



POWER OF WE CONSORTIUM

AMERICORPS*VISTA PROJECT

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AmeriCorps Week: Books, Bottles and BBQ!
AmeriCorps State and AmeriCorps VISTA Collaboration
May 17, 2008

The 2008 AmeriCorps week was celebrated this May 11 –17th. AmeriCorps members from both State and VISTA programs of Eaton and Ingham County collaborated to host a Books, Bottles, and Barbeque event on Saturday, May 17th at the Foster Community Center at 200 N. Foster Ave. Lansing, Michigan 48912.

Participants played several children's games throughout the day, made crafts such as pencil toppers and seat belt covers as well as enjoying clowns and a tug of war match. C.J. Quinney Jr., president of Break the Cycle, a youth empowerment group, spoke about the positive impacts of mentoring. Also, AmeriCorps members spoke about their experience and the power of service.

Community members were invited to donate children's books at a 6th grade level and under, or at least 10 bottles/cans to come and enjoy a free meal. Almost \$200 was raised in bottle returns and cash donations and donated to Ele's Place, a healing center for grieving children, in Lansing. There were 217 donated children's books donated and distributed to Advent House Ministries, a shelter facility in the Lansing area. Drinks and cups were generously donated by Burger King and a \$100 gift card donation was made by a company who wishes to remain anonymous.