

At a time of great social need, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) engages millions of Americans in focused, sustained service to solve community problems, improve the lives of our nation's most vulnerable citizens, strengthen nonprofits and communities, and transform their own lives. Nationwide, CNCS:

- Engages more than **5 million Americans** in results-driven service through **70,000** community and faith-based organizations each year, supporting America's civic infrastructure of food banks, homeless shelters, youth centers senior homes, state service commissions, and volunteer centers at a time of increasing demand for services.
- Places **tens of thousands** of teachers, tutors, and mentors into America's lowest performing schools, helping children learn the skills they need to graduate and be successful in the 21st century economy.
- Leverages **\$800 million** in non-federal resources each year to strengthen impact on communities.
- Strengthens America's nonprofits by mobilizing more than 3 million community volunteers each year.
- Provides **tens of thousands** of young adults a living allowance, work skills, and educational support to help them graduate, go to college, and find work, saving taxpayer dollars.
- Supports Governor-appointed **State Service Commissions** in every state to engage citizens in solving critical problems.

Impact in Arkansas

More than **8,600** citizens of all ages and backgrounds serve in CNCS programs Senior Corps, AmeriCorps or Learn and Serve America in Arkansas. Serving through **440** nonprofits, schools, public agencies or faith-based groups across the state, these citizens tutor and mentor at-risk youth, assist veterans and military families, provide health services, restore the environment, respond to disasters, build homes, and recruit and manage volunteers. This year CNCS is committing more than **\$9,870,000** to support 440 nonprofits and communities.

- **Senior Corps** engages more than **5,500** Arkansas seniors who annually contribute more than **1,538,640** hours valued at more than **\$32,865,460** through Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions, and RSVP. Last year they:
 - » Provided **600** frail seniors assistance to help them live independently in their own homes and gave respite services to **43** caregivers
 - » Tutored or mentored more than **2,600** children and youth with special or exceptional needs
 - » Helped more than **380** community organizations expand their reach and impact on community challenges
- **AmeriCorps**, including **VISTA** and **NCCC**, engages more than **550** Arkansas citizens in intensive, results-driven service to meet education, environmental, health, economic and other pressing community needs. Last year they:
 - » Tutored or mentored more than **54,070** disadvantaged children and youth
 - » Provided more than **416,030** hours of service valued at more than **\$8,886,510**
 - » Recruited more than **16,200** volunteers
 - » Raised more than **\$5,590,000** in cash or in-kind resources for the organizations they serve
 - » Strengthened the reach and impact of **Arkansas** affiliates of the Habitat for Humanity, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and other national nonprofits and state and local organizations including City Year, North Arkansas Partnership for Health Education, Arkansas Literacy Councils and UALR Children International
 - » Since 1994, more than **7,100** Arkansas residents have served more than **11 million** hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than **\$20,730,000**.
- **The Social Innovation Fund (SIF)** mobilizes public and private resources to grow promising, innovative community-based solutions that have evidence of compelling impact in three areas of priority need: economic opportunity, healthy futures, and youth development.
 - » To date, the SIF has awarded **\$95 million** to **16** intermediary grantmakers in **10** states, which have made subgrants to nearly **150** subgrantees in **33** states and the District of Columbia, leveraging **\$250 million** in additional private and non-federal dollars in matching funds.
 - » In Arkansas, the Children's Aid Society's Carrera Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program has received a SIF subgrant totaling more than **\$100,000**.

Arkansas Project Highlights

- Twelve **AmeriCorps** members serve with Alternative Classroom Experience (ACE) in Pulaski County, which provides a residential educational program for disadvantaged 3rd-5th graders and an in-school follow up for several years afterwards. The members provide intensive math and reading tutoring, character building exercises, environmental awareness activities, and follow-up services. Last year ACE served 156 children during the school year in five-week sessions and an additional 318 during summer camp. Participating students raised their test scores by an average of 50%, and their grade level equivalent increased by over one full grade.
- Our House, Inc.'s 8 AmeriCorps **VISTA** members developed and coordinated its comprehensive programs and activities to transition families and individuals from homelessness into the workforce and into permanent, independent housing. In 2011, Our House, Inc. provided emergency shelter to 962 homeless people, including 238 children; provided early childhood education to 133 homeless or extremely low-income school-aged children; provided adult education to 675 homeless or extremely low-income adults; and 85% of families that exited Our House programs moved into temporary or permanent housing. Additionally, of all the previously homeless adults who participated in Our House, Inc. programs, 59% left with full time jobs, and 63% left with a savings account.
- In 2011, thirty-two **RSVP** volunteers with the WestArk RSVP Community Outreach program in Fort Smith provided tax preparation to families with incomes of less than \$49,000 and to taxpayers over age 60. The free tax preparation and electronic filing service offered at the RSVP Center aided over 2,000 families who received \$2,448,930 in refunds. Federal returns were prepared for 2,007 families and an additional 2,257 state returns were filed. Efforts to increase the number of families filing for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) were also successful, with \$708,083 in EITC received. Returns were prepared for 649 seniors age 60 years or older. RSVP members gave 4,861 hours of service.
- AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (**NCCC**) has completed over 237,000 hours of service in Arkansas since 2000. Among other accomplishments, NCCC has supported 724 students in out of school programs, tutored 1,940 students, constructed or restored 132 miles of hiking trails, planted 2,616 trees or native plants, assisted 6,877 people with disabilities, and removed 33,206 pounds of debris or trash. A recent Arkansas highlight was at Arkansas Children's Hospital where the team worked with hospital staff to enhance services to patients and the community. Team members were placed in different areas like Child Life and Education, Anesthesiology, Infection Control/Epidemiology, the Burn Center and Family Services. The team's efforts improved the health and status of the children served, and helped ensure excellent pediatric care for future generations of Arkansas children.