Title:
VISTA Volunteer to Facilitate Community Development and EWU Engagement in the East Central Neighborhood

Category:
Community Engagement Proposal

Primary Project Lead:
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10/30/2007
VISTA Volunteer to Facilitate Community Development and EWU Engagement in the East Central Neighborhood

Project Summary:
The purpose of this proposal is to partially support a Washington Campus Compact (WACC) VISTA volunteer to work to support the coordination of EWU community service-learning classes to serve the neighborhood through the East Central Neighborhood Council/Steering Committee and the East Central Community Organization. ECCO operates a full neighborhood community center, with many opportunities for expanded community service-learning and EWU student volunteer programs and services. East Central is Spokane’s most racially diverse neighborhood, with people of color representing 19.8% of the neighborhood population in the 2000 U.S. Census versus 11.5% citywide. The neighborhood also contains a wide spectrum of ages, with higher proportions of both the elderly (10.8%) and people younger than 18 (27.7%) than the city as a whole.

EWU’s strategic plan recognized community service-learning and diversity as two critical goals for the University. EWU has been an active partner in Washington Campus Compact (WACC) activities for many years, and has utilized WACC staff, planning and organizational sessions, and conferences to develop Community Service-Learning across the campus.

These efforts have led to recognition that EWU needs to provide strong support for Community Service-Learning across the institution. College of Business and Public Administration (CBPA) programs have developed long-range partnerships with community-based organizations serving diverse and underserved communities in the region. Building on successful initiatives, this request for a VISTA volunteer would support on-going Community Service-Learning and community engagement efforts to address poverty in diverse communities.
3. Detailed Proposal

Statement of Issue or Problem

The East Central neighborhood is one of Spokane’s most diverse, and unfortunately also one of its poorest. Three prominent groups in the neighborhood working to address this problem are the East Central Community Organization (ECCO), the East Spokane Business Association (ESBA), and the East Central Neighborhood Council and Steering Committee. Since 2002, these organizations have been part of the East Central Neighborhood Partnership, joining with EWU and the Community Colleges of Spokane to form a community development coalition strengthened by each of its members. Also in 2002, EWU’s Board of Trustees embarked on the Diversity Initiative. Throughout its existence, the East Central Neighborhood Partnership has lived up to the Diversity Initiative’s ideals of “the use of open communication venues, a participative approach, activities that are results-oriented, project-based, civil, equitable, fiscally responsible, assessed and accountable.”

The VISTA volunteer will coordinate and promote service-learning classes and class projects in a variety of EWU academic departments in both Cheney and Spokane including Africana Education, American Indian Studies, Business, Chicano Education, Public Administration, Urban & Regional Planning, and others.

Project Objectives

The issues affecting diverse neighborhoods will be addressed through partnerships with community-based organizations to jointly plan, develop, expand and implement existing programs which utilize EWU resources and community service-learning classes. The East Central Neighborhood Partnership Center was established in 2002 to eliminate poverty in the neighborhood through a partnership of the Community Colleges of Spokane and EWU, along with six community-based organizations. The goals were: 1) job training for residents; 2) job creation and retention through support for businesses; and 3) completion and implementation of a neighborhood plan. All goals were met through funding from the HUD Community Outreach Partnership Center. The higher education institutions used community service-learning and interns to carry out this program, and signed a ten-year commitment to support neighborhood revitalization in 2002. This VISTA program would
continue those initiatives and expand the role of community service-learning through EWU and the community-based organizations.

The VISTA volunteer will coordinate the university’s service-learning efforts with important off-campus, community-based efforts, specifically in the East Central neighborhood. This connection is intended to enhance the experience, awareness, and capabilities of EWU faculty, staff, and students working in diverse communities. The VISTA volunteer will provide continued support and coordination of ECCO, ESBA, and East Central Steering Committee community development projects, enhancing their effectiveness in alleviating poverty in the diverse East Central neighborhood. The work of a VISTA volunteer will bring about recognition and support of the EWU-East Central partnership by outside organizations including the national VISTA organization, the Washington Campus Compact, and the City of Spokane Community Development Department.

Finally, the continued success of the university-neighborhood partnership directly addresses EWU’s goals of diversity and community engagement. This program represents successful long-term relationships within the College of Business and Public Administration which serve as “models” across campus for expanded Community Service-Learning. The proposed “Center for Community Engagement” is being developed within the University to meet service learning and diversity goals of the institution. That effort will further institutionalize service-learning at EWU and will also be supported by this VISTA position.

**Research Methodology**

The Corporation for Public Service (which runs the VISTA program), as well as the Washington Campus Compact (the primary sponsor of the program) have a number of guidelines for the VISTA volunteer position and supervising organization. The Washington Campus Compact (WACC) has specific goals for its VISTA program, which coincide with the objectives of the Community Engagement Diversity Grants. Specifically, the WACC VISTA program aims to mobilize service-learners to serve poverty-affected populations, develop and sustain campus/community partnerships, and develop service-learning projects within service-learning courses that address poverty issues. These objectives can all be directly addressed by enhancing EWU participation in the East Central Neighborhood Partnership.
The Project would complete the following activities:

1) Involve the neighborhood and EWU faculty/staff in recruitment and selection of the VISTA Volunteer, along with meeting training requirements under Washington Campus Compact. Washington Campus Compact will provide a total funding package of over $19,000 to support a full-time volunteer, which EWU and the neighborhood are required to provide a $6,000 housing allowance as matching funds. Washington Campus Compact requires VISTA Volunteer and EWU faculty/staff training and reporting on a monthly basis.
   a. Finalize Job Description with community
   b. Advertise VISTA volunteer position
   c. Review applicants and hire
   d. Attend pre-service training for VISTA
   e. complete all reporting under Washington Campus Compact.

2) Establish field relationships through the East Central Neighborhood Partnership for the VISTA Volunteer to work under the direction of Dr. Winchell and Chris Green in partnership with community based organizations.
   a. Attend regular meetings of these organizations: ECCO, East Central Business Association, East Central Neighborhood Council, others as determined
   b. Identify needs and opportunities for volunteers in the neighborhood
   c. Coordinate relations between EWU faculty, students and staff and East Central organizations
   d. Provide tours and background materials and resources to EWU faculty and students interested in projects
   e. Provide support to projects
   f. Provide assessment, feedback, progress and final reports on projects

3) Meet with EWU students, faculty and staff to promote Community Service Learning and volunteer projects in the E. Central Neighborhood
a. Prepare an orientation to East Central Neighborhood Community Service Projects each Quarter—speakers Winchell, Rhodes, neighborhood organizations

b. Prepare neighborhood tours/orientation for EWU faculty, students, classes
c. Create a liaison between neighborhood organizations and faculty/students
d. Report activities in campus newspaper and presentations

4) Maintain a web-based description of the program, projects, and impacts.

Explanation of the Role and Expertise of Participants

EWU has established a neighborhood manual for work in the East Central neighborhood, as well as extensive published plans and resources from six years of work within the East Central Neighborhood. Dr. Dick Winchell has been coordinator/administrator of the NW East Central Partnership Center, and has developed guides to the East Central Neighborhood and conducted workshops and seminars to support faculty and students who have worked on the East Central Neighborhood Project through Community Service-learning.

Dr. Rex Fuller, and other CBPA and EWU faculty and staff would provide training and supervision of the VISTA volunteer. Dr. Winchell will be responsible for a two-day orientation to the neighborhood and to tribal governments, and work with community-based organizations engage in work with the VISTA volunteer. He will meet weekly with all staff, and directly supervise VISTA volunteer.

As Community Development Neighborhood Coordinator for the East Central Neighborhood, MURP graduate student Chris Green will assist the VISTA volunteer in work with the East Central Neighborhood Council/Steering Committee, coordinate projects between the ECNC/SC, ECCO, and ESBA, and provide the VISTA volunteer an orientation to current conditions in the East Central neighborhood. Mr. Green also has experience in neighborhood-based community development projects through coursework and extracurricular involvement at EWU and Occidental College in Los Angeles, California.

At present the East Central Neighborhood Partnership has monthly meetings with the East Central Neighborhood Council, and weekly meetings with the East Spokane Business Association.
Dissemination Plan

Dr. Winchell has extensive publication and presentation success in documenting community service-learning, planning and business development, and pedagogy of field-based learning and community service-learning. Dr. Winchell has regularly presented work on the East Central Neighborhood Partnership Center at Washington Campus Compact conferences over the past six years, and has worked to develop and expand community service-learning across the region and on the EWU campus.

A key aspect of this project is to build on existing successful Community Service-Learning partnerships to create an effective EWU university-wide service learning program. This would be carried out through the creation of a Center for Community Engagement, based in Spokane, to target diverse communities and meet the goal for EWU to become a recognized “engaged community.”
**Timetable – November 30, 2007 – November 29, 2008**

**WORK SCHEDULE**

The Project would complete the following activities:

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4. Detailed Budget and Brief Rationale

Itemized Expenses

Matching funds required for VISTA volunteer $3,000.00
Travel (VISTA supervisors to required WACC Dialogue on Democracy event in Seattle, WA) $500.00

Total grant request $3,500.00

The Washington Campus Compact provides $6,000 toward funding of full-time VISTA members, but this leaves $6,000 in matching funds required to support the position. By reducing the matching funds required of partner organizations in East Central from $6,000 to $3,000, this grant makes providing the remaining matching funds feasible within the small budgets of the community-based groups involved.

Dr. Dick Winchell and Mr. Chris Green would attend the WACC Dialogue on Democracy event on November 14, 2007 in Seattle. Attendance at this event is required prerequisite to receiving WACC funds for a VISTA volunteer.

5. Name and Contact Information of EWU Reference
Dr. Fred Hurand, FAICP, Professor and Chair, Department of Urban Planning, Public and Health Administration. fhurand@ewu.edu

6. Curriculum Vitae (2 pages), Dr. Dick Winchell
-VITA-

DICK G. WINCHELL

ADDRESS:
Work: Department of Urban Planning, Public and Health Administration, Eastern Washington University, 668 N. Riverpoint Blvd., Suite A, Spokane, WA  99202.
Phone: (509) 358-2214. FAX: (509)358-2267. e-mail: dwinchell@ewu.edu
Home: 804 West 27th Avenue, Spokane, WA.  99203
Phone: (509) 624-5665.

FAMILY: Married, two children ages 25 and 23.

EDUCATION:
PH.D. Geography, Arizona State University, Tempe, Az. 12/82. Dissertation: “Space and Place of the Yavapai.”

MURP Master of Urban and Regional Planning-Community Development, University of Colorado-Denver Center, Denver, Co. 12/72.


PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION:

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
Professor, Urban and Regional Planning, Eastern Washington University, Spokane, WA 9/92-date.
Chair, Department of Urban Planning, Public and Health Administration, Eastern Washington University, Spokane, WA. 1/98-9/2003.
Chair, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Eastern Washington University, Spokane, WA 9/97-12/97.
Associate Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Eastern Washington University, Spokane/Cheney, WA. 9/86-9/92.
Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, West Georgia College, Carrollton, GA. 9/82-6/86.
Planning Consultant, Phoenix, AZ., 7/81-9/82.
Director, Native American Public Administration Program, Center for Public Affairs, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ., 12/79-7/81.
Planning Director, Fort McDowell Yavapai Indian Community, Fort McDowell, AZ. 12/75-12/79.
Planner, Schoneberger, Straub, Florence and Associates, Architects, Phoenix, AZ. 3/75-II/75.
Associate Planner, Long Range Planning Department, Scottsdale, AZ. 1/74-3/75.
Planning Aide, Current and Advanced Planning, Huntington Beach, CA., 1/73-1/74.

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS (Visiting Adjunct Faculty):
Fulbright Scholar, German Studies Summer Seminar, Urban Planning in Germany,6/2001.
Innsbruck International Summer School, University of New Orleans/University of Innsbruck, Summer, 1999;
Master of Public Administration Program, Department of Political Science, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ. 7/81-12/81; 8/85-9/85;
Center for Public Affairs, Arizona State University, Tempe, Az. 8/85;
Master of Liberal Arts Program, Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage, AK. 6/85-8/85.
Dick G. Winchell—Academic Publications


English Language Editor for the Translation from German: Frantz, Klaus. 1999. *Indian reservations in the United States: Territory, sovereignty and socio-economic change*. Chicago, Ill.: University of Chicago Press.