

Montana Campus Compact VISTA Assignment Description (VAD)

Title: Building Financial and Digital Literacy Skills in Missoula’s Refugee Population VISTA
Sponsoring Organization: University of Montana – Montana Campus Compact Project Name: MTCC VISTA Project Number: Project Period: August 15, 2022 – August 14, 2023
Site Name:
Focus Area(s) Primary: Education Secondary: Capacity Building

<h3 style="margin: 0;">VISTA Assignment Objectives and Member Activities</h3>	
<p>Goal of the Overall VISTA Project: The goal of this VISTA project is to build a toolkit and volunteer recruitment and management system that will help newly arrived refugee families in Missoula to develop digital and financial literacy skills. This toolkit, and these and volunteer efforts, will target both school-aged youth and adults, setting the stage for academic success in refugee youth and increasing access to college. By providing skills and knowledge to navigate the education and financial systems of the United States, these vulnerable populations will be set up for long-term success, reducing the risks of families and their children falling into poverty.</p>	
<p>Objective: The VISTA member will orient themselves to project performance measurement requirements in order to successfully implement each component and accurately report on progress.</p>	<p>Member Activity: The member will ensure they receive and participate in an On-Site Orientation Training (OSOT) upon arrival at the host site and communicate any project questions to the host site supervisor and/or the Montana Campus Compact VISTA Manager.</p> <p>Member Activity: The member must review applicable performance measurements and anticipate outcomes for each activity included in this VAD.</p> <p>Member Activity: Upon understanding the performance measurement reporting requirements, the member will determine and put into place reporting tools necessary to supply performance measurement data to the Montana Campus Compact VISTA Project on a monthly basis.</p>
<p>Objective: Determine the role of the campus/community partner in the VISTA project.</p>	<p>Member Activity: Meet with the campus/community partner, discuss collaborative opportunities and potential.</p> <p>Member Activity: Maintain regular communication with campus partner.</p>

<p>Objective: Ensure that newly arriving refugee families have access to technology that is easy for them to use.</p>	<p>Member Activity: Order and set up phones for all newly arriving refugee adults and install relevant apps, such as Duo Lingo, Zoom, etc.</p> <p>Member Activity: Set up a laptop or tablet for each newly arriving refugee family in appropriate language.</p>
<p>Objective: Build financial literacy in refugee families.</p>	<p>Member Activity: Create informative and instructive materials in client languages covering key financial topics such as credit, loans, funding higher education, and budgeting strategies.</p> <p>Member Activity: Recruit and train ten Financial Literacy Volunteers, and support them as they meet with clients to discuss financial topics.</p> <p>Member Activity: Establish relationships with organizations, such as the University of Montana and financial institutions to develop workshops covering a variety of financial topics for refugee families, with a goal of reaching 30 high school juniors/seniors and adults.</p> <p>Member Activity: Track data associated with financial programming, including the distribution of materials to families, and volunteer activities and hours.</p>
<p>Objective: Build digital literacy in refugee families.</p>	<p>Member Activity: Create informative and instructive materials in client languages covering key digital topics such as troubleshooting issues, common computer programs (especially those pertinent to completing school work), and accessing virtual ESL classes.</p> <p>Member Activity: Recruit and train ten Digital Literacy Volunteers and support them as they meet with clients to discuss digital skill topics.</p> <p>Member Activity: Coordinate with partner organizations to organize digital workshops where refugee youth and adults can practice and develop their skills, with a goal of reaching 30 refugee school-aged youth and adults.</p> <p>Member Activity: Track data associated with digital skills programming, including the distribution of materials to families, and volunteer activities and hours.</p>
<p>Objective: Education refugees on pathways in education.</p>	<p>Member Activity: Coordinate with partner organizations to create informative materials in client languages outlining the different pathways in education in the United States.</p>

	<p>Member Activity: Coordinate with partner organizations to create informative materials in client languages detailing the pre-requisitions and requirements to enter college and post-secondary education programs in the United States.</p> <p>Member Activity: Develop effective avenues to communicate this information to refugee families.</p>
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