



# VISTA PROJECT



Community partners gather for a photo at Penn Treaty School.

Supporting public education in Philadelphia by forging connections between neighborhoods schools and community partners.

### What does a Community Partnerships Coordinator do?

Community Partnerships Coordinators are AmeriCorps VISTAs who work to facilitate communication between neighborhood schools and community partners. They do this through convening monthly partner meetings at the schools, creating and maintaining multiple platforms for written and electronic communication between partners and school staff, conducting a needs assessment in collaboration with school leadership, and recruiting new partnerships to address those needs.



Members of the 2015-16 PHENND VISTA cohort during orientation.

PHENND also places **three VISTAs** in key offices of the **School District of Philadelphia** (Strategic Partnerships, Student Support Services, and Family & Community Engagement) in order to further support partnership-building

### Highlights

During the 2015-16 school year, the 16 PHENND Community Partnerships Coordinators have...

- Engaged more than **420 partner organizations** through partner meetings, efforts to align the school schedule, and school/community events.
- Cultivated new or revived old partnerships to meet defined school needs. These partners include, but are not limited to, organizations focused on literacy, graduate schools of education, college students engaged in service learning, museums and cultural institutions, and environmental groups.
- Organized many successful MLK Day of Service events, math and literacy nights, college and career fairs, and parent engagement events.

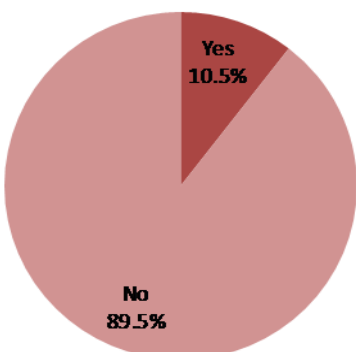
The 2014-2015 VISTA cohort generated over **\$20,000 in cash and in-kind resources** through small grants, community fundraisers, and DonorsChoose.org. They also engaged the efforts of more than **1,000 volunteers**.

### Students served

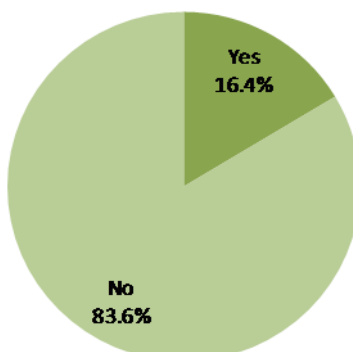
Total enrollment across all schools: 6,915

All but two PHENND Community Partnerships schools work with a student population where 100% of students qualify as economically disadvantaged under the Community Eligibility Provision for the National School Lunch Program.

Overall % of ELL Students in Partner Schools



Overall % of Students with IEP Due to Disability in Partner Schools



Overall Racial Demographics Across Partner Schools

