

**EQUAL PAY**  
FOR  
**EQUAL WORK**  
MONTANA TASK FORCE

## Meet the Equal Pay VISTAs

### Shelby Lang

We are proud to welcome Shelby Lang! Shelby is our new AmeriCorps VISTA with the Montana Campus Compact. She will be working on the Equal Pay Task Force, and the goal of her project is to move low income women out of poverty by providing them with the tools necessary to seek and obtain education and employment opportunities. This will be achieved by developing Montana-specific wage negotiation training materials, and creating educational partnerships for implementing the trainings at higher educational institutions across the state, including tribal colleges, and implementing trainings at education institutions, community organizations and non-profits for Native Americans, veterans, first generation students, and other under-served Montana communities.

Shelby is a recent graduate from the University of South Florida in Tampa with a BA in Women's and Gender Studies. Shelby also has a Cosmetology license and put herself through college with those skills. An internship at Planned Parenthood and extensive work with the Centre for Girls prepared her to make this journey to Montana and work towards equal pay for equal work for all Montanans. Shelby is a proud feminist with a strong passion for women's rights and is looking forward to making an impact on Montana's work force. She is quickly getting used to the dramatic climate change – Montana tough already!

### Rebecca Washko

Additionally, we are also proud to welcome Rebecca Washko. Rebecca is from Portland, Maine and is excited to be one of the new AmeriCorps VISTAs with Montana Campus Compact also serving with the Equal Pay Task Force. Rebecca is thrilled to be part of our organization and she is ready to start using her skills and time to serve the people of Montana. The goal of her project is to provide low-income women with opportunities to lift themselves out of poverty through increased access to STEM education and career opportunities. This will be accomplished by surveying, cataloging, and networking all existing STEM opportunities and organizations across the state to create a centralized portal of STEM opportunities, programs, events, and networking opportunities for young women seeking employment and education opportunities in STEM fields. This project includes a program of focused efforts and programing in Montana's tribal communities, including gauging the needs and interest in peer-to-peer STEM exploration programs for middle school students presented by tribal college students and staff in tribal communities and a peer-to-peer mentorship programs through tribal college partnerships.

Rebecca is currently working on a Master's Degree in Public Health, and she spent the last four years working in the financial services industry. Rebecca is looking forward to getting back into service and projects she is passionate about. She starts this journey with great words in mind - Theodore Roosevelt said, "Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard and work worth doing."