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2009-2010 Americorps* VISTA Position

KIDS (Kids Involved Doing Service-Learning) Consortium is a nonprofit organization, founded in 1992, that serves schools and community organizations throughout Maine. We prepare young people to be active and responsible citizens by training and supporting educators, community partners, and youth in best practices for service-learning. Through service-learning, K-12 students identify, research, and address real community challenges, using knowledge and skills learned in the classroom. We are looking for a VISTA member to help us and Maine schools use technology for collaboration and social networking (e.g. wikis, webinars, Facebook, etc.). An important focus for 2009-10 will be to engage students in “Green Schools” service-learning projects (e.g. energy conservation, recycling, community gardens and healthier foods in schools). Someone with a strong IT background, and an interest in youth civic engagement, creative application of web 2.0 tools, and the “Green” movement would be an ideal candidate. The VISTA will work closely with KIDS Consortium staff. The position is sponsored by the USM Muskie School of Public Service, which supports 50 VISTA positions across the State with the goal of improving the lives of Maine’s youth through high quality anti-poverty initiatives.

The following benefits are provided in order to support VISTA members as they perform their year of service:

- * End of year Education Award voucher of \$4,725; or a Cash Stipend of \$1,200;
- * Health care coverage;
- * Educational loan forbearance or deferment (for most federal loans);
- * Significant professional development;
- * Childcare coverage for eligible applicants;
- * \$909.00 monthly subsistence allowance;
- * Relocation reimbursement of \$550 if moving in order to serve;
- * Travel reimbursement to and from Maine project site from home of record;
- * Housing support (for some of our VISTA positions); and
- * Experience! Many VISTAs have more responsibilities than the average entry-level staff.

For more information, please visit the national Americorps website: <http://www.americorps.gov/>. Click on Americorps VISTA at the top right, search for programs in Maine. The KIDS Consortium position is listed as: C4CY KIDS Consortium – Auburn.

Interested applicants may also contact the Maine Communities for Children and Youth (C4CY) Office at: <http://www.maine.gov/cfc>.