



Anthropology and AmeriCorps VISTA

About AmeriCorps VISTA:

- VISTA → Volunteers in Service to America
- Indirect service
- One-year service term with non-profit or public agency
- Capacity building and sustainability
- Focus on anti-poverty programs
- Domestic companion to the Peace Corps
- Founded in 1965 as part of LBJ's Great Society

What I do:

- I'm a full-time volunteer!
- Community Outreach for NewDay Services Fatherhood EFFECT
- Create and distribute program marketing materials
- Build and maintain a database of community resources

About Fatherhood EFFECT:

- Intervene with at-risk families
- Provide parenting education and concrete services to fathers
- Mentorship and emotional skills
- Co-parenting and divorce sanity
- Career and financial guidance



How I use anthropology:

- *Gathering and analyzing* feedback from program participants
- *Finding* compelling ways to share participants' stories
- *Tailor* outreach efforts to speak more effectively
- *Understanding* needs of program participants to scout the best resources for them
- *Evaluate* internal practices to improve program sustainability

Just an undergrad? That's ok!

Your skills are dynamic and highly marketable!

- Richly descriptive and compelling style of writing
- Experience parsing large sets of text-heavy data
- Project management skills
- Ability to work on a deadline
- Adaptability across a wide array of social situations
- Not to mention all the skills you've acquired elsewhere!

Any organization would be lucky to have you--you just have to show them how anthropology serves them in ways they didn't necessarily expect.

Anthropology Matters!

- Holism and cultural relativity → Centering people and experiences
- My anthropology skills help me serve and connect with families in crisis.
- Use your powers for good!

