



Employers *of National Service*

Profiles of National Service Alumni

National service creates leaders who make America stronger at home and across the globe. Meet some of the National Service Alumni who credit their service experience with helping them develop the skills, resolve, and ingenuity to chart their own course and inspire change.

Wendy Lee - Peace Corps, 2008 to 2010

Employer: Apple, Inc.

Wendy Lee served as a Community Economic Development Volunteer in Cameroon, where she taught a series of business classes to entrepreneurs and provided advisory services to the clients at a local microfinance institution. In her current role at Apple, she is based in Shanghai and manages the financing for the construction and operation of Apple retail stores in China – a role which entails working with both local Chinese and international counterparts. She writes, “Coming into my role at Apple, I didn’t have extensive technical experience. Yet, I quickly learned that emotional intelligence is even more valuable than any technical skill. Peace Corps service is the best training ground for emotional intelligence. The ability to adapt quickly and to pick up cultural nuances is extremely important in today’s interconnected world.”



Josh Smith – AmeriCorps, 2005 to 2007

Employer: American Family Insurance

Josh served in AmeriCorps St. Louis leading disaster response and environmental conservation efforts as part of its Emergency Response Team (ERT), where he volunteered to take a leadership role in a massive volunteer coordination effort to respond to Hurricane Katrina. He now works for the venture capital arm of American Family Insurance, responsible for sourcing, evaluating, and structuring early stage investments in emerging technology companies. Josh says “AmeriCorps taught me the power and possibility of equipping and unleashing passionate individuals to solve problems in their communities. Fundamentally, that’s where we’re doing in venture capital, too; we invest in talented, motivated entrepreneurs who create jobs and build teams in order to tackle huge problems and effect positive change.”



Sondra Samuels - Peace Corps, 1992 to 1994, AmeriCorps, 1994

Employer: Northside Achievement Zone

Sondra Samuels served in both AmeriCorps (with the Justice Department's Weed and Seed Initiative) and the Peace Corps (Botswana, Africa through the Small Enterprise Development Program). Her big takeaway from her time in AmeriCorps: Place matters. She believes living where you serve is the ultimate in connection to any struggle. She now lives and works in North Minneapolis, a community where disparities abound, and where families and children are isolated by race and income. She is dedicated to helping eliminate these disparities in her role as President and CEO of Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ) and in partnership with the 44 community organizations and schools that make up the NAZ collaborative to create one system of support for children and their families.



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Edward Crawford - Peace Corps, 2004 to 2006

Employer: Goldman Sachs

Edward Crawford served as a Community Forestry Extension Volunteer in the Dominican Republic, where he started a coffee cooperative – a group which grew from four members to more than 180. In his current role at Goldman Sachs, he advises business owners, foundations, and endowments on how to best manage their investment assets. Of his Peace Corps service, he writes, “The Peace Corps pushed my comfort zone and taught me the value of perseverance. It taught me to follow my heart and take risks in my career and this has shaped my career in finance. Peace Corps taught me the meaning of true servant leadership; the team always comes before the individual. I work in a diverse work place with a strong team work culture. We find strength in our differences and leverage this strength to serve our clients.”



Lise Pace – AmeriCorps VISTA, 2008 - 2010

Employer: Bosma Enterprises

Lise, who has retinitis pigmentosa, a degenerative eye condition, thought that her newly acquired disability precluded her from employment entirely. As an AmeriCorps VISTA member at Bosma Enterprises, she designed and implemented a volunteer program that allowed people with disabilities to serve in programs such as Habitat for Humanity. After her service year, Lise was hired as a full-time employee at Bosma Enterprises and started a Bosma corporate-wide volunteer program that gives employees at all levels in the organization — of which more than half have visual impairments — the opportunity to engage in worthwhile community service. Lise is now the Senior Marketing Manager at Bosma Enterprises, raising awareness through marketing, outreach activities, public policy initiatives and fundraising.



Delores Morton – AmeriCorps, 1995

Employer: Points of Light

Delores Morton began her career in the volunteer sector in 1995 as an AmeriCorps member in her home community of St. Mary Parish, LA. She currently serves as the President of the Programs Division for Points of Light, the world’s largest organization dedicated to volunteer service. In this role she is responsible for developing program initiatives and models to address the organization’s core impact areas – education, economy, environment, emergency response and preparedness, and veterans and military families. Prior to joining to Points of Light, Delores served as the Director of the Center for Nonprofit Resources at Volunteer Baton Rouge, Executive Director of the Louisiana Association for Community Economic Development, and the Chair of the Mid-South Collaborative for Nonprofit Development. In 2012, Delores was honored as a Champion of Change during AmeriCorps Alums Day at the White House.



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Roger Wong – AmeriCorps, 2003

Employer: Marsh & McLennan Companies

After witnessing the death of a friend in the September 11 attacks, Roger was inspired to serve in AmeriCorps. Over the years, he's created safe spaces for young people at the Seeds of Peace Camp, collaborated with the community to reduce youth violence in Boston, and worked as a Philanthropy Manager at Charles Schwab and eBay. He continues working to drive change at the intersection of the business, government, and social sectors. Roger worked as Service Years Director with NYC Service and joined the inaugural class of the Franklin Project Ambassadors Program to encourage more people to serve a year. He currently is a Corporate Social Responsibility Manager at Marsh & McLennan Companies.



Earl Millett Jr. – AmeriCorps, 2000 to 2001, Peace Corps, 2003 to 2005

Employer: Civic Works

Earl Millett Jr. began his career in service in 2000 when he joined AmeriCorps serving with Volunteer Maryland. He established a formal volunteer program at Garden Harvest, a Maryland organic farm that donates its produce to soup kitchens and homeless shelters. During his second term he mentored 12 new AmeriCorps members and helping them establish volunteer programs at small nonprofit organizations. He also served as an Environment/Forestry Peace Corps Volunteer in Ecuador from 2003-2005 and as a Crisis Corps (now Peace Corps Response) volunteer in New Orleans in response to Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Early in 2006, Earl joined Civic Works as a Volunteer Coordinator, helping others benefit from the opportunities he enjoyed serving in AmeriCorps. He currently directs several programs, handling management of supervisors and administration of budgets.



Rebecca Lange - AmeriCorps NCCC, 1995 to 1996

Employer: U. S. Air Force

Rebecca Lange is currently the Deputy Legislative Assistant at the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. She is also a proud alumna of AmeriCorps NCCC's second class. She served at the Central Region campus in Denver, CO, from 1995-1996, and currently serves on the board of the Washington, DC, chapter of AmeriCorps Alums. Rebecca is currently a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force, and describes her transition from AmeriCorps to the military as a "natural progression." Four years after her AmeriCorps experience, she graduated from the University of Colorado – thanks in large part to her Segal AmeriCorps Education Award – and was commissioned to the U.S. Air Force as a second lieutenant. From building houses with Habitat for Humanity, to building trails with AmeriCorps NCCC, to tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Rebecca says, "It's all about service. It's the pride in knowing your country needs you and has trained you to answer its call. And in a small, small way, you know you are giving back to the country that allowed you to grow up in freedom."



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