



CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Under the President's leadership, we have turned our economy around and created 14 million jobs. Our unemployment rate is below five percent for the first time in almost eight years. Nearly 18 million people have gained health coverage as the Affordable Care Act has taken effect. And we have dramatically cut our deficits by almost three-quarters and set our Nation on a more sustainable fiscal path.

Yet while it is important to take stock of our progress, this Budget is not about looking back at the road we have traveled. It is about looking forward and making sure our economy works for everybody, not just those at the top. It is about choosing investments that not only make us stronger today, but also reflect the kind of country we aspire to be – the kind of country we want to pass on to our children and grandchildren.

The Budget makes critical investments in our domestic and national security priorities while adhering to the bipartisan budget agreement signed into law last fall, and it lifts sequestration in future years so that we continue to invest in our economic future and our national security. It also drives down deficits and maintains our fiscal progress through smart savings from health care, immigration, and tax reforms.

The Budget shows that the President and the Administration remain focused on meeting our greatest challenges – including accelerating the pace of innovation to tackle climate change and find new treatments for devastating diseases; giving everyone a fair shot at opportunity and economic security; and advancing our national security and global leadership – not only for the year ahead, but for decades to come.

Service and social innovation have always been a vital part of the American character. From the earliest days of our nation, Americans have stepped forward to help their neighbors, working together in creative ways to solve problems and strengthen communities. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) supports communities' efforts to tap into the energy of citizens to solve problems through service, volunteerism and other forms of civic participation. From tutoring at-risk youth to responding to natural disasters to building homes for low-income families, CNCS-funded efforts provide an on-ramp for Americans of all ages to serve their communities in sustained and effective ways. To support this mission, the Budget provides \$1.1 billion for CNCS. This funding level will enable AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and the Social Innovation Fund to improve lives, expand economic opportunity, bolster civic and faith-based organizations, engage millions of Americans in service, and invest in evidence-based solutions. CNCS' focus areas for funding include economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, disaster services, healthy futures, and veterans and military families.



Funding Highlights:

The President's 2017 Budget provides \$1.1 billion in funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to tap the energy of citizens to solve problems in their communities. This includes:

- Supporting approximately 87,400 AmeriCorps members, including up to 8,000 summer positions for disconnected youth, more than 4,000 new positions for retired Americans, approximately 175 additional positions for Resilience AmeriCorps, and additional public-private partnerships to create more opportunities for Americans to serve.
- Investing in promising and evidence-based approaches to improve the lives of low-income individuals through the Social Innovation Fund, which seeks to fund more of what works.
- Focusing on competition-based funding of Senior Corps programs to engage Americans age 55 and older in more effective service that strengthens communities.
- Continuing efforts to identify, generate, and disseminate evidence of the impact of national service and social innovation and use high-quality performance and evaluation data in its budget, management, and policy decisions.

Supporting National Service to Create Opportunity

The Budget supports an estimated 87,400 AmeriCorps members who will support the efforts of nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and faith-based and other community organizations to address a wide range of critical community challenges, from disaster response and homelessness to hunger and low-performing schools. The Budget will also support 1,000 FEMA Corps members through AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) and will enable up to 8,000 disconnected youth to serve as AmeriCorps members during the summer, giving them an opportunity to help their communities while exploring potential career paths, developing skills, and earning an education award they can use for college. Overall, the Budget will expand AmeriCorps by approximately 13,000 members over FY 2015 levels.

Advancing the goals outlined by the President's Task Force on Expanding National Service, CNCS will partner with other federal agencies, the private sector, Governor-appointed State Service Commissions, higher education institutions, and nonprofits to expand national service opportunities and tackle national priorities. For example, The Budget expands Resilience AmeriCorps, a partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to enlist roughly 175 AmeriCorps VISTA members to help tribal, State, city, county, and community leaders as they plan for and address the impacts of extreme weather.



Investing in Evidence-Based Ideas and Increasing Competition

Nonprofits cannot seed and scale effective innovative solutions to critical national challenges without adequate capital to develop, evaluate, and replicate what works. The Budget invests \$50 million in the Social Innovation Fund (SIF) to test promising new approaches to major challenges, leverage private and philanthropic capital to meet these needs, and expand evidence-based programs that demonstrate measurable outcomes. The Budget also continues to allow the use of up to 20 percent of SIF funds for Pay for Success projects. Pay for Success models leverage philanthropic and private dollars to fund services up front, with the Government paying only after they generate results. Across the board, CNCS will continue to focus on competitive grant-making that prioritizes evidence-based models and maximizes the return on federal investments by giving grant awards to the most effective applicants working in the agency's six priority areas: disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families.

Building on the Experience of Older Americans to Take On Challenges

For decades, the Senior Corps program has connected older Americans to volunteer opportunities that allow them to use the skills they've developed over a lifetime to give back to their communities. The Budget strengthens this program by adopting evidence-based strategies to better deliver its mentoring, supportive services, and other activities and strengthen competition to increase the impact that they have in our communities.

Working with State and Community Leaders to Foster Civic Engagement

The Budget increases investments in Governor-supported State Service Commissions to perform their critical oversight, training, and strategic functions. With this increased funding, State Commissions will have more capacity to nurture strong programs, ensure compliance, and expand service opportunities to meet State and local needs. The Budget also will help nonprofit and voluntary organizations broaden their volunteer base and increase their impact through the Volunteer Generation Fund, the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, and the September 11th Day of Service and Remembrance by improving volunteer management practices, recruitment, and retention; and providing opportunities for volunteers to participate in short-term volunteer projects in communities across the country.

Strengthening Management and Improving Efficiency

The Budget makes investments to strengthen CNCS's management, allowing it to better support its members, grantees, and the public it serves. The Budget modernizes information technology systems to ensure their security and improve platforms like nationalservice.gov and the My AmeriCorps Portal that members, grantees, and the public utilize to interact with CNCS. The Budget also directs resources to developing a CNCS Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) program that will enable the agency to prioritize the risks to which it focuses remediation efforts. Developing a robust ERM program will help improve internal controls and strengthen grantee monitoring to ensure that programs are run efficiently and meet required standards.