



Denis Law Mayor

# Proclamation

*Whereas*, AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps VISTA, and Senior Corps participants serve in more than 50,000 locations across the country to address challenges facing our communities; and

*Whereas*, national service invests in community-based solutions and strengthens the impact and influence of historically disenfranchised communities; and

*Whereas*, national service expands economic opportunity by creating more sustainable, resilient communities and providing education and career skills to those who serve; and

*Whereas*, the city's Emergency Management division has had a total of six AmeriCorps volunteers since 2008, addressing emergency preparedness and community self-sufficiency; and

*Whereas*, the city's Community Services department has had a total of 26 AmeriCorps VISTA summer volunteers since 2013 as part of the United Way of King County's Free Summer Meals Program; and

*Whereas*, the city's Community and Economic Development department has had four AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers since May 2018 (including at the City, Renton Housing Authority, Renton School District, and Neighborhood House) working on the Sunset Area Transformation Plan and/or the Renton Innovation Zone Partnership; and

*Whereas*, with their commitment to our community and dedication to the wellbeing of others, our city's AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers demonstrate the best of Renton's spirit; and

*Whereas*, the City of Renton wishes to recognize the importance of national service and to recognize and honor the past and present AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers who have served the greater Renton community;

*Now, therefore*, I, Denis Law, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim April 2, 2019, to be

## *National Service Recognition Day*

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all citizens to join me in this special observance.

*In witness whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 25th day of March, 2019.

Denis Law, Mayor  
City of Renton, Washington





## **Renton Sunset Area Transformation Plan & Renton Innovation Zone AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteers (2018/2019)**

**Hannah Bahnmitter – City of Renton**

VISTA Sunset Area Community Development Specialist

**MyKa’La Alexander – Renton School District**

VISTA Early Learning & After School Development Specialist

**Stephanie Snyder – Neighborhood House**

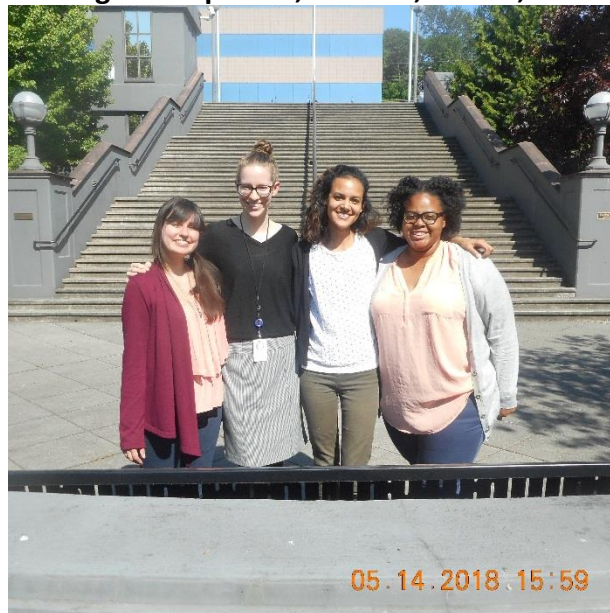
VISTA Sunset Multi-Service Center Development Specialist

**Rachel Butler – Renton Housing Authority**

VISTA Sunset Area Community Outreach and Service Coordinator

**Photo from First Day of AmeriCorps VISTA Service (5/14/2018)**

**(Left to right: Stephanie, Hannah, Rachel, and MyKa’La)**



## **Examples of our Current AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteers' Accomplishments:**

1. Organized and supported multiple community engagement activities in the Sunset neighborhood, including activities for historically underserved communities.
2. Prospected, researched, wrote, and received a \$20,000 grant from the First Financial Northwest Foundation Fund via the Renton Regional Community Foundation for the Sunset Multi-Service & Career Development Center
3. Wrote the capital request for the Washington State House of Representatives and Senate for \$1.2 million for the Sunset Multi-Service & Career Development Center.
4. Coordinated with 17 organizations to design and hold a new health resource fair to provide information about Spanish-language services and programs to Latino residents who represent 25% of the families in the Sunset neighborhood.
5. Partnered with other entities to develop, coordinate, and implement a new pilot healthy housing assessment program available to 167 homeowners in the Sunset Area.
6. Secured \$12,500 to coordinate and create an 810' long community fence art project along Sunset Boulevard in the Sunset Area.
7. Surveyed Renton Housing Authority residents regarding health care and/or employment and job training needs and recruited partners to provide additional services for residents.
8. Recruited volunteers for the Food Lifeline Mobile Food Pantry held monthly at the Renton Housing Authority's Evergreen Terrace senior housing property.
9. Created monthly newsletters for Renton Housing Authority residents to increase communication and engagement.
10. Partnered with several community-based organizations to execute capacity building needs assessments and support activities.
11. Created the framework for the establishment of Parent Information and Resource Centers in the four Renton Innovation Zone Partnership elementary schools, plus Dimmitt Middle School.
12. Created quarterly newsletters and monthly marketing documents for Renton School District families to increase communication and engagement.