



AmeriCorps and Georgia 4-H

University of Georgia
College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences



For the past seven years, AmeriCorps programs have provided over 175 full time members to support the shared goals of improving the lives of Georgians through education. AmeriCorps provides individuals that help Georgia 4-H Agents raise funds and reach youth in low-income counties and across the state.

The Corporation for National and Community Service funds AmeriCorps programs. Georgia 4-H is supported by two AmeriCorps grants - Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) and AmeriCorps State.

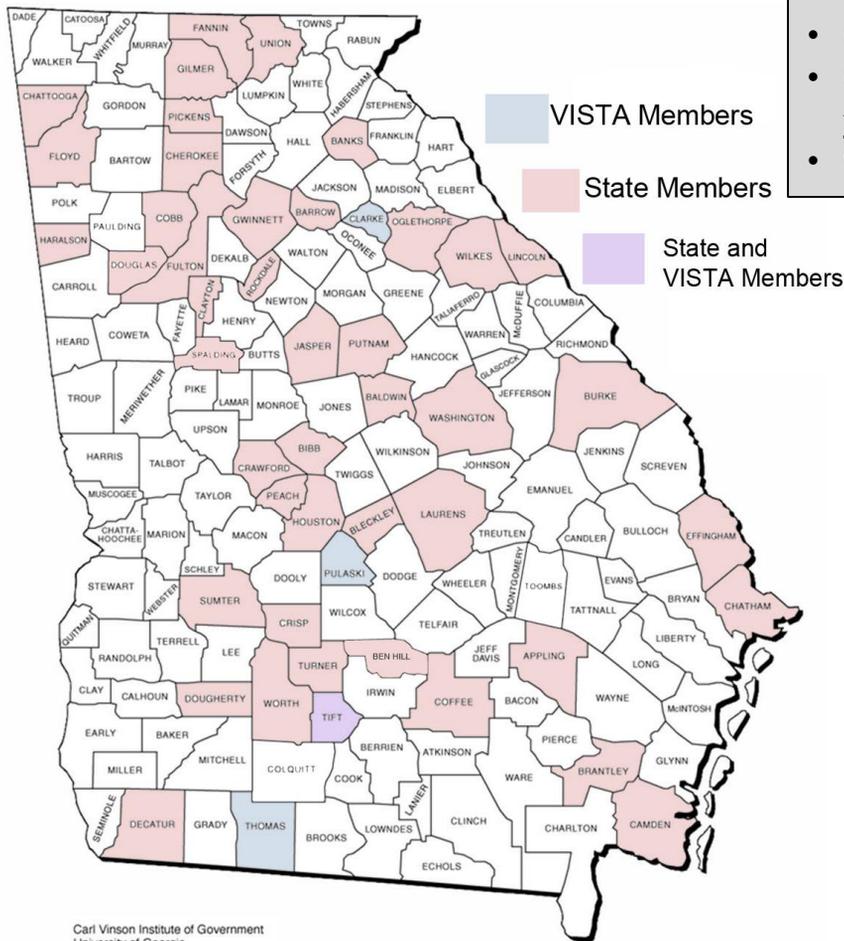
Impact Summary

AmeriCorps VISTA, 2010-2016

- More than \$664,000 raised in cash and non-cash resources
- More than 1,400 marketing materials produced
- Engaged more than 2,800 volunteers

AmeriCorps State, 2012-2016

- 124 full-time member slots filled
- 13 half-time member slots filled
- Over 15,100 hours of service
- Over 132,370 contacts with youth
- 925 volunteers recruited



VISTA members provide indirect service in 5 counties throughout Georgia, working with County Agents and State Staff to increase needed resources.

AmeriCorps State members provide direct service to youth involved in 4-H positive youth development programming in 45 counties in Georgia.

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Georgia 4-H works to create a world in which youth and adults learn, grow, and work together as catalysts for positive change. The mission of Georgia 4-H is to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society. This mission is accomplished, through "hands-on" learning experiences, focused on agricultural and environmental issues, agriculture awareness, leadership, communication skills, foods and nutrition, health, energy conservation, and citizenship.

Georgia 4-H is supported by two AmeriCorps grants - **Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)** and **AmeriCorps State**. VISTA was founded in 1965 as a national service program designed to fight poverty in America. The AmeriCorps State program, founded in 1993, supports a wide range of local service programs that address critical community needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment. Both programs are a part of the Corporation for National and Community Service. Funding for the State program is administered by the Georgia Commission on Service and Volunteerism.



AmeriCorps VISTA & Georgia 4-H

AmeriCorps VISTA members focus on indirect projects that fight poverty through organizational capacity building.

Since 2010, 51 Georgia 4-H AmeriCorps VISTA members have

- raised more than \$601,000 in cash resources,
- developed \$63,000 in non-cash resources
- produced more than 1,400 marketing pieces
- Engaged more than 2,800 volunteers

Because of AmeriCorps, more youth have been able to access Georgia 4-H programs. Research out of Tufts University reports that 4-H youth benefitted more than youth in any other program studied, particularly with regard to making healthy choices and avoiding risky behaviors (Lerner, Lerner, and Colleagues, 2013).



AmeriCorps State & Georgia 4-H

AmeriCorps State members provide direct service to address critical community needs.

Since 2012, 137 Georgia 4-H AmeriCorps State members have reached approximately

- 74,118 students through in-school programming,
- 49,335 students through 4-H Project Achievement, and
- recruited more than 925 new volunteers that have contributed 10,587 hours.

In addition to serving youth, program impact has been demonstrated through the collection and analysis of survey data:

- 4-H Club Meetings - 91% of students demonstrated knowledge of content presented.
- 4-H Project Achievement - 88% of students demonstrated knowledge of best practices in public speaking and 89% indicated confidence in or showed an increase in confidence in public speaking.

The University of Georgia, College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences appreciates the support of the Corporation for National and Community Service and Georgia Commission on Service and Volunteerism and the AmeriCorps VISTA and AmeriCorps State Programs.

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