

Membership Orientation

WE BELIEVE
HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT



Housing Action Illinois
A stronger Illinois begins at home

March 5, 2024

Agenda

Introductions

(Name, Organization, City, Why you joined the webinar on the chat)

Who we are?

Program Overview

Accomplishments 2023 & Agenda 2024

Membership Benefits

Q & A



Who We Are

- For over 35 years, Housing Action Illinois has led systemic change to create an Illinois where everyone has a affordable, stable, accessible place to call home.
- Statewide Coalition with 180+ members across the state
- We are the only statewide coalition in Illinois that is working to address housing needs from homelessness to homeownership



Meet Our Staff



Foluke Akanni
Housing Policy Organizer



Wanda Collins
Capacity Building Specialist



Bibian Cristino
Capacity Building Specialist



Marissa Diekhoff
National Service Program Associate



Katie Ellis,
Communications & Outreach AmeriCorps VISTA



Maria Flores
Development Coordinator



Kristin Ginger
Manager of Communications & Development



Willie Heineke
National Service Program Manager



Sharon Legenza
Executive Director



James Miller
Capacity Building Associate



Jennifer Pallas
Capacity Building Specialist



Bob Palmer
Policy Director



Mare Ralph
Housing Policy Organizer



Petra Rodríguez Everson
National Service Program Associate

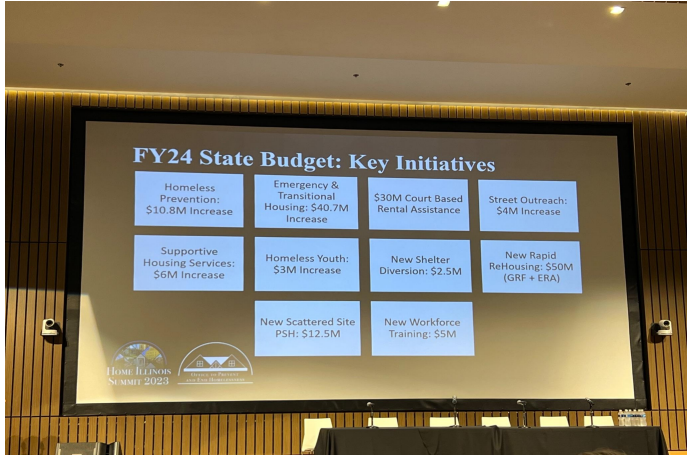
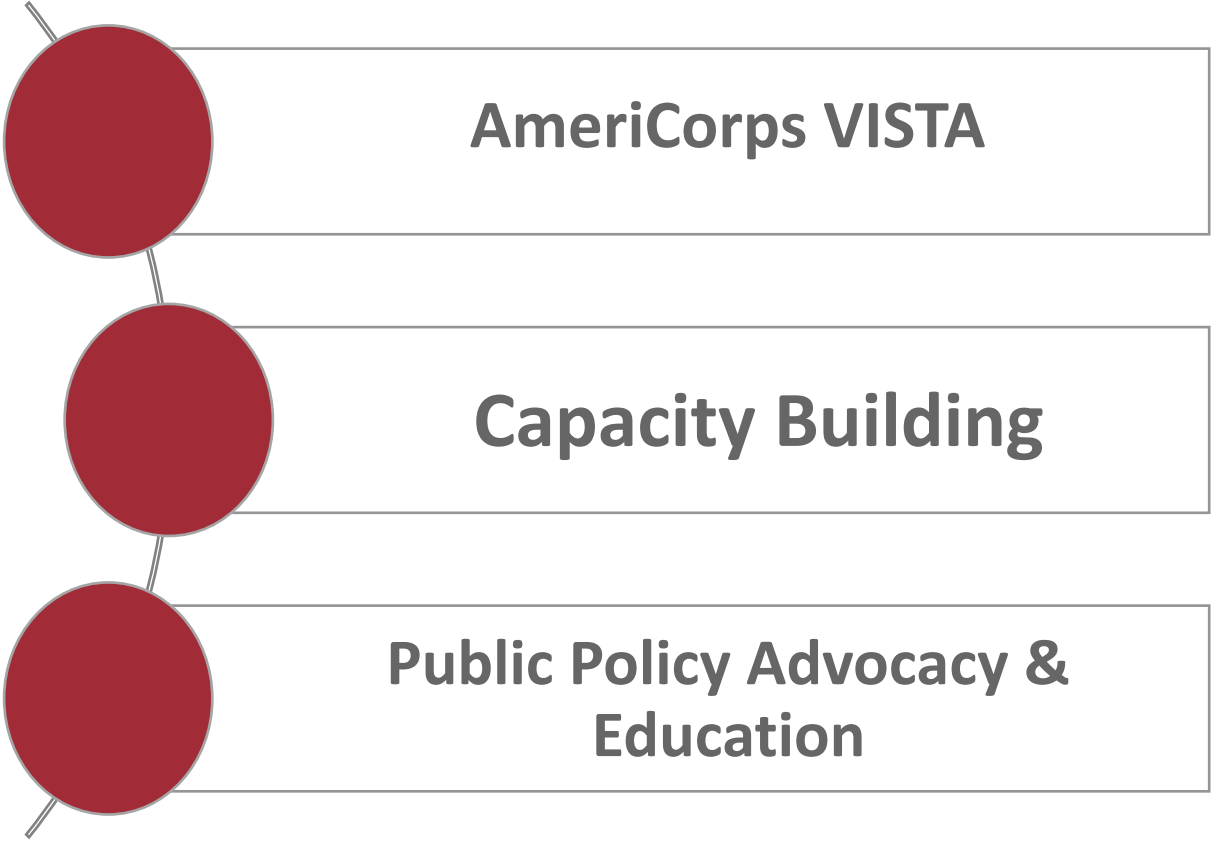


Dani Sanchez
AmeriCorps VISTA Leader



David Young
Director of Capacity Building

Programs Overview



Program Overview

AmeriCorps VISTA

Connect community organizations to AmeriCorps members to address local challenges with local solutions. VISTAs take on various roles that help build capacity and increase resources for non profit organizations

Capacity Building

Build capacity for housing counseling agencies, developers, non profits through individualized coaching and technical assistance, trainings and pass-through funding



Policy Advocacy & Education

We mobilize our members to advocate for policies that help end homelessness and create affordable housing. We build awareness and shift narratives by sharing information and real life experiences with policymakers, service providers and the media

Recent Accomplishments

AmeriCorps VISTA: 2022 - 2023 Program Year

**HOUSING ACTION AMERICORPS NETWORK
2022-2023 PROGRAM OUTCOMES**




AmeriCorps VISTA Members

Serving August 2022-August 2023

Full-Year AmeriCorps Members: 10
Host Organizations: 9

Expanding Housing Opportunities

Housing Units Developed/Repaired: **5,291**
People Receiving Housing Services: **12,054**




Each Figure = 100 People

"[My AmeriCorps service] helped me grow professionally and personally. I have more skills and connections than before, and I feel more confident in myself and my networking skills."
- AmeriCorps Alumni

Building Organizational Capacity

New & Enhanced Systems: **18**
Volunteers Recruited & Managed: **210**
Volunteer Hours: **423**

Total Raised: **\$170,238**




\$60,000 In-Kind Funds
\$5,288 Cash Funds
\$104,950 Grant Funds

Developing New Leaders

Life After Service Placement Rate: **90%**

- Hired by Host Site: **3**
- Hired by Nonprofit: **1**
- Enrolled in Graduate School: **1**
- Extended/Re-Enrolled in AmeriCorps: **4**
- Interviewing for Nonprofit Jobs: **1**



Recent Accomplishments

AmeriCorps VISTA: 2023 Recruitment Success

Recruitment History							
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Recruitment Rate	91%	83%	65%	67%	66%	47%	79%
Applicants Per Position	8.9	6.8	6.7	8.6	6.5	3.9	3.7

Recent Accomplishments

AmeriCorps VISTA: 2023 - 2024 Program Year

Retention & Management – Key Performance Indicators

	Program History	23 – 24 PY Total Outcomes	23 – 24 Housing Counseling Corps
Completion & Retention	78%	88%	100%
Early Exit	22%	12%	0%

Recent Accomplishments



Policy Advocacy & Education

- Affordable Housing Omnibus (HB 2621)
 - Created a COVID Affordable Housing Grant Program to support the construction and rehabilitation of affordable multifamily rental housing
 - Established a property tax assessment incentive program to encourage owners of multifamily buildings with 7 or more units to invest in their properties and keep rents affordable.
 - Strengthening the Affordable Housing Planning and Appeal Act (AHPP)
- Illinois added Source of Income as a protected class in the IL Human Rights Acts
- Historical Investments in Ending Homelessness in the State Budget with a new \$200.3 millions in Home Illinois budget line item
- Increased ARAP Funding for Gap Financing of Affordable Rental Housing

Recent Accomplishments

Capacity Building: HUD Intermediary

IN FY23

our affiliates helped



12,321 households under their housing options



5,018

households improve their housing situation



1,304

households purchase their first home



116

households avoid eviction



7,909

households create a healthy budget



275

households facing homelessness find housing



1,001

households prevent or resolve a mortgage default

Housing Action Illinois FY 2023 Intermediary Affiliate Data

Recent Accomplishments

Capacity Building: Nationwide Trainings for Housing Counseling

In 2023, our trainings produced

An average of

89%

of training participants who indicated that they could apply the skills and knowledge learned from training into their organization.



An average of

91%

of training participants who said our trainings allowed them to better understand the materials.

In 2023, we hosted over 750 training participants. To view our upcoming trainings, please visit www.housingactionil.org/trainings.

Recent Accomplishments

2023 Housing Counselor Spotlights



A New Start as a Housing Counselor

Verdene Sims (*pictured left*) passed the HUD Housing Counselor Certification Exam after attending one of Housing Action's Housing Counseling Career Path sessions. She shares advice to those looking to take the HUD certification exam. [Read it here »](#)

Educating Homeowners & Renters in Spanish

Monica Marquez (*pictured right*), a housing counselor at Erie Neighborhood House, where she is dedicated to providing services to Spanish-speaking clients. She builds relationships with her clients and values each success story with each person. [Read it here »](#)



Our 2024 Agenda

AmeriCorps VISTA

- **Improve Retention, Reporting, and Member Experience:** maximize impact for communities, member organizations, and the AmeriCorps members themselves that are currently in service.
- **Launch Green Homes Corps Initiative:** place AmeriCorps members at organizations in Central and Southern, IL to focus on energy efficiency solutions for low- to moderate-income communities.

Capacity Building

- **Partnerships for Future Homeowners in Decatur:** The goal of this project is to increase the amount of affordable homes available in Decatur and make homeownership more accessible to more people.
- **My Path to Home:** The goal is to help clients connect to counseling resources, act as referral source for agencies, automate data entry.

Policy Advocacy & Education

- Increase state funding in the HOME Illinois Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness by \$85 million
- Pass the Community Safety Through Stable Homes Act (HB 5314, SB 3680)
- Support Strong Implementation of The Illinois Community Reinforcement Act scheduled to be finalized in mid 2024

Membership Benefits

Discounts for training sessions and our annual Housing Matters Conference

One on one guidance from our housing counseling experts

Access to valuable capacity building resources such as the eligibility to host an AmeriCorp VISTA

Participate in networking opportunities with peers

Membership highlight and spotlight of your work

Share job, resources and events in our newsletter

Being part of our coalition, letting your voice be heard, advocating for for affordable, safe and accessible housing



Join Us

Regular Trainings - Virtual

housingactionil.org/events

Annual Toast to Housing Justice

6 - 8 pm on **April 18, 2024** at Catalyst Ranch in Chicago
Tickets are \$40 and include entry, pizza, and beer

housingactionil.org/events/annual-toast-to-housing-justice/

2024 Housing Matters Conference

Save the Date: **October 17-18, 2024** in Bloomington, IL



Thank You!

35+ YEARS

*of working with our coalition to create an Illinois
where everyone has a good, stable home.*



Housing Action Illinois

A stronger Illinois begins at home