

UFFF - DA!

Useful Facts and Figures - Data for Affiliates!

December 2009

Greetings! Please share this information with your Board and staff and let us know what data is useful to you in your work. With your input, we will work together to gather information and compile it into a format that is most useful to you. Please feel free to ask us for data that you are most interested in. We look forward to and thank you for your feedback and suggestions.

VISTA Program Overview

*The Habitat for Humanity Minnesota (HFH-MN) AmeriCorps*VISTA program provides affiliates with the opportunity to host a full-time national service volunteer for a one year term. Since 1999, HFH-MN has placed 160 VISTA members with 27 Habitat affiliates across the state. VISTA members work with affiliates to carry out workplan tasks designed to build the organizational capacity of the affiliate.*

From August 2008 through August 2009, sixteen VISTAs served with twelve Minnesota Habitat affiliates: Central Minnesota, Freeborn/Mower, Habitat Minnesota, Itasca County, Lakes Area, Lake Agassiz, Northwoods, North St. Louis County, Rochester Area, Southwestern MN, Twin Cities, West Central and Winona County. This report highlights some of the exciting outcomes from the 2008-2009 VISTA program year!

Table 1. VISTA Accomplishments by Program Year

| VISTA Program Year | Volunteers Recruited / Coordinated | Volunteers Hours | Hourly Dollar Value of Volunteer Time* | Total Value of Volunteer Time | In-Kind Donations | Funds Raised |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 2006 - 2007 | 3,026 | 24,769 | \$18.77 | \$464,914 | \$123,574 | \$209,653 |
| 2007 - 2008 | 3,760 | 27,834 | \$19.51 | \$543,041 | \$62,180 | \$343,880 |
| 2008 - 2009 | 3,839 | 35,539 | \$20.25 | \$719,665 | \$75,284 | \$365,212 |

*Dollar amounts published by the Independent Sector – www.independentsector.org

Volunteer Mobilization

During this past program year, VISTA members mobilized more volunteers than ever before and those volunteers contributed more hours than ever before! These increases in the number of volunteers and volunteer hours were the result of a combination of factors such as the addition of the Summer VISTA program and improved affiliate systems for tracking and managing volunteers.

In-Kind Donations & Fundraising

In-Kind donations and fundraising secured by VISTAs also increased for the 2008-2009 program year. The increase in in-kind donations was the result of more VISTAs assisting with efforts to secure product donations for ReStores as well as donations of materials and professional labor for Habitat homes. In the area of fundraising, VISTAs were successful in helping affiliates secure grants, increase contributions from individuals and also implement successful fundraising events.

ReStore VISTAs

VISTAs continue to play a key role in the development of Habitat ReStores in Minnesota. Since 2003, Habitat Minnesota has placed 22 VISTA members with 9 of the 10 Minnesota ReStores. These VISTA members played an important role in the development and growth of those nine stores. In FY 2009, those Minnesota ReStores generated enough revenue to cover their expenses and also make a financial contribution to the affiliate’s fundraising.

| ReStore VISTAs by the Numbers | |
|--|---------------------|
| Number of ReStores that have had VISTA support | 9 of 10 MN ReStores |
| Number of VISTAs placed with Minnesota ReStores since 2003 | 22 |
| Total sales for all Minnesota ReStores in FY 2009 | over \$1.5 million |

Statewide ReStore VISTA

The first Statewide ReStore VISTA, Mary Zimmermann, was placed in August 2008 to provide support for the efforts of Minnesota ReStores to communicate and collaborate with each other. During her year of service, Mary achieved the following:

- Organized two statewide ReStore gatherings with a total of 40 participants
- Developed a Statewide ReStore Operations Manual including recommended policies and procedures
- Completed site visits to ten Minnesota ReStores to gather and share information and resources
- Presented at the Kentucky Habitat for Humanity ReStore Conference on the developing statewide networks

In order to continue and build upon the great work Mary started, a second Statewide ReStore VISTA, Alicia Weagel, came on board in August 2009. Alicia has already made an impact by creating a statewide ReStore pricing manual as a resource all stores can reference when making pricing decisions. For copies of materials and resources developed by VISTAs, contact Sara Wessling.

Summer Builds VISTA 2009

In the summer of 2009, Habitat Minnesota offered a NEW Summer Builds VISTA pilot program. Through this pilot program, ten Summer Associate VISTA members were placed with five Habitat affiliates: Itasca County, Lakes Area, North St. Louis County, Rochester and Winona County. Summer Builds VISTA members spent eight weeks working on Habitat build sites as construction assistants.

The affiliates that hosted Summer Builds VISTAs reported exciting results. Summer Builds VISTAs provided tremendous support by: 1) providing volunteer groups with better supervision and support on the build site, 2) improving on-site safety training for volunteer groups, 3) enabling more youth volunteers to participate on the build site, 4) decreasing delays in construction, 5) keeping multiple build sites active simultaneously, and 6) providing consistent and reliable oversight of build sites. One affiliate reported they ended the summer six weeks ahead of their typical build schedule thanks to the work of the Summer Builds VISTAs!

| Summer Builds (SB) VISTA By the Numbers | |
|--|--------|
| Number of SB VISTAs | 10 |
| Number of volunteers supported by SB VISTAs | 1,155 |
| Number of hours contributed by volunteers supported by SB VISTAs | 10,938 |
| Number of homes worked on by SB VISTAs | 18 |
| Number of children and adults who will live in those homes | 76 |

Apply to Host a Year-long VISTA or Summer Builds VISTA

Apply to Host a VISTA!

Is your affiliate interested in hosting a VISTA member from August 2010 to August 2011? **Plan to attend the VISTA Host Affiliate Application training on Friday, January 29th.** Application materials for the 2010-2011 VISTA program year will be available soon on the Habitat Minnesota website.

Affiliates interested in hosting a Summer Builds VISTA from June 4, 2010 – July 30, 2010 are **required to participate in a conference call training in January.** More information about the conference call and the Summer Builds program will be emailed to affiliates soon.

For more information about the year-long and/or Summer Builds VISTA programs please contact the VISTA Program Manager, Sara Wessling, at (612) 331-4430 ext. 2 or email sara@hfhm.org.

What's in store for the January UFF-DA! Report?

We can't think of a better time than now (winter!!) to recap this past July's Habitat 500 Bike Ride. Funds raised for the event will be received through the end of December so, come January, we will have all sorts of exciting fund raising data to share with you. Find out which of your fellow Greater MN affiliate peers raised *over \$10,000* through the 2009 Habitat 500!!!

Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota
 2401 Lowry Ave NE, Suite 210 • Minneapolis MN 55418
 877-804-3466 (phone) • 612-789-0486 (fax) • www.hfhm.org