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Higher education group launches volunteer program

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NEWS RELEASE

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HIGHER EDUCATION GROUP LAUNCHES VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

MISSOULA —

Montana Campus Compact, a statewide higher education organization that supports campus-based public service, has been awarded funding for a new program that will place 15 volunteers on college campuses around Montana.

Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) participants will serve full-time, one-year terms at Montana Campus Compact member institutions. They will work to strengthen the service infrastructure for low-income populations by coordinating volunteer efforts and expanding the financial resources available for community service.

To meet these objectives, VISTA members will engage in grant writing, resource mobilization, community agency coordination, fund raising and event planning for campuses in **Billings, Bozeman, Browning, Butte, Crow Agency, Dillon, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Kalispell, Miles City, Missoula and Pablo.**

VISTA begins in April and joins a list of successful student and faculty development programs already offered by Montana Campus Compact. They are the Campus Corps and

-more-

VISTA.rl--2

Montana Reads volunteer programs, as well as the prestigious Faculty Fellowships, which are awarded to faculty members in all disciplines who demonstrate commitment to academic service learning.

Montana Campus Compact is a coalition of college presidents and chancellors committed to helping students develop the values and skills of citizenship through civic engagement and participation in public service. By creating a supportive environment for involvement in community public service, participating academic leaders believe that their institutions can best prepare the next generation of informed, active, committed citizen leaders for Montana.

VISTA is part of AmeriCorps, a national service program that allows people of all ages and backgrounds to earn help paying for an education in exchange for a year of service.

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