

VISTA Assignment Description (VAD)

Title: Technology Program VISTA

Sponsoring Organization: Waynesville RVI School District

Project Name: Waynesville RVI VISTA **Project Number:**

16VSWMO005 **Project Period:**

Site Name (if applicable): Kaleidoscope Discovery Center

Focus Area(s)

Primary: Education **Secondary:** Capacity Building

Goal of the Project: To evaluate previously created infrastructure that was developed to create a sustainable part-time position and build on the accomplishments in creating this position. This will be done to ensure the needs of students are met with the start of a new FIRST Robotics challenge season in addition to a non-competitive season in the midst of a global pandemic. To develop robotics workshops, seminars, and camps to further robotics education and sustainability in the region. The VISTA will help break the cycle of poverty by assisting Kaleidoscope Discovery Center (KDC) in providing a cost-free, safe, and supportive environment for at-risk youth and low-income families.

Objective of the Assignment (*Period of Performance: May 10 - August 28, 2021*) Build a foundation for sustainable partnerships.

Activity: Liaisons with FIRST robotics programs coordinators/teachers/coaches including FLL Explore, Discover and Challenge at the local, regional and national levels. Additional regional liaisons as appropriate.

Activity: Research and find ways to secure funding through grants, scholarships, donors

Activity: Operations and policies within the organization need to be organized and written for future administrative and operational efficiency and success.

Activity: Create and implement an inventory system for robotics components and equipment at the Kaleidoscope including Rolla Regional Robotics.

Activity: Identify/Create and ways to fund a relevant exhibit on Robotics (possibly a moving exhibit to be displayed at the Kaleidoscope as well as other regional locations)

Activity: Work with Kaleidoscope Technology Task Force to implement similar goals

Objective of the Assignment (Period of Performance: May 10 - August 28, 2021) Serve as a facilitator to support the Action Team in the community, using our program model and existing support network.

Activity: Create and sustain the Technology Advisory Group and other appropriate groups to include regional interest in supporting robotics and technology education for those who have limited or no opportunities (*schools, homeschools, 4-H, Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.*).

Activity: Support by means of program development and the VISTA program model and currently existing support network to promote robotics in the region.

Activity: Help develop and implement systems to train volunteers for the organization

Objective of the Assignment (Period of Performance: May 10 - August 28, 2021) Seek sustainability, funding for new and current programs:

Activity: Create a plan (with executive director) to support and establish financial and student/enrollment sustainability for FIRST robotics program in the region.

Activity: Create/revise white paper for a regional robotics center, identify two organizations who would be interested in supporting this area.

Activity: Identify new grants to help support the budget.

Activity: Create and implement a giving/donation program (annual and building) fund.

Objective of the Assignment (Period of Performance: May 10 - August 28, 2021) Work on summer plan and prepare for the organization:

Activity: Follow up with successful 2017 Summer Robotics Initiative and prepare paperwork for a "ROI SUMMER II" expanding the program from 1000 students to 2000 for the 2021 summer.

Activity: Design, create and fund traveling robotics exhibit components to promote robotics education in the region.

Objective of the Assignment (Period of Performance: May 10 - August 16, 2021) Produce quality reports that can be used on social media, traditional media, as well as compiled for federal reporting requirements which demonstrate that anti-poverty and capacity building work being accomplished during your service term.

Member Activity: Complete monthly reports and annual reports as well as other progress

reports (as assigned).

Member Activity: Become knowledgeable about required and expected reporting. Develop strong tracking tools that align with the outcomes of your VAD and the performance plan to ensure that you are tracking your outcomes.

Member Activity: Research ways to share the impact of your work in the community and develop a brief external engagement plan to be used over the course of your year of service.

Member Activity: Ensure that materials you create during your year include the AmeriCorps VISTA logo and that your service site has the VISTA brand visible within the site.

Member Activity: Support your site and intermediary with elevating stories of impact, playing close attention to events, meetings and interactions with elected officials or any other noteworthy

Member Activity: Participate in, and engage others in, the national days of service and national days of recognition as requested by your site.

Member Activity: Attend and participate in all team building and training events.