

National Service Impact in Arizona

AmeriCorps

Arizona AmeriCorps State programs will provide many needed and important services in the 2013-14 year. Three projected highlights: 1) In southern Arizona, the 27 AmeriCorps members of the American Red Cross Operation Desert Home program will provide 15,000 military families and 7,000 active duty military and other military with case management, benefits advocacy, eviction prevention, child-related behavioral health referrals, and deployment cycle education; 2) The Nature Conservancy's five AmeriCorps members will provide 6,000 students with water conservation education across Arizona; and 3) Through the efforts of 119 AmeriCorps members, 4,450 k-12 students will be mentored or tutored and will improve performance and attendance in Tucson (Pima Prevention Partnership, the Phoenix metro area (Experience Matters) and in Flagstaff (Civic Service Institute at Northern Arizona University).

AmeriCorps NCCC

The Southwest Conservation Corps' mission is to empower individuals to positively impact their lives, their communities, and the environment. With the Southwest Conservation Corps, AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) team cleared 60 acres of land of more than 4,000 pounds of invasive species and underbrush, while also restoring five miles of hiking trail, 12 campsites, and 45 picnic sites. The AmeriCorps NCCC team helped restore the original design features of the trails and accompanying structures. This work helps improve visitor satisfaction, safety, and natural and cultural resource protection.

AmeriCorps VISTA

The Arizona Refugee Resettlement Program AmeriCorps VISTA Project in Phoenix sponsored 14 assignments that provided services to 2,424 refugees. The VISTA project emphasizes services to older refugees, youth, women and families. VISTA members recruited 676 volunteers who performed 8,794 service hours, representing more than 12 service hours per volunteer. Cash donations totaled \$14,740 and in-kind donations totaled \$268,318. Highlights include: \$14,740 cash donation which purchased four storage units which will hold over 500 items to be distributed to more than 50 refugee families; 20 computers were given to newly arrived refugee clients to assist them in enhancing their resumes and applying for jobs; 30 older refugees participated in weekly citizenship/ELT tutoring classes; 108 families attended the American Dream Academy which focuses on educating parents on the importance of school engagement to support student success.

Senior Corps

Northern Arizona University's Civic Service Institute engages Foster Grandparent volunteers to serve as tutors and mentors to special needs children throughout Arizona. Last fiscal year, 170 Foster Grandparent volunteers served 127,922 hours assisting more than 1,000 children. Of the children assisted by FGP volunteers statewide, 93 percent showed improved motor skills; 95 percent demonstrated improved intellectual/thinking skills; 90 percent showed improved social/emotional skills; and 95 percent demonstrated improved language development skills as rated by classroom teachers. Furthermore, 97 percent of children showed improved confidence in their motor skills; 96% showed improved confidence in their intellectual/thinking skills; 92 percent demonstrated improved confidence in their social/emotional skills and 95 percent demonstrated improved confidence in their language development skills.