

# Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country AmeriCorps VISTA Partnership

## About Boys & Girls Clubs

The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Clubs are a place where Native American youth can celebrate their culture and community, enjoy healthy fun with their peers and learn new skills and self-confidence under the guidance of responsible adults; they are a place where great futures start.

BGCA began expanding services to Native American communities in 1992. There are now Clubs serving nearly **90 tribes** in **24 states**, for a total of nearly **200 sites**. Nearly **90,000** Native American youth, ages **6 to 18**, benefit from Boys & Girls Clubs programs.



*A VISTA Member (left) and his Site Supervisor at the Boys & Girls Club of the East Valley, Gila River-Komatke*

## About AmeriCorps and VISTA

AmeriCorps is a network of local, state and national service programs that engage more than 70,000 Americans each year with service at more than 2,000 nonprofits, public agencies and faith-based and community organizations. Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) is the AmeriCorps program that focuses on alleviating poverty through indirect, capacity building service.

**VISTA members that serve at Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country strategically empower their Clubs in the areas of:**

- Program development and impact
- Resource development
- Sustainability efforts
- Building and maintaining strategic relationships

## About the Partnership

The partnership began in March 2010 with the recruitment of 10 full-time VISTA members for Boys & Girls Club sites in the Southwest Region. Currently there are 12 full-time VISTA members serving at 10 Club sites throughout the U.S.

*One VISTA shared that serving as a VISTA has been a valuable experience. She's proud that she was able to help recruit 27 new volunteers to help youth at the Boys & Girls Club and develop materials to assist the Club in recruiting volunteers.*

VISTA members serve for one full year and receive a living stipend, health and dental coverage, relocation allowance, travel to pre-service orientation, and eligibility for student loan forbearance/deferment. In recognition of their service they are eligible for a post-service education award of \$5,350 or an end-of-service stipend of \$1,500. VISTA members walk away with a wealth of new skills and experience and confidence in exchange for their service.

## The Impact of VISTA Service in Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country

- Total number of VISTA members who served/are serving: **16**
- Dollar value of cash resources developed by VISTA members: **\$177,811**
- Dollar value of non-cash resources developed by VISTA members: **\$120,401**
- Number of community volunteers recruited: **562**
- Number of service hours performed by community volunteers: **10,636**
- Number of new programs adapted and/or implemented: **59**
- Number of youth participating in new programs: **1,776**
- Estimated number of new youth participating in programs: **445**
- Number of submitted grant applications: **44**
- Number of new partnerships developed: **85**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF AMERICA**



**VISTA**  
Volunteers In Service To America