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Three VISTA Volunteers complete first year of service for VML



Kaye Dwiggins



Arlene Isaacson



Lorinne Brown

The words VISTA means Volunteers In Service To America. Persons who volunteer to join VISTA are unselfish. They know they will not receive lots of money, but they will help to make the nation better by giving their services.

The three VISTA Volunteers whose photos appear on this page have now completed a year of service, working with the Valley Migrant League.

KAYE DWIGGINS

Dwiggins, VISTA Volunteer, says, "Our VISTA training was excellent."

Kaye Dwiggins always smile when my Russian friends call me Miss Wiggins," Kaye Dwiggins. "And they all laugh when I try to pronounce their names."

VISTA Volunteer Kaye Dwiggins teaches English to a VML class of Russian teen-agers each week at the Woodburn High School. Her work in the fields through the ITA and come to the class at the ITA. They are now learning to speak some English, with the help of the ITA—the initial teaching assignment. Kaye learned the ITA while working VISTA training in Boston.

That was last spring. She trained in remedial reading, and she worked with reading classes at the U.C.A. "The training was excellent," she recalls, "but I didn't know that my work would be with the migrants."

Before Miss Dwiggins became a VISTA, she worked with youth groups in local churches. She received her B.A. degree in Christian Education from the Northern Baptist College of Chicago, which is now the Judson College. Early last year a letter came to her from Washington, D.C., asking if she could like to apply for VISTA. This program would give her a chance to earn her own living. She applied, and a few weeks later she received news that she had been accepted. The Washington office told her that her job would be to teach and help people.

When Kaye finished her weeks of training at Boston, she wanted

VISTA Volunteer Arlene Isaacson says, "I have learned that poor people are ready to help each other."

"I'll never get away from this experience," Arlene Isaacson told us, looking back on her year of service as a VISTA Volunteer. "It will always be with me. I know I want to work with people."

Before becoming a VISTA, Miss Isaacson was a student of medical technology at Boston. "This year has shown me that I don't want to work with a microscope. However, I know that I need more school."

Just a year ago Arlene went into VISTA training at Boston. She had finished Colby Junior College in New Hampshire. As a student, she said, she was continually absorbing. She thought it was time to use some of the things she was learning, to give the benefit to other people.

"VISTA trained me to teach remedial reading in the urban slums. But the needs were so great in the rural areas that I accepted the assignment in Oregon. I had so much to learn."

It was a great change for VISTA Isaacson. She had lived in Boston for seven years. One of the first lessons she learned, working with people in poverty, was that poor people are ready to help each other.

"When I found a very poor family that needed wood, I spoke about it to another family, not quite so poor, and at once they volunteered to share their wood. There is a close human understanding among poor people. They want to help.

Lorinee Brown, VISTA Volunteer, says: "Our children loved the activities, and their parents were well pleased."

How can a VISTA Volunteer go into a migrant labor camp and organize a daily program for 30 little children? The children at the Hanna Camp No. 2 were from Mexican-American families, Anglo families, and one Negro family. It was the job of VISTA Lorinne Brown, working with Katie Odin of the University of Oregon, to supervise these children and find things for them to do every day of the week, while their parents worked in the bean fields. As Lorinne recalls, it was not easy.

But she was trained for this kind of responsibility, and she had the will to succeed. Within a few weeks after the program began, its success was noted by the director of the Valley Migrant League, Will Pape, who visited the camp. Another visitor, an official from Washington, D.C., was greatly impressed. Most astonished of all were the parents at the camp. Nothing like this had happened to their children before. As one mother said, "When the children go over to your place, they don't fight."

VISTA Lorinne Brown and her co-worker were resourceful in planning each day's activities. Mr. Hanna gave them two cabins for this children's project. The children worked with colors and clay, story books and games. Some days they would load the van and go to the swimming pool or a park.

There were always special prob-

Kaye Dwiggins, Voluntario de VISTA dice: "Nuestro Entrenamiento de VISTA fue excelente"

"Siempre sonrío cuando mis estudiantes Rusos me llaman Srta. Wiggins," dijo Kaye Dwiggins. "Y ellos siempre sonríen cuando trato a pronunciar sus nombres."

Voluntario de VISTA Kaye Dwiggins enseña inglés a una clase de 22 jóvenes Rusos cada semana en el Centro del VML de Woodburn. Sus estudiantes trabajan en el campo durante el día asistiendo a clase por la noche. Ahora están aprendiendo a leer inglés, con la ayuda de la ITA — el alfabeto inicial de enseñanza. Kaye aprendió ITA cuando recibió entrenamiento de VISTA en Boston.

Esto fue en la primavera pasada. Ella entrenó para enseñar a leer

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ARLENE ISAACSON

Voluntario de VISTA Arlene Isaacson dice, "He aprendido que la gente pobre están listos a ayudarse a sí mismos."

"Nunca olvidaré esta experiencia," nos dijo Arlene Isaacson, recordando un año de servicio como Voluntario de VISTA. Ya sé que quiero trabajar con gente."

Antes de ser VISTA, Srta. Isaacson fue una estudiante de técnica

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LORINNE BROWN

Lorinne Brown, Voluntario de

VISTA dice:

"Nuestros niños querían a las actividades, y sus padres estaban contentos también."

¿Cómo puede un voluntario de VISTA entrar en un campo de trabajadores migratorios y organizar un programa diario para 30 niños pequeños? Los niños en el Hanna Camp No. 2 eran de familias

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