

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 Minnesota

More than **32,000** citizens of all ages and backgrounds serve in CNCS programs Senior Corps, AmeriCorps or Learn and Serve America in Minnesota. Serving through **2,400** 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 **\$33,740,000** to support 2,400 nonprofits and communities.

- **Senior Corps** engages more than **15,000** Minnesota seniors who annually contribute more than **2,459,120** hours valued at more than **\$52,526,800** through Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions, and RSVP. Last year they:

- » Provided **2,300** frail seniors assistance to help them live independently in their own homes and gave respite services to **886** caregivers
- » Tutored or mentored more than **5,600** children and youth with special or exceptional needs
- » Helped more than **2,300** community organizations expand their reach and impact on community challenges

- **AmeriCorps**, including **VISTA** and **NCCC**, engages more than **2,100** Minnesota 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 **29,930** disadvantaged children and youth
- » Provided more than **2,294,330** hours of service valued at more than **\$49,006,990**
- » Recruited more than **70,530** volunteers
- » Raised more than **\$27,290,000** in cash or in-kind resources for the organizations they serve
- » Strengthened the reach and impact of **Minnesota** affiliates of the Habitat for Humanity, Teach for America, and other national nonprofits and state and local organizations including Admission Possible, Minnesota Conservation Corps, Duluth Family YMCA and Minnesota Reading Corps

- » Since 1994, more than **19,000** Minnesota residents have served more than **27 million** hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than **\$64,190,000**.

- **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 Minnesota, **eight** organizations have received SIF subgrants totaling more than **\$937,000**.

Minnesota Project Highlights

- The Minnesota Reading Corps engages trained **AmeriCorps** members to serve as reading tutors for struggling learners. Today there are 675 AmeriCorps members working with 18,538 children, age three to eight, in 286 sites across the state. Statewide, 74% of Reading Corps participants, all of whom were at significant risk for failure, passed Minnesota assessment tests, compared to the overall 78% pass rate for all Minnesota students. Given that 100% of Reading Corps participants were not reading at grade level, this pass rate demonstrates significant progress for children who might otherwise be left behind.
- The St. Paul Public Schools Foundation's Tutoring Partnership AmeriCorps **VISTA** project is beginning to close the achievement gap in St. Paul Public Schools. Fifteen AmeriCorps VISTA members support the SPPS Foundation school-based tutoring model, Believe & Achieve. The Tutoring Partnership is working to measure the positive impact of tutoring on student proficiency. The model increases the number of tutors and improves the quality of their interactions with students. For example, 3rd grade students tutored achieved 118% of expected growth, as compared to 92% expected growth from those not tutored. These gains allow them to catch up with their peers. This is particularly true for tutored English Language Learners (ELL) who achieved 127% of expected growth as compared to 95% of expected growth for untutored ELL students.
- **RSVP** sponsor Horizon Health, Inc. operates the "Bone Builders" program focused on reducing the incidence and complications of osteoporosis in its service area. The program relies on RSVP volunteer trainers who use an evidence-based model to lead participants through a series stretching, strength, and balance exercises; all specifically designed to prevent or reverse bone loss. Each session includes a ten minute discussion on topics such as: fall prevention, heart health, proper nutrition, diet, vitamins, and safety. In the 2010-2011 program year, 85% of the 475 participants in Horizon Health RSVP's Bone Builders program increased muscle strength, balance, and bone density. Participants have also noted cost savings from reduced health complications including a reduction in medications taken to treat osteoporosis.
- AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (**NCCC**) has completed over 113,000 hours of service in Minnesota since 2000. Among other accomplishments, NCCC has recruited and coordinated over 550 volunteers, assisted over 2,000 people in disaster areas, assisted 1,275 people with disabilities, completed 200 damage assessments, and removed over 7,500 acres of brush to prevent forest fires. In 2011, NCCC members assisted the Laurentian Lakes and Itasca Moraine Chapters of the North Country Trail Association in Becker and Clearwater Counties in Minnesota. The North Country Trail is 4,600 miles stretched across seven states made possible by the hard work of more than 800 volunteers each year. NCCC members assisted in developing new sections of trail to satisfy the National Trails System Act.
- **Learn and Serve America** provides grants to schools, colleges, and nonprofit groups to engage more than 15,000 Minnesota students in community service linked to academic learning and the development of civic skills. One example is the National Youth Leadership Council's (NYLC) Generator Go Green (G3) Initiative, which engages over 2,100 economically disadvantaged middle school students in creating a more environmentally sustainable community. The G3 Initiative offers a wide range of resources to help G3 sites develop high-quality service learning projects that address local environmental sustainability issues. G3 sites form a cohort within NYLC's Generator School Network, an online network of schools working together to improve service learning and achieve better academic, civic and personal outcomes for students. This initiative is being piloted in 28 schools nationwide, including Minneapolis/St. Paul.