



National Service in Maine



MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS IN MAINE

More than 2,600 people of all ages and backgrounds are helping to meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement through national service in Maine. Serving at more than 340 locations throughout the state, these citizens tutor and mentor children, support veterans and military families, provide health services, restore the environment, respond to disasters, increase economic opportunity, and recruit and manage volunteers.

This year, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) will commit more than \$6,080,000 to support Maine communities through national service initiatives. CNCS invests in cost-effective community solutions--working hand in hand with local partners to improve lives, expand economic opportunity, and engage citizens in solving problems in their communities. Serving in many of the state's most impoverished communities, CNCS provides vital support to schools, food banks, homeless shelters, community health clinics, youth centers, veterans service facilities, and other nonprofit and faith-based organizations at a time of growing demand for services. Through a unique public-private partnership, this federal investment will leverage an additional \$3,220,000 in other resources to strengthen community impact, build local support, and increase return on taxpayer dollars.

AmeriCorps: This year AmeriCorps will provide more than 460 individuals the opportunity to provide intensive, results-driven service to meet education, environmental, health, economic, and other pressing needs in communities across Maine. Most AmeriCorps grant funding goes to the Maine Commission for Community Service, which in turn awards grants to nonprofit groups to respond to local needs. Most of the remainder of the grant funding is distributed by CNCS directly to multi-state and national organizations through a competitive grants process. Other individuals serve through AmeriCorps VISTA, whose members help bring individuals and communities out of poverty by serving full-time to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, and increase housing opportunities, and AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a 10-month, full time residential program for men and women between the ages of 18 and 24. In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award that can be used to pay for college or to pay back qualified student loans. Since 1994, more than 5,700 Maine residents have served more than 8.1 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$18,540,000.

Senior Corps: More than 2,200 seniors in Maine contribute their time and talents in one of three Senior Corps programs. Foster Grandparents serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to more than 960 young people who have special needs. Senior Companions help more than 420 homebound seniors and other adults maintain independence in their own homes. RSVP volunteers conduct safety patrols, renovate homes, protect the environment, tutor and mentor youth, respond to natural disasters, and provide other services through more than 100 groups across Maine.

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. CNCS annually engages more than five million Americans in service to meet local needs through Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and national days of service; improves communities through the Social Innovation Fund, and leads President Obama's national call to service initiative, United We Serve. To learn more visit NationalService.gov or Serve.gov or call 202-606-5000 or TTY 1-800-833-3722.

Maine At a Glance

AmeriCorps	Projects	Service Locations	Participants ¹	Education Scholarships ²	Program Funding
AmeriCorps National	5	16	24	\$168,200	\$140,357 ³
AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects	1	1	6	-	- ⁴
AmeriCorps State Competitive	3	19	327	\$596,025	\$1,288,964
AmeriCorps State Formula	4	24	79	\$316,897	\$695,350
AmeriCorps VISTA	1	42	24	\$135,735	\$390,480
AMERICORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	14	102	460	\$1,216,857	\$2,515,151
Senior Corps	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Foster Grandparent Program	2	93	245	-	\$854,477
RSVP	7	109	1,853	-	\$549,098
Senior Companion Program	2	23	135	-	\$445,882
SENIOR CORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	11	225	2,233	-	\$1,849,457
Other Funding	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
State Commission Operations Support	1	-	-	-	\$250,000
Volunteer Generation Fund	1	-	-	-	\$250,273
OTHER FUNDING TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	2	-	-	-	\$500,273
PROGRAM TOTALS	27	327 ⁵	2,693	\$1,216,857	\$4,864,881
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING (including Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards)					\$6,081,738
TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT (Non-CNCS Resources)					\$3,229,857 ⁶
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING + TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT					\$9,311,595

- Notes: The data shown represents a snapshot in time. CNCS project sites, participants, and funding change throughout the year, so the data may not reflect current conditions.
- This figure represents the number of awarded positions available to be filled in the 2014 - 2015 program year. For AmeriCorps VISTA, this represents the actual number of VISTA members in active service.
 - This figure represents the maximum potential value of Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards that can be earned by AmeriCorps members serving in Maine. The award can be used in any state to pay for college, graduate school, vocational training, or to pay back student loans. The education award total is included in total CNCS funding.
 - AmeriCorps National figures may include national programs headquartered in the state and/or operating sites of national programs that are headquartered in other states. Funding reflects the estimated proportionate share of the national grant associated with operating sites in this report. Some national organizations do not report operating site data, or it was not available at time of publishing, so figures may not reflect current conditions.
 - Maine is served by the AmeriCorps NCCC campus located in Perry Point, Maryland. In the past year, AmeriCorps NCCC teams have served on projects in Bath, Bryant Pond, Topsham, Augusta, Wells.
 - The service location total may contain multiple counts of unique locations where multiple CNCS programs are operating.
 - As part of its public-private partnership approach, CNCS requires grantees to leverage additional resources to strengthen community impact and increase the return on the federal investment. This figure reflects non-CNCS cash and in-kind resources that CNCS grantees and project sponsors have committed to raise to support their programming activities across the state.



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AmeriCorps State

The Maine Conservation Corps AmeriCorps program improves public property for the increased use and enjoyment of the public, provides conservation education, promotes and manages volunteer opportunities related to natural resources, and helps public and nonprofit organizations with projects that serve a valid public purpose. Maine Conservation Corps' 76 AmeriCorps members serve all of Maine's counties, focusing on community outreach, volunteer coordination and education through projects like watershed surveys, classroom activities and ecological studies as well as constructing and rehabilitating recreational trails. National Service through the Maine Conservation Corps provides the opportunity for work experience while instilling an ethic of volunteerism. The Maine Conservation Corps supports Maine's economy with jobs and with "green infrastructure" bringing prosperity to rural areas through nature-based tourism and quality of place. In 2014, the Maine Conservation Corps recruited and trained 769 community volunteers, supported nine veterans among their members, constructed 12 miles of new trail, renovated another 186 miles, including 697 bridges, 950 stone steps and 4066 feet of bog bridges.

Twenty REAL School AmeriCorps members work to engage 115 low-income, at-risk 7-12 grade students from 10 southern Maine towns in active, ongoing service-learning projects at three school sites. REAL School students learn best through tasks that are authentic and make a tangible impact in the community. AmeriCorps members are ideal partners to engage hard-to-reach students in need of direction and role models. Given the intense, multi-faceted needs of REAL School students, a strong and resilient volunteer force is required. AmeriCorps members are the only ones who have ever been able to make a significant impact at the school due to their deep commitment to national service and the strong network of support they have. REAL School delivers academic curricula through service-learning projects of all types. AmeriCorps members are the primary facilitators of projects that are both helpful to the communities served and meaningful and engaging to REAL School students. These projects are designed to address real issues in surrounding communities including environmental issues and issues of poverty and access in Southern Maine.

AmeriCorps VISTA

The Maine AmeriCorps VISTA Project offers members a variety of opportunities to fight poverty in positions that build capacity and sustainability in local organizations. This 34-member state-wide project is sponsored by the Maine Commission for Community Service. Over the past year, members recruited 221 volunteers that gave 33,245 hours of service and raised \$266,184 in cash resources for local non-profit organizations. The VISTA member serving at Pine Tree Legal Services in Portland, focused on increasing the agency's capacity to address legal needs of Maine veterans and their families in need. This past year, 20 attorneys and advocates were trained to provide civil legal assistance to veterans through training organized by VISTA member Daniel Dube. He also helped establish a Veterans Law Section within the Maine State Bar Association with a membership that includes 33 attorneys. To sustain this training program, VISTA member partnered with the Maine State Bar Association to establish a Veterans Law Section and provide Continuing Legal Education (CLE) on veterans' issues. Daniel's ground work translated into \$20,850 of donated legal services to Veterans and their families.

Phaeng Southisombath, an AmeriCorps VISTA serving as volunteer coordinator at Community Financial Literacy in Portland, recruited more than 400 volunteers. These volunteers conducted financial workshops to the immigrant, refugee, and asylee communities in Androscoggin and Cumberland counties. The immigrants and refugees represented more than 21 different countries. Southisombath recruited three marketing volunteers that enhanced CFL's grant database and research capability, and he also established an annual fundraiser that attracted more than 100 donors. CFL's overall mission is to empower refugee and immigrant communities by providing them with financial skills for a better future. Over the past several years, VISTA members have helped CFL reach more than 1,600 individuals through financial workshops. More than 1,700 individuals and families received financial counseling.

AmeriCorps NCCC

An AmeriCorps NCCC team served at the Wells Reserve, a National Estuarine Research Reserve in Wells, Maine, which is responsible for the upkeep and improvement of the farm buildings, campus grounds, the trails, boardwalks, the Maine Coastal Ecology Center, the Forest Learning Shelter, and the Alheim Commons. The Wells Reserve operates programs in coastal research and monitoring, environmental learning and decision-maker training, and land and water resource management. Members supported the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve mission by performing several tasks. Corps members removed invasive species, transplanted bushes and trees to create a visual buffer along entryway road, and rototilled a large Master Gardiner garden. The team also supported the efforts of the rabbit habitat restoration project with the Wells Reserve and the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Center. During their stay in Maine the team assisted with the marking and maintenance of trails throughout the area and repaired and painted many of Wells Reserve's historic buildings and structures. The team also participated in the United Way Day of Caring, where the team led volunteers to help build a playground.

AmeriCorps NCCC Cont'd

The mission of the University of Maine 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Bryant Pond is to educate and inspire people of all ages and backgrounds toward social, economic, and environmental sustainability and conservation through affordable, experiential learning. AmeriCorps NCCC team members assisted with gardening, trail improvement, and cabin and housing improvements. The team built raised beds that will serve the "Harvest for Hunger" program which serves families in need with fresh garden produce; complete three cabins that were built by the Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School's Tech School by painting, staining, sealing the cabins; and contribute to maintaining and improving trails, keeping them presentable, accessible and safe. The work the team accomplished will lead to enhanced capacity, safety, and aesthetics at the camp. Finalizing the building and finishing of cabins will lead to increased capacity for residential programming in the future. With safe and well-maintained trails, a clean lake, and a bountiful garden, 4-H will be able to provide the community and youth visitors with many memorable natural experiences.

Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program

The Penquis Community Action Foster Grandparent program serves children and youth in 14-counties across Maine. The children served by Foster Grandparents in elementary schools are coming to school with delayed social and cognitive skills including low proficiency in reading and math. Foster Grandparents build meaningful relationships with at-risk children enabling them to build confidence, self-esteem, and improved social skills. This relationship, along with regular tutoring, acceptance, and positive reinforcement by the Foster Grandparents, enable students to reach their academic goals. Over the past year, 475 elementary students received individual support in academic areas from 58 Foster Grandparents that led to improved participation in reading, math, and other assignments. One hundred percent of teachers surveyed reported that all of the students working with Foster Grandparents demonstrated improved academic skills. This program is a blessing for children and older people, wrote Juanita Davis, Foster Grand Parent in East Machias, "I feel younger in body as well as at heart. Being a Foster Grandparent is a very important part of my life. What would I do without it"?

Senior Corps RSVP

Maine ranks first in New England in terms of child and senior food insecurity and second in New England in terms of overall food insecurity. The total population that is food insecure in Knox, Lincoln, and Waldo counties totals 16,460 people of which 5,090 are children. Local organizations that provide food assistance depend heavily on volunteers for food collection, preparation, and distribution. Over the past year, the Penquis Community Action RSVP Program in Bangor engaged 90 RSVP volunteers who donated 12,000 hours of service to address food security issues. RSVP volunteers provided 1,086 food insecure individuals with food through Meals on Wheels, food pantries, and other programs. All RSVP volunteers reported increase food security and nutrition for beneficiaries. The 175 Penquis RSVP volunteers also provided 18,259 hours of service in the areas of independent living for seniors and school readiness for children.

Senior Corps Senior Companion Program

Maine is the fifth oldest state in the nation. More than 50 percent of Maine's elders live in rural areas, twice the national average. Rural elders face unique challenges including lack of transportation and limited availability of services. Rural elders and elders who live alone need support to maintain or regain their independence. Connectedness is a necessary component of successful aging, and isolation is one risk factor for poor health. Elders who live alone often need greater community support, and are less satisfied with life and more depressed. Elders who live alone have a strong need for companionship and support. To address this issue, the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Senior Companion Program engages 113 Senior Companion volunteers in providing companionship to 424 home bound elderly clients over the past year. Eighty percent of volunteer station supervisors reported that they observed a reduction in loneliness or isolation of their clients as a result of the Senior Companion Program. One Senior Companion shared that on some days she gets to sit and listen to her 105 year old client play her piano. "Treasured gifts come in all types of packages."

Volunteer Generation Fund

United Way of York (UWYC) expanded volunteer center activities to increase the number of youth and young adults and individuals 55 and older in addressing local needs related to energy conservation or consumption, increased high school graduation rates, and pursuit of post-secondary education. During 2014, 1,918 youth/young adults and 55+ volunteers served 54,489 hours and more than 90 agencies participated in trainings or received technical assistance on effective volunteer management practices. UWYC and the Maine Commission for Community Service implemented the Service Enterprise Initiative which serves to strengthen the capacity of nonprofits to fundamentally leverage volunteers and their skills to address community needs. Six nonprofits completed the self-assessment tool, required training sessions, and developed action plans for national certification. Two nonprofits are certified Service Enterprises and others are working on certification. Research demonstrates Service Enterprises outperform peer organizations on all measures of organizational capacity thereby allowing these nonprofits to more effectively address community needs and operate at almost half the median budget.



AMERICORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS/PROJECTS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	460	14
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	88	13

Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Augusta	Augusta - Individual Assistance (September 26 - November 21, 2014) FEMA - Region I	7	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Augusta	Augusta, ME Disaster Survivor Assistance Team (September 8 - December 16, 2014) Maine State Museum	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Augusta	Maine Conservation Corps (Current) Maine Conservation Corps	81	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Augusta	Maine Conservation Corps (Current) The Corps Network	10	AmeriCorps National
Augusta	Maine VISTA Project (Current) Maine Commission for Community Service	24	AmeriCorps VISTA
Bangor	Augusta - Individual Assistance (September 26 - November 21, 2014) FEMA - Region I	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Bangor	Bangor AmeriCorps Opportunity Collaborative (Current) Eastern Maine Community College	30	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Bangor	Make a Difference Day of Service (October 25 - October 25, 2014) Habitat for Humanity - Northern Virginia	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Bangor	Penobscot Community Health Care (Completed) National Association of Community Health Centers, Inc.	4	AmeriCorps National
Bath	Habitat -7 Rivers (September 15 - October 9, 2014) Habitat for Humanity - 7 Rivers Maine, Inc.	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Bath	HfH 7 Rivers (March 7 - April 30, 2014) Habitat for Humanity - 7 Rivers Maine, Inc.	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Falmouth	REAL School Service Learning Program (Current) RSU 14 Windham Raymond Schools	20	AmeriCorps State Formula
Lewiston	Bates College ME 04240-6028 (Current) The College of New Jersey	-	AmeriCorps National
Milbridge	SCA Maine (Current) Student Conservation Association, Inc.	-	AmeriCorps National
Portland	Good Shepherd Food Bank (Current) Share Our Strength	2	AmeriCorps National
Portland	Great Strides ME (Completed) Goodwill Industries of Northern New England	34	AmeriCorps National
Portland	LearningWorks AIMS HIGH (Current) LearningWorks	216	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Portland	Multilingual Leadership Corps (Current) Goodwill Industries of Northern New England	39	AmeriCorps State Formula
Portland	Portland - Disaster Survivor Assistance (December 8, 2014 - Current) FEMA - Region I	6	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Presque Isle	Augusta - Individual Assistance (September 26 - November 21, 2014) FEMA - Region I	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Rockland	Island Fellows AmeriCorps Program (Current) Island Institute	10	AmeriCorps State Formula
Rumford	Augusta - Individual Assistance (September 26 - November 21, 2014) FEMA - Region I	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Topsham	Habitat -7 Rivers (September 15 - October 9, 2014) Habitat for Humanity - 7 Rivers Maine, Inc.	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Waldoboro	FoodCorps Maine (Current) FoodCorps, Inc.	10	AmeriCorps State Formula
Waldoboro	UMaine Cooperative Extension (Current) FoodCorps, Inc.	12	AmeriCorps National
Wells	Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve (October 5 - November 4, 2014) Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve	8	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Wells	Wells Reserve (May 9 - June 27, 2014) Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve	8	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects



AMERICORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS/PROJECTS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	460	14
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	88	13

Primary City	Program/Project Name	Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
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Notes: If there are programs with identical names in separate entries, they are different grants to the same organization. If no members are shown, either the grant is for planning or technical assistance, or enrollment data was not available at the time of printing.
 The city column refers to the location of the sponsor organization. AmeriCorps members may be serving in other locations than the city listed.

Senior Corps in Maine



SENIOR CORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	2,233	11
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	330	1

Primary City	Program Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Bangor	Penquis Community Action Program FGP (Current) Penquis Community Action Program	105	Foster Grandparent Program
Bangor	UMaine Center on Aging RSVP (Current) University of Maine System	200	RSVP
Bangor	UMaine Center on Aging RSVP (Current) University of Maine System	200	RSVP
Orono	University of Maine Senior Companion Program (Current) University of Maine System	101	Senior Companion Program
Portland	Cumberland/York FGP (Current) The Opportunity Alliance	140	Foster Grandparent Program
Portland	Senior Companion Program (Current) The Opportunity Alliance	34	Senior Companion Program
Presque Isle	Aroostook RSVP (Current) Aroostook Area Agency on Aging	400	RSVP
Rockland	Penquis RSVP (Current) Penquis Community Action Program	200	RSVP
Rockland	Penquis RSVP (Current) Penquis Community Action Program	186	RSVP
Scarborough	RSVP of Southern Maine (Completed) Southern Maine Agency on Aging	330	RSVP
Scarborough	Southern Maine Agency on Aging (Current)	400	RSVP
Waterville	MaineGeneral RSVP (Current) MaineGeneral Community Care	267	RSVP

Note: The city column refers to the location of sponsor organization. Volunteers may be serving in other locations than the city listed.