

Fact Sheet



The Corporation for National and Community Service improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. As the nation's largest grant maker in support of service and volunteering, the Corporation engages more than five million Americans of all ages and backgrounds in service to their communities each year through the Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, VISTA, NCCC, and Learn and Serve America programs, and leads President Obama's call to service initiative, United We Serve. Participants in Corporation programs and the community volunteers they help coordinate enable thousands of national and local non-profit organizations, faith-based groups, schools, and municipal agencies to solve tough problems and meet local needs in education, health, the environment, veterans, economic opportunity, and other critical areas.

- Nation's largest grantmaker for volunteering
- Participants serve with 70,000 nonprofits
- Engages 5 million Americans in service each year
 - 500,000 Senior Corps volunteers
 - 85,000 AmeriCorps members
 - 1.5 million Learn and Serve America students
 - 3 million community volunteers
- Leads President's United We Serve initiative

AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps provides opportunities for more than 85,000 Americans each year to give intensive service to their communities and country through three programs: AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps). AmeriCorps members tutor and mentor youth, build affordable housing, teach computer skills, clean parks and streams, run after-school programs, help communities respond to disasters, and build the capacity of nonprofit groups to become self-sustaining, among

many other activities. AmeriCorps members in recent years have stepped up their role in recruiting, training, and managing volunteers of all ages and backgrounds, supporting 2.4 million community volunteers in 2009 alone. In exchange for a year of full-time service, members earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of \$5,350 that can be used to pay for college or graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans. Since 1994, more than 634,000 Americans have given 774 million hours of service through AmeriCorps.

Senior Corps

Each year Senior Corps taps the skills, talents, and experience of nearly 500,000 Americans age 55 and older to meet a wide range of community challenges through three programs: RSVP, the Foster Grandparent Program, and the Senior Companion Program. RSVP volunteers help local police departments conduct safety patrols, participate in environmental projects,

provide intensive educational services to children and adults, and respond to natural disasters, among many other activities. Foster Grandparents serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to young people with special needs. Senior Companions help homebound seniors and other adults maintain independence in their own homes.

Learn and Serve America

Learn and Serve America provides an "on-ramp" to a lifetime of civic engagement for approximately 1.5 million students each year. The program awards grants to state education agencies, schools, nonprofit groups, and institutions of higher education to engage students in service activities linked to academic achievement. This type of

learning, called service-learning, increases academic achievement while developing in young people the habits of citizenship. As part of its goal of making student service and service-learning a common practice across the country, Learn and Serve America provides resources to teachers, faculty members, schools, and community groups.

Other Programs and Initiatives

- The **Social Innovation Fund** promotes public and private investments in effective nonprofit organizations to help them replicate and expand to serve more low-income communities.
- The **Volunteer Generation Fund** strengthens the nation's civic infrastructure by helping nonprofits recruit, manage, and support more volunteers.
- The **Nonprofit Capacity Building Program** increases the ability of nonprofits in resource-poor communities to implement performance management systems.
- The **King Day of Service** supports community organizations in their efforts to engage local citizens in service on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday.
- The **National Conference on Volunteering and Service** is the premier annual gathering of leaders of the volunteering and national service world.
- The **President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll** honors colleges and universities for the commitment of their students, faculty, and staff to community service.
- The Corporation's **Resource Center** provides training and resources to national service programs and nonprofits seeking to expand their capacity and impact.
- The Corporation's annual **Volunteering in America** report provides comprehensive data to state and local leaders to help them expand the impact of service.

Service as a Solution

President Barack Obama is deeply committed to advancing the role of service in addressing our national challenges and in making service part of the life of every American. With bipartisan Congressional support, the President has worked with the Corporation for National and Community Service and its CEO Patrick Corvington to focus service on pressing social problems; expand opportunities for more Americans of all ages and backgrounds to

serve; build the capacity of individuals, nonprofits, and communities; and embrace social innovation. From passage of the landmark bipartisan Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act and the Recovery Act expansion of AmeriCorps to approval of a historic funding increase and the launch of United We Serve, the Administration has achieved significant results and a new vision for service is taking effect.

United We Serve

In June 2009, the Corporation joined with the White House to launch United We Serve, a challenge to all Americans to engage in sustained, meaningful community service to help in our nation's renewal and recovery. Americans have responded enthusiastically to the President's call, joining with friends and neighbors to

replenish food banks, support veterans and military families, restore public lands, and more. The Administration worked with technology leaders to develop a volunteer matching tool for the Serve.gov website featuring more than 250,000 volunteer opportunities, and teamed up with top sports stars and celebrities to promote volunteer service.

More Information

To learn more about the Corporation or any of its programs, visit NationalService.gov or call 202-606-5000.

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