



WINNEFOX LIBRARY SYSTEM

106 Washington Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901-4985
phone (920) 236-5220 fax (920) 236-5228
www.winnefox.org

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 12, 2009
TO: Winnefox Library System Board of Trustees
FROM: Jeff Gilderson-Duwe
RE:

The DPI has made available 10 VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) placements to Wisconsin public libraries in the fall of 2009. Target areas for this grant include: job training, employment assistance, access to benefits for the unemployed, financial literacy, G.E.D. assistance. VISTAs are paid and supported by a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The Marquette County Libraries, working through Winnefox, applied for and received one VISTA placement. The VISTA will:

- Hold information-gathering sessions with participation by members of other service-providers in each community to assess needs and current services.
- Coordinate efforts by other agencies to provide services throughout the county.
Agencies would include:
 - Educational institutions, including public schools, MATC, and UW-Extension.
- Plan and schedule programs on job hunting and job skills at a variety of times and locations in the county.
- Plan and schedule programs on personal finance at a variety of times and locations in the county.
- Plan and schedule programs with a career counselor who can assist people in assessing their employment and educational options, including options such as: GED prep, English as a second language tutoring, technical schools, and college/university. The VISTA would also assist people in comparing possible schools or service providers.

The VISTA will start on Monday 24 August and will be in place for one year. Montello public Library will provide workspace for the VISTA. To support this grant, Winnefox will provide overall supervision, a laptop, cell phone, mileage, and some training funds. The estimated cost will be about \$5,000.