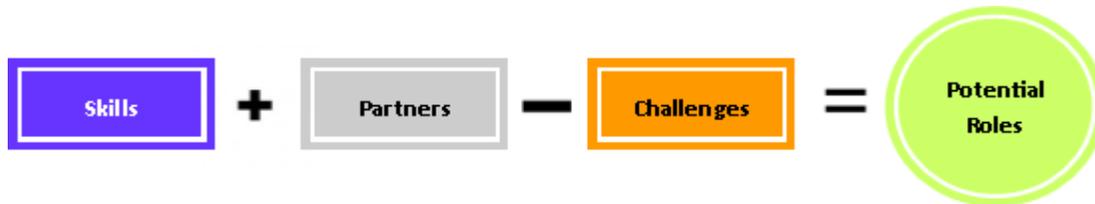




Why It Matters

When disasters strike, communities are instantly in need of many services that may not be readily available. In addition, many disasters do not receive a federal declaration of disaster, resulting in fewer resources for the community to draw from. National Service programs are well positioned to support community efforts to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate disaster effects.

AmeriCorps State members may be able to support response and recovery efforts if a disaster temporarily prevents their normal service or if there is a compelling need. These roles needn't be long term commitments or require massive amounts of training. Below is one method of determining an appropriate role for National Service programs and examples of how members working within each focus area can be engaged.



Identifying Appropriate Potential Roles

- Skills: Identify skills available of the program through members
- Partners: Identify established partners in the community
- Challenges: Identify the constraints of the program design that would prevent specific functions
- Potential: Identify potential roles and start planning

Education Examples

Skills	Partners	Challenges	Potential Roles
Vulnerable populations	Schools/School Boards	Low schedule flexibility due to program requirements	Sheltering
Multi-lingual	Parent/Teacher Associations	New arena for program staff/members	Translation Services
			Preparedness Education

Healthy Futures Examples

Skills	Partners	Challenges	Potential Roles
Vulnerable Populations	Local Food Partners: Farmers/Co-ops/Private Sector (grocery stores)/Food Pantries	Access to incident command structure	Food preparation/distribution/delivery/food donations
Customer/Client Assistance	Health Departments	Access to long term recovery groups/committees (LTRG)	Casework: Client In-Take Support
Health Educators/Behavioral Health	Neighborhood Community Groups	Low schedule flexibility due to program requirements	Call Center Operations
Trained in Confidential Information		New arena for program staff/members	Economic Resilience (LTRG)

Environmental Stewardship Examples

Skills	Partners	Challenges	Potential Roles
Leadership	Wildlife conservation centers	Low schedule flexibility due to program requirements	Volunteer reception center support
Self-sufficiency (camping equipment/skills)	Local/State/Federal Government parks	Internal structure (individual member placements vs. team structure)	Donations management support
Field work skills (building, chainsaws, debris removal, etc)	Schools/Universities	Location— may be in low population areas of state and distant from needs areas	Volunteer leadership
First aid/CPR/safety Training	Nonprofits	Access to incident command structure	Levy inspection
	Environmental organizations	Access to long term recovery groups/committees (LTRG)	Health indicators monitoring (environmental health) Preparedness education

Economic Examples

Skills	Partners	Challenges	Potential Roles
Translation skills	Government (local/state/tribal agencies)	Low scheduling flexibility due to program requirements	Translation services
Assessment	Economic focused nonprofits	Access to Long Term Recovery Groups (LTRG)	Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) staffing support— interviewing/fiscal stewardship
Volunteer recruitment	Volunteer centers	Internal structure (individual member placements vs. team structure)	Emotional counseling
Financial literacy education	Businesses		Financial literacy services

Veterans and Military Families Examples

Skills	Partners	Challenges	Potential Roles
Leadership	Community centers	Low schedule flexibility due to program requirements	Volunteer leadership
Self-sufficiency	Schools/Universities	Internal structure (individual member placement vs. team structure)	Support structured activities for youth during school closures
Incident command experience	Service nonprofits	Access to incident command structure	Health indicator monitoring
Familiar with emergency management culture		Access to long term recovery groups/committees (LTRG)	Rebuilding support Preparedness education

For more information on when and how National Service Programs can be utilized in disaster response and recovery or questions about other potential roles, email us at DSU@cns.gov