

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
MPHA'S AMERICORPS *VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA (VISTA)
PROGRAM

The MPHA has a history of resident participation efforts involving working with residents on various committees, contracting with resident council/organizations, and self-sufficiency opportunities including employment.

One of the employment opportunities provided to residents is the MPHA's AMERICORPS * VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA (VISTA) program. A few key points regarding MPHA's AmeriCorps*VISTA program include:

- ✚ MPHA's AmeriCorps*VISTA program is a partnership between MPHA and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNS). CNS administers various Federal volunteer programs including the AmeriCorps*VISTA program.
- ✚ MPHA's VISTA program is *administered by* the Resident Initiatives Department and was first initiated in 1995 as a demonstration project and entailed hiring VISTA Workers-Volunteers to work as Community Workers in designated MPHA high-rises.
- ✚ During the demonstration project, the VISTA Worker-Volunteer positions were funded 100% by the CNS. Since the transition from the "demonstration project", the VISTA Worker-Volunteer positions have been funded through a cost share agreement between MPHA and the CNS; whereby each agency pays %50 of the cost of the stipends of the VISTA Workers.
- ✚ There are currently twelve (12) VISTA Worker-Volunteer positions which compliment the work of various MPHA departments and resident councils; and which includes a VISTA Leader and 11 VISTA Workers working in the following areas: MPHA Resource Room, Glendale Asset Management Project (AMP), Resident Initiatives Department, Heritage Commons at Ponds' Edge, and with the MHRC in various high-rises.
- ✚ VISTA Workers and the MPHA VISTA Program are an essential part of MPHA's accomplishing its mission.

For more information about MPHA's VISTA Program, please contact the Resident Initiatives Department at 612/344-2210. More information regarding the Corporation for National and Community Service/AmeriCorps*VISTA programs can be obtained via the internet at <http://www.mncns.org>.