

AmeriCorps VISTA in Buffalo!

Read on to learn more about our ESPRI Buffalo VISTA, Madeline Gerbracht.

Why AmeriCorps?

I chose to apply for AmeriCorps once I returned to the US because I wanted to use my community outreach and engagement skills that I had gained abroad at home. I chose AmeriCorps VISTA because I wanted a year of service where I got to try out a capacity/organizational role in a non-profit.



Madeline Gerbracht

ESPRI Buffalo

Here at the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County our ESPRI project is moving into phase two. From our community forums, pop-up events, and surveys we have identified 8 major areas of need in the city. In the ESPRI pilot project the focus is on 3 of these issues; work force development, jobs, and training/education. I have been working to connect our project to community leaders such as Say Yes Buffalo (East and West Zone leaders), PUSH Buffalo, the Community Action Organization, and Buffalo Public Schools. In addition to making community connections, I have also been working on our webpage and several feedback presentations that are being presented to the community.

Thank you to everyone who attended the VISTA Supervisor Training on November 15 and 16 in Syracuse. It was a great opportunity to bring together supervisors and DOS staff. Topics such as Capacity Building and Recruitment were covered. Special thanks to our trainer, Cathy Lins, whose knowledge and expertise enhanced the training for all. We are excited to move forward with our ESPRI efforts across the state.



I am an AmeriCorps member, and I will get things done.