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Important Opportunity to Shape the Future, &amp; More

## St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO) NEWS AND EVENTS



June 16, 2014,

#10

### Outstanding Service Opportunity

#### ***SLACO Hiring Neighborhood Organizer***

Through the federally funded VISTA program, SLACO is hiring a neighborhood organizer to work on organizing neighborhoods in the St. Louis metro area, mostly in North St. Louis. The goal is to create organizations equipped to push for better economic opportunity and housing outcomes, as well as myriad other issues. The three-year project will entail working to strengthen or revitalize existing weak neighborhood associations or build entirely new ones if needed.

The organizer will develop a leadership structure for at least two neighborhood associations in need of formation or reorganization. Our VISTA also will devise tools and strategies for most neighborhood associations to use in addressing publicly owned vacant houses and land.

We're looking for those neighborhoods in greatest need of an effective resident organization. If you have a suggestion, please call our office at 314-361-9406.

If you or someone you know would like to try community organizing, VISTA represents a splendid opportunity to serve beginning in mid-August. This is a gratifying opportunity to work independently and see the results of one's work.

Applications must be submitted through the AmeriCorpsVISTA portion of the Corporation for National and Community Service website. A completed application is due on that website by **this Wednesday, June 18.**

### **Milkweeds for Monarchs Taking Flight in the City**

On Earth Day, Mayor Slay launched Milkweeds for Monarchs: The St. Louis Butterfly Project, an initiative to



increase people's access to monarch butterflies where they live, work and play.

Mayor Slay committed to planting 50 monarch gardens around the City in 2014, and challenged residents, businesses and neighborhood groups to plant another 200. The total of 250 gardens will honor the City's 250th Birthday.

The City has developed some useful [Milkweeds for Monarchs resources](#). Also in conjunction with the Brightside St. Louis [Neighbors Naturescaping](#) grant program, the City is offering materials for monarch gardens in public spaces to each ward. Interested organizations are encouraged to [contact their Neighborhood Improvement Specialist \(NSO\)](#) to learn more.

Let's welcome monarchs throughout the City! Please [register your garden](#) to receive a garden sign and count toward our goal of 250 new monarch gardens in the City.

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## Welcome to SLACO's Newest Member, Campaign for College Hill

The latest neighborhood organization to join SLACO is Campaign for College Hill. We look forward to welcoming many other associations this summer.

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