunities. Presenters' knowledge and familiarity with AmeriCorps will strengthen their proposal.

Experience Level

National service, and AmeriCorps VISTA, draws an array of participants, from those who are new to professional settings to those who have extensive experience in the field. Please keep this in mind when planning your workshop proposal. We are looking for a variety of proposals designed for different experience levels: *beginner, intermediate and advanced*.

Categories

Here are some sample themes:

- *Telling Your VISTA Story*: How to communicate your experience to build partnerships in service and for future opportunities.
- *Talent Development*: Resume reviews, mock interviews, networking events
- *Exploring Poverty*: Reconnecting VISTAs with their mission to eradicate poverty.
- *Tangible Skills*: Building the skills VISTAs need during the course of their service: grant-writing, data tracking, public speaking.
- *Leadership*: Identify skills, practices and program models that support and showcase national service members as community leaders.

Payment

Because this is a grant-funded training, we have the opportunity to pay our presenters a small stipend for their time and expertise. The maximum amount presenters can receive is \$300/session.

To apply to be a presenter at **VISTA In-Service Training**, please fill out the presenter application survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VISTAInServiceTraining>

All applications must be received by Friday, February 3.

All applicants will be notified of their status by Friday, February 24.

Please distribute this "Call for Workshop Presenters" to your colleagues.

Questions can be directed to Maggie Harris, VISTA Program Manager,
mharris@mnaonline.org

VISTA In-Service Training
The Armory, Lansing
April 12-13, 2017

Tentative Training Schedule

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

- 9:00 Registration opens
- 10:00 Session
- 12:00 Welcome & Luncheon Keynote
- 2:30 Session
- 3:30 Session

Optional: evening activity + dinner

Thursday, April 13, 2017

- 8:30 Continental Breakfast & Registration
- 9:00 Session Block (60 minute sessions)
- 10:30 Session Block (60 minute sessions)
- 12:00 Luncheon Keynote
- 1:30 “Where Does the Money Go? Life on the Edge” simulation
- 3:30 Adjourn