



**CONSERVATION
LEGACY**



Stewards Individual Placements

A Program of Conservation
Legacy

*Reclaiming Communities with
Innovative Partnerships*

The background of the slide is a photograph of a stream. On the left side, there is a fence made of vertical, rusty metal sheets. The water in the stream is brown and murky, reflecting the surrounding environment. The right side of the image is partially obscured by a large, semi-transparent white circle that contains the text.

Background

- Formed in 2002, with an innovative partnership with OSMRE to support clean-up from AMD in rural mining communities.
- The idea was to place college graduates with new or start-up watershed groups to build capacity, promote environmental stewardship, create economic development, and grow professionally through their service.
- The program started in coal country in Appalachia; in 2009 it expanded to the hardrock mining communities, impacting 10 total states!



Why this works

Small, rural communities have lots of drive and ambition, but need resources and human capacity to get work done

VISTAs are assigned to communities to address the capacity issues, bring awareness and celebrate culture.

VISTAs connect local, state and federal agencies to their work to accomplish their goals



Environmental Education



Capacity Building





20 Years of National Service

The Stewards VISTA Program is celebrating 20 years of serving local communities nationwide. Check out our accomplishments.



1200

VISTA's placed at partner organizations

\$24,000,000

Dollar amount of grants secured for local communities

Volunteers recruited and/or worked with

100,000

942,701

Total hours served by volunteers



3.2M

Acres of land improved by volunteers through VISTA organized events

In-kind resources generated for local communities

17M

3.4M

People supported, encouraged and engaged through VISTA programs



2023 Impact Numbers

Our 2023 accomplishments

A testament to the OSMRE
Members (VISTA, AC, Non AC)
and community partnerships




Stewards OSMRE members have recruited 411 community volunteers engaging 2,197 community members who completed a combined 4,122 hours of service.





529 trees/seedlings planted on Abandoned Mine Lands or Public Lands



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- 519 water samples collected, monitoring sites, waterways maintained
 - 122 community members trained in water quality monitoring

We ensure our members gain from their experiences by assisting in various support services and speaking engagements

Support including:

Federal resume writing/resume workshops

Grant writing

Community Asset Map training

GIS data usage

Time management



How and Why we can work together

- We engage with federal and state agencies at their requests to utilize service members for direct work;
- We carry forward and support the mission of the federal/state agency
- We work with community stakeholders to apply and host a service member
- We look for mission alignment in the work from the community
- We seek funding on our sites' behalf with federal and state agencies to support the cost of hosting a member







Thank You

www.stewardslegacy.org