

VISTA Assignment Description (VAD)

Title: August 2013 Tillamook County Healthy People and Accreditation
Sponsoring Organization: State of Oregon-DHS-Public Health Division Project Name: Oregon Public Health Partnership Project Number: 09VSPOR002 Project Period: 09/23/2012 - 10/05/2013
Site Name (if applicable): Tillamook County Public Health Department, Tillamook
Focus Area(s) Primary: Healthy Futures Secondary: Capacity Building

VISTA Assignment Objectives and Member Activities

Goal of the Project: The OHA VISTA project aims to reduce poverty in local communities through building sustainable county-wide wellness initiatives and taking a systems-approach to creating healthy communities. The project aims for health equity, access to care, and community resiliency for all residents of Oregon, regardless of financial status.

Objective of the Assignment (*Period of Performance: August 2013-2014*)

The VISTA will participate in a Community Health Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan, Quality Improvement/Assurance and Documentation as part of the accreditation process. The VISTA will first review the Community Health Assessment and become familiar with areas concerning the greatest need, primarily tobacco screening and immunizations. The VISTA will then collaborate with the steering committee from the local Community Advisory Council to develop a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and initiatives for Quality Improvement/Assurance. The VISTA will also partner with the Coordinated Care Organization and surrounding counties to address the health needs of the greater region, with a focus on community members facing poverty. The VISTA will also begin the Documentation process required for Public Health Accreditation.

Member Activity: •Step 1: Review Community Health Assessment of Tillamook County and determine what gaps, if any, are in need of attention•Step 2: Collaborate with the local steering committee from the Community Action Council to create a Community Health Improvement Plan based on the needs assessment•Step 3: Connect with other VISTA members and the Accreditation Work Group in order to share best-practices in CHIP Planning. •Step 4: Develop Quality Improvement/Assurance initiatives and programs that address these critical needs. Include a focus on the impact these initiatives will have on low-income individuals and families. •Step 4: Begin Documentation required for Public Health Accreditation•Step 5: Create a documentation plan, documentation trainings, and documentation tracking tools for above processes

Objective of the Assignment (Period of Performance: August 2013-2014)

The VISTA will coordinate a team to observe and evaluate the marketing techniques of various tobacco vendors in Tillamook County. The VISTA may also reach out to surrounding counties (Clatsop, Columbia, etc.) to conduct a regional evaluation. In conjunction with the evaluation, the VISTA will assemble a group of local students to create an event for Kick Butts Day through the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. This may include but is not limited to a school-wide assembly, community forum, petitions to increase regulation of tobacco use, or any other public event to raise awareness about the dangers of smoking.

Member Activity: •Step 1: Create a team to conduct the evaluation. Collaborate with the TPEP Coordinator and VISTAs/TPEP Coordinators in Clatsop, Columbia, Hood River, and North Central Health District to use tools and methods already adopted for such evaluation. •Step 2: Develop strict guidelines for what the team is evaluating with regards to advertising (height of advertisements, violations to state law, etc.) Align the guidelines and procedures with state and federal practice for addressing tobacco advertising and its impacts on children, youth, and young adults. •Step 3: Conduct evaluation over a specified timeline •Step 4: Compile results to share with key stakeholders and the greater community Deadline for Tobacco Marketing Evaluation: March 31st 2014 •Step 1: Assemble a team of youth from one or more schools in the area •Step 2: Brainstorm ideas for a Kick Butts Day event •Step 3: Plan the event to be held on National Kick Butts Day •Step 4: Develop a sustainability plan for Kick Butts Day to be stored in a binder. Designate a tobacco-cessation health champion to lead these efforts for years to come. •Step 5: Evaluate outcomes and develop quality-improvement plans for future Kick Butts Day events within Tillamook County

Objective of the Assignment (Period of Performance: August 2013-2014)

The VISTA will research events to conduct during National Public Health Week in Tillamook County. Events may include but are not limited to viewings of films that address public health, conducting community forums to address the needs of Tillamook County residents, offer educational opportunities of how to create a healthier environment or anything else that raises the awareness of the importance of health. For all activities, include a piece on health disparities in order to educate the public on systems that negatively or positively impact community members who are facing poverty. The VISTA will continue to facilitate similar events throughout his/her service and engage the community in public health. They may partner with local radio stations to conduct regular shows to discuss health topics, or have brown bag lunch events within the community on a quarterly basis.

Member Activity: •Step 1: Become familiar with previous national public health events •Step 2: Brainstorm events to be held in Tillamook County •Step 3: Conduct one event per quarter throughout the year of service •Step 4: Host several events during National Public Health Week •Step 5: For all events, ensure a focus on poverty is maintained and access to events and services are inclusive of low-income residents.

Objective of the Assignment *(Period of Performance: August 2013-2014)*

Create a partnership with Tillamook County Human Resources to continue the workplace wellness program by developing a wellness committee. Engage employees in a committee that will discuss how to create a healthier work environment. Meetings will be held on a monthly or bi-monthly basis during business hours. The goal of the committee is to brainstorm guidelines and programs that will engage all county members in healthy behaviors. This may include, but is not limited to, county-wide fitness competitions, wellness challenges, health and wellness education opportunities and healthy meetings initiatives. The VISTA will coordinate and facilitate meetings and be the leader on the events and programs brainstormed.

Member Activity: •Step 1: Recruit key county residents to join the wellness committee who represent various county facets including the Sheriff's Office, Library, Juvenile Services, Public Works and Health Department. •Step 2: Convene the first meeting, discuss the purpose of the committee and develop a timeline and strategy for the following term •Step 3: Facilitate meetings on a monthly or bi-monthly basis and discuss health and wellness opportunities for employees •Step 4: Brainstorm programs to address the health needs of employees •(Meetings and county events will continue throughout the VISTA's service)