National Service in Michigan

Corporation for NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

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 Michigan

More than **42,000** citizens of all ages and backgrounds serve in CNCS programs Senior Corps, AmeriCorps or Learn and Serve America in Michigan. Serving through **1,400** 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 **$29,580,000** to support 1,400 nonprofits and communities.

- **Senior Corps** engages more than **10,000** Michigan seniors who annually contribute more than **1,465,270** hours valued at more than **$31,298,190** through Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions, and RSVP. Last year they:
  - Provided **590** frail seniors assistance to help them live independently in their own homes and gave respite services to **104** caregivers
  - Tutored or mentored more than **1,100** children and youth with special or exceptional needs
  - Helped more than **1,200** community organizations expand their reach and impact on community challenges
- **AmeriCorps**, including **VISTA** and **NCCC**, engages more than **1,700** Michigan 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 **50,300** disadvantaged children and youth
  - Provided more than **1,150,840** hours of service valued at more than **$24,581,900**
  - Recruited more than **41,570** volunteers
  - Raised more than **$15,760,000** in cash or in-kind resources for the organizations they serve
  - Strengthened the reach and impact of **Michigan** affiliates of the Habitat for Humanity, Teach for America, and other national nonprofits and state and local organizations including United Way, Michigan Nonprofit Association, University of Michigan and
  - Since 1994, more than **22,000** Michigan residents have served more than **26 million** hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than **$66,220,000**.
- **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 Michigan, the United Way for Southeastern Michigan has received **$2 million** in SIF funding to support community nonprofit organizations across the state. In addition, **eight** organizations have received SIF subgrants totaling more than **$970,000**.

Michigan Project Highlights

- The **AmeriCorps** Urban Safety Program engages fourteen AmeriCorps members to focus on safety and crime reduction in Midtown Detroit. Sixty volunteers have been leveraged by members to serve through thirty-four "block clubs," which implement targeted strategies to reduce blight, assaults, break-ins, drug dealing, and vehicle-related crimes. After just one year of service in Detroit's Woodbridge neighborhood, crime has declined by 33% overall, including a 69% decline in street robbery, a 63% decline drug dealing, and a 40% decline in vandalism. The program is replicating its successful strategies and expanding into the Henry Ford neighborhood of Detroit. In 2011-2012, the AmeriCorps program has already established nine new block clubs.

- The State of Michigan Workforce Development Agency "Gear Up" AmeriCorps **VISTA** project improves college access for at-risk high school students throughout the state. Fifteen VISTAs serve at college campuses statewide to help academically and economically disadvantaged students develop the necessary skills and capabilities to achieve college success. VISTAs help distribute more than 100,000 college brochures and college aid financial-aid packets annually to inform such families of available financial resources to make college financially achievable. In addition, every February, more than 200 volunteers are recruited, trained, and coordinated by VISTAs help families complete their financial aid applications. In the October 1-December 31, 2011 quarter alone, VISTAs created and implemented college access and retention activities for 455 students in 15 economically-disadvantaged metropolitan areas in Michigan.

- In order to address the growing concern of hunger and inadequate nutritional habits among seniors in Grand Rapids and surrounding Kent County, 75 **RSVP** volunteers prepare, package, and distribute food to homebound seniors throughout the county at one of seven food distribution/collection sites. Collectively, these volunteers contribute approximately 7,000 hours to this effort, resulting in approximately 1,000 at-risk seniors receiving nutritious and balanced meals, emergency food boxes, monthly commodity boxes, or monthly discounted fresh produce delivered to their respective homes. In 2011, 80% of seniors receiving these nutritionally-balanced meals reported that this program contributed significantly to their ability to maintain a balanced diet on a consistent basis.

- AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (**NCCC**) has completed over 260,000 hours of service in Michigan since 2000. Among other accomplishments, NCCC has coordinated and recruited 3,400 volunteers, assisted 1,375 senior citizens, conducted 135 environmental education programs, constructed or restored over 65 miles of trail, and supported over 13,800 students in out of school programs. In 2011, NCCC members assisted Isle Royale National Park staff in providing visitors an opportunity to experience solitude, remoteness, challenge, self-sufficiency, and discovery as appropriate in wilderness and back country settings. Members brushed 5 miles of the Minong Trail, which included cutting the vegetation back to create a six foot wide, eight foot high trail corridor with a minimum amount of roots and rocks in the tread surface.

- **Learn and Serve America** provides grants to schools, colleges, and nonprofit groups to engage more than 30,000 Michigan students in community service linked to academic learning and the development of civic skills. One example is the Kent Intermediate School District (ISD), which addresses the issue of urban decay and the need to support green infrastructure as a way to protect the environment and support economic revitalization. The key partners include the Wittenbach Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center and its network of environmental organizations, and Grand Rapids Community College. The service learning projects are aligned to Common Core Standards and are integrated into Kent ISD's web-based curriculum tool. Annually, over 500 students are engaged in this initiative as well as about 30% of teachers.