



Fact Sheet

AmeriCorps



Annual Statistical Highlights

- Engages more than 75,000 members annually
- Members serve at 15,000 locations across the country
- Mobilizes 4 million volunteers annually
- Leverages \$480 million in outside funding and donations each year

AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 men and women in intensive service each year at more than 15,000 locations including nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country. AmeriCorps members help communities tackle pressing problems while mobilizing millions of volunteers for the organizations they serve. Members gain valuable professional, educational, and life benefits, and the experience has a lasting impact on the members and the communities they serve.

AmeriCorps consists of three main programs: AmeriCorps State and National, whose members serve with national and local nonprofit and community groups; AmeriCorps VISTA, through which members serve full time fighting poverty; and AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a team-based residential program for young adults 18-24 who carry out projects in public safety, the environment, youth development, and disaster relief and preparedness.

Focus on Impact

The bipartisan Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act focused AmeriCorps' efforts in six key areas: disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families. To strengthen accountability, AmeriCorps programs are required to demonstrate their impact using standard performance measures.

AmeriCorps members make our communities safer, stronger, healthier, and improve the lives of tens of millions of our most vulnerable citizens. AmeriCorps' impacts are proven and measurable.

Disaster services: In response to the tornado that struck Joplin, Missouri on May 22nd, 2011, AmeriCorps teams organized a large-scale volunteer response center that recruited and supervised more than 75,000 volunteers. Through the AmeriCorps-led operation, unaffiliated volunteers contributed more than 579,000 hours of service. These hours completely

defrayed over \$17.7 million in emergency match dollars owed by the City of Joplin to the federal government at the conclusion of the response.

Economic opportunity: VISTA, AmeriCorps' poverty-fighting program, engages more than 8,000 members each year in fighting poverty by creating businesses, expanding access to technology, recruiting volunteers to teach literacy, and strengthening antipoverty groups.

Education: AmeriCorps places thousands of teachers, tutors, and mentors into low-performing schools, helping students succeed in school and gain skills necessary to get 21st century jobs.

Environmental stewardship: Members build trails, restore parks, protect watersheds, run recycling programs, and promote energy efficiency, weatherization, and clean energy.

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Healthy futures: AmeriCorps members save lives through HIV/AIDS education and outreach, drug and alcohol prevention training, and connecting poor families to health clinics and services.

Veterans and military families: AmeriCorps supports the military community by engaging veterans in service, helping veterans readjust to civilian life, and providing support to military families.

Strengthening Nonprofits and the Volunteer Sector

Strengthening nonprofits: AmeriCorps members help faith-based and community groups expand services, build capacity, raise funds, develop new partnerships, and create innovative, sustainable programs.

Encouraging competition and local control:

AmeriCorps pushes funding and decision-making to the state and local level. Most grantees are chosen by bipartisan state commissions appointed by the governor.

Advancing social innovation: AmeriCorps invests in entrepreneurial organizations that have been recognized for their innovative approaches to citizen problem-solving such as Teach for America, City Year, YouthBuild, JumpStart, Citizen Schools, and Experience Corps.

Expanding Educational Opportunity and Building Future Leaders

Expanding educational opportunity: In exchange for a year of full-time service, AmeriCorps members earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award (equal to the maximum Pell Grant) that helps pay for college or pay back student loans. AmeriCorps members have earned more than \$2.4 billion in these awards since 1994.

Preparing the 21st Century Workforce: AmeriCorps is a pathway to economic opportunity that provides

members with valuable skills specific to their service (construction, teaching, weatherization, etc.) as well as general skills of leadership and problem-solving that all employers are looking for.

Creating future leaders: AmeriCorps members gain new and useful skills, advance their education, and become more connected to their communities. A longitudinal study has shown that AmeriCorps alumni are more likely to be civically engaged, to go into public service careers—such as teaching, public safety, social work, and military service—and to volunteer in their communities.

Leveraging a Powerful Return on the Investment

Public private partnerships: AmeriCorps leverages substantial private investment—more than \$480 million in non-CNCS funds each year from businesses, foundations, and other sources. AmeriCorps has cut costs and become more efficient by supporting more members with fewer federal dollars.

Mobilizing volunteers: AmeriCorps is a powerful catalyst and force-multiplier for community volunteering. Last year AmeriCorps members recruited, trained, and supervised more than 4 million community volunteers for the organizations they serve.

AmeriCorps Fast Facts

800,000	Number of people who have served as AmeriCorps members since 1994.
1 billion	Total number of hours served by AmeriCorps members since 1994.
5.2 million	Number of disadvantaged youth tutored, mentored, or served by AmeriCorps members in fiscal 2011.
4 million	Number of community volunteers managed or mobilized by AmeriCorps members in fiscal 2011.
\$480 million	Value of cash and in-kind donations leveraged by AmeriCorps members in fiscal 2010.
15,000	Number of AmeriCorps service locations in 2012.
\$2.4 billion	Total amount of Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards earned by AmeriCorps members since 1994.