Overview: This Buck-I-SERV experience is a unique opportunity to serve a community right here in Ohio. Buck-I-SERV students on this experience will work in partnership with the Ohio State University Extension staff in Vinton County, Ohio. Participants will be interacting with over 1400 youth in the Vinton County school system to promote continuing education beyond high school and introduce and discuss the opportunities that the youth can have in a variety of post-secondary options. The Vinton community is a rural county and experiences some of the highest levels of poverty in the state of Ohio. The Vinton County school system seeks to collaborate with universities and outside peers that can help answer questions about college and post-secondary education for their students. University students are a great asset to link these youth students with resources and connections for continuing their education beyond high school. Participants in this Buck-I-SERV experience should be passionate about higher education and willing to share positive experiences about their own college experience to encourage the future generation of college graduates.

Day-to-Day: Students will facilitate a variety of programs and exercises throughout the week to discuss college and encourage students to think about their future careers. When not dialoguing with students in schools the group will visit with college staff from the Rio Grande Community College- McArthur Center, interact with the Vinton County Local School Board and meet with the local extension advisory committee to expand their knowledge of the county and barriers students face in rural, low income counties.

Nitty Gritty Details: This trip will be a shortened Buck-I-SERV trip that departs on Sunday, March 11 and returns on Friday, March 16. This trip is also a smaller group consisting of 6 total group members. The group will receive a small grocery budget to purchase meals however, participants should plan to pack additional food and meals and spend assitional funds.