



POWER OF WE CONSORTIUM

AMERICORPS\*VISTA PROJECT

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Martin Luther King Day of Service Project:  
Reach Studio Art Center  
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Power of We Consortium AmeriCorps\* VISTAs Amy Radigan, Nebiat Tessema, Beth Browning, Carol Scott, Greg Holman and Project Coordinator Mary ZumBrunnen spent Martin Luther King Day volunteering at Reach Studio Art Center at 1804 S. Washington in Lansing, MI 48910.

“Sometimes we have things that should be done but just not enough time in the day to do in a regular shift,” said VISTA Amy Radigan of Reach Studio Art Center in response to the Power of We’s request for MLK day service project proposals. Reach continually needs help with everything from basic housekeeping to binding sketch books and making cards. They also need new art projects for their free after school art program and constantly challenge new volunteers to come up with creative ideas.

Therefore, it was VISTAs to the rescue. Five VISTAs, Project Coordinator and a very special VISTA granddaughter came to help from the Power of We Consortium. They spent the day cleaning, mopping, washing rags and paint trays as well as building envelopes, and creating and decorating cards for after school programs. Reach VISTA, Amy Radigan joyfully provided snacks and music while the Project Coordinator provided pizza and pop for lunch. The star of the day was New Life Program’s VISTA, Carol Scott’s granddaughter. Olivia Ramsey sang and helped design the most memorable greeting cards. She also shared her knowledge of Dr. King and his impacts on the nation.

“Reach Studio Art Center is a special place in Lansing and the world. The studio provides a safe environment for people to express themselves creatively,” says Amy. Art is a vessel of cultural development and healing - what a wonderful way to honor Dr. King, improve our community, support VISTAs and their sites by serving at Reach. Perhaps best of all, a potential future VISTA is seeing the impact of her service and carrying on Dr. King’s work.