

# A sneak peek just for you!

Our 2015 annual report is almost ready to print. Here's a first look at what you helped us accomplish during the last year!

View the full version of our [annual report](#) draft.



## GO FURTHER TOGETHER

With partners by our side at home and across the nation, we are paving the way for more literate communities. See our [full report](#) to learn about how...

- we brought the **Library and Literacy Leadership Institute** to North Dakota
- we saw **Northstar Digital Literacy Project** expand to 28 states and Canada
- we were sought by **FedEx Ground** to pilot workplace English classes

## We inspired a national policy change for AmeriCorps VISTA members

In fall 2014, we penned a letter to the leaders of AmeriCorps VISTA asking for a policy change: allow VISTA members to hold part-time employment on top of their full-time service.

By spring 2015, we learned that our letter (signed by 10 other local VISTA sponsor sites who agreed) inspired the change. VISTA members across the country can now hold second jobs—a key to recruiting VISTAs with a desire to serve but an economic need to supplement their small living allowance.

[Read the full letter.](#)



**KELSIE,**  
VISTA MEMBER

"Financially, it would not have been possible for me to serve without holding a second job. I have diabetes, so I feel safe knowing I have enough income for healthy food and medical expenses. I'm incredibly grateful that this change has been made. VISTA is an amazing opportunity to gain experience and give back to the community I call home."

---

## ACHIEVETOGETHER

Here's what was accomplished thanks to you + 48 staff members + 694 volunteers + 91 VISTA members + 18 board members + 942 donors.

# 2,094

kids received tutoring and enrichment in our [Summer Reads](#) program, and 85% of those tested maintained or improved their sight word mastery.

# 9/10

literacy programs say volunteers trained by us are more effective than those with no [training](#).

# 96%

of [parents](#) took steps (such as scheduled reading time) to make their home more literacy-rich.

# 4/5

[hotline](#) callers surveyed took the next step and contacted a school to start basic skills classes, like GED prep or English.

# 6,697

hours of distance learning were logged by students at our six [Open Door Learning Center](#) sites. Adults with 10+ hours were 50% more likely to make a level gain.

Check out [more accomplishments](#) from all nine programs!

[Donate Today!](#)

Stay Connected



700 Raymond Avenue, Suite 180, St. Paul, MN 55114