

# NEWSLETTER



**MAVA** MINNESOTA ALLIANCE FOR  
VOLUNTEER ADVANCEMENT



**AmeriCorps**

## Editor's Note by MAVA VISTA, Jonathan Grinde

Welcome to September! School is starting up again, the Minnesota State Fair is ongoing, and VISTAs are coming and going. At the end of August, we said farewell to Lindsey (FFEN) and NorKhadijah (Anoka Tech) — they were highlighted in the last volume, in case you missed it, go and check them out. This week we welcomed Alli Mans (Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity). She is highlighted below.

In addition to learning about our newest VISTA, you can get to know a little more about Julie, our VISTA at Planned Parenthood, and Monique, the site supervisor at CAPI USA. The staff highlight features Holly Daniels, MAVA's wonderful Greater Minnesota Program Manager. Finally, there are updates about the new VISTA living allowance and a posting for the VISTA Leader position at MAVA on the second page. Happy Reading!

## Welcome New VISTA

Alli Mans graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN in May 2022. She majored in Environmental and Sustainability Studies and minored in Art & Design and Religion. Alli will be serving as the Volunteer Engagement Associate for Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity in Moorhead.

Throughout her years at Concordia, she participated in and led several week-long HFH trips and served on the board as a spring break coordinator. Alli thoroughly enjoyed her experience working with HFH and wanted to continue collaborating with them in her community after graduation. She is excited to work with such an impactful organization and create meaningful connections within the community.



## Coming up in September w/MAVA

- 9/12 - Voices of Service - Virtual (FREE)
- 9/14 - District Council Meeting - NE Region
- 9/14 - Volunteer Voice Committee Meeting (Zoom)
- 9/22 - Addressing Conflict Resolution to Preserve Positive Volunteer Engagement
- 9/28 - Getting the Most Out of YOUR MAVA Membership
- 9/29 - Voices of Service - Virtual (FREE)

# VISTA/Supervisor Highlight

**Name:** Monique Hernandez

**Site:** CAPI USA

**Fun Facts:** I'm in a rock and roll community choir, I love record shopping, and I love live music.

**Favorite Place:**

Anywhere my friends or family are.

**Media:** Station Eleven by Emily St. John Mandel

**Money no object:** Open a book/record shop.

**Fully Paid Trip:** Scotland.

**Name:** Julie Risser

**Site:** Planned Parenthood of North Central States

**Fun Facts:** I like writing, love dogs, and enjoy cooking when I have all the ingredients

**Favorite Place:** Tulum

**Media:** not sure

**Money no object:** provide healthcare access to all

**Fully Paid Trip:** Monte Carlo



Fill out the "highlight" form here:  
<https://forms.gle/xqQAp5WjcNMAiSBH7>



## Living Allowance Increase

"Each year, AmeriCorps VISTA conducts a review of the living allowance to ensure compliance with our governing legislation. The review factors in the Health and Human Services poverty guidelines, as well as county-by-county cost of living data... As part of this year's living allowance review, AmeriCorps VISTA also accounted for the current 40-year historic high rate of inflation. As such, all members will receive at least a 7% living allowance increase... This year's living allowance increase will go into effect on August 14. In service, Carly Bruder, Acting Director, AmeriCorps VISTA" -Republished from AmeriCorps communication  
For more information go to [ameriCorps.gov](https://ameriCorps.gov)

### Be an Important Part of the MAVA Team as the 2022/2023 AmeriCorps VISTA Leader!

Help us expand the MAVA VISTA program to provide more services across Minnesota! The Minnesota Alliance for Volunteer Advancement (MAVA) is recruiting a VISTA Leader for the 2022/2023 AmeriCorps VISTA Service Year! Maximize your leadership skills, mentoring, training, and inspiring service members, while you receive your certification in volunteer leadership, learn about the evolving field of volunteer engagement, network with local and national leaders in the field, and contribute your creativity to a small, fun nonprofit!

MAVA offers professional development opportunities, and a monthly rental and phone stipend (phone stipend starts in January 2023). We welcome applicants from Minnesota and beyond! AmeriCorps offers a relocation travel allowance and a settling-in allowance for any approved applicant who is moving more than 50 miles from their home of record. Contact Maureen Bourgeois ([mbourgeois@mavanetwork.org](mailto:mbourgeois@mavanetwork.org)) with any questions.

## MAVA Staff Highlight

Holly Daniels is MAVA's Greater Minnesota Program Manager at MAVA. She connects with people who lead volunteers all over Minnesota, and ensures they can access MAVA's unparalleled resources, like training and research.

Holly grew up in "Greater Minnesota," in Warren, MN (near Grand Forks) and got a journalism degree from MSU-Moorhead. And then later she moved to Spokane, WA to get an MFA in Creative Nonfiction Writing. Holly loves getting to write for grants and for MAVA articles -- she enjoys talking to people and writing about their amazing ideas for recruiting, retaining, and appreciating volunteers!

Also, we are all stronger when we collaborate! Holly enjoys getting to lead MAVA's District Council meetings -- virtual gatherings to support volunteer engagement leaders. The hope is that people leave District Council meetings feeling connection, support, and energy to go back to their important work! We hope you stop by a future District Council meeting. All are welcome, regardless of your location! And if you work with volunteers, Holly would love to meet with you -- find a time that works well for you at her calendly link: <https://calendly.com/hollymava>

