

AmeriCorps State

Nevada's AmeriCorps State programs are delivered through eight organizations which will engage 328 AmeriCorps members at more than 62 Nevada nonprofits, education or public agencies across the state. In 2014-15 Nevada will realize significant impacts. The Nevada Conservation Corps will deploy 162 members statewide to build sustainable trails and decommission illegal trail ways equaling 100 miles, and will maintain and improve 4,500 acres of public lands through the removal of invasive species, reducing hazardous fuels and protecting sensitive habitat. In southern Nevada, more than 33 AmeriCorps members will be supporting future Nevadans education by providing afterschool programming to 2,500 youth, targeted attendance support and parental engagement for 2,800 high school students, and programs targeting parental engagement and early childhood education. In rural Nevada, the Nevada Outdoor School AmeriCorps program will deploy 32 members, of which five will support 850 rural Nevadans in accessing community resources that support independent living.

The Parasol Tahoe Community Foundation AmeriCorps program engages individuals and nonprofits in the Incline Village area to address unmet needs through service. Twelve AmeriCorps members serve in the areas of education, healthy futures, and land stewardship. Expected results include collection of more than 7,000 pounds of food for 25,000 individuals and more than 4,300 youth and 6,350 adults receiving energy conservation education. In addition, the AmeriCorps team implements a community service project each year. One such project was the Unity Project, an eight-week mentorship program with the Incline Middle School. The project examined social and peer pressure issues such as bullying, tolerance and respect, self esteem, identity, goal setting, self help and self care and health and wellness. These projects, developed by the AmeriCorps team with community partners, build the community network for future engagement.

AmeriCorps VISTA

Washoe County School District serves 62,986 Pre-K through 12th grade students and is committed to its mission "to create an education system where all students achieve academic success, develop personal and civic responsibility, and achieve career and college readiness for the 21st century." The First Teacher Training Project aligns is developing age-appropriate parent trainings and materials to support learning at home to benefit students in Pre-K through 12th grades. Nine AmeriCorps VISTAs and 20 Summer VISTAs will contribute to the five-year project's success by assisting in the development of the trainings; providing training to schools, parents/families, and teachers on using and accessing resources; gathering resources needed for core academic take-home activity packets; providing direct academic tutoring and mentoring services for literacy and other learning objectives during the summer; and, producing web-based and electronic training videos, and fundraising so the project can be sustainable.

AmeriCorps NCCC

The Boys & Girls Club of Mason Valley sponsored their first AmeriCorps NCCC team during the summer of 2014. Their mission is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. During the team's service with the Boys & Girls Club of Mason Valley, the team worked at three different branches in Yerington, Silver Springs, and Dayton, NV maintaining operations for the summer break program and processing over 100 membership applications. Corps members also assisted with meal preparation for the summer program and preparing over 500 meals daily. Additionally, the team served at the Attic Thrift Shop, a division of the Boys & Girls Club, where they sorted over 50,000 pounds of donations. They assisted the event planner with set-up for the Night in the Country, the Club's largest annual fundraising event. Members assisted volunteers with event preparations by laying 10,000 sq. ft. of repurposed artificial turf for the festival grounds, constructing thirteen refreshment stands, and clearing over 2,000 campgrounds. The team also painted a mural at the Yerington Club for Boys & Girls Club.

Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program

Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada serves as the sponsoring agency of the Foster Grandparent Program in the greater Las Vegas area. The Foster Grandparent Program assists at-risk young in making critical gains in education and healthy futures. Foster Grandparent services in these areas are essential to ensuring that families and children in Clark County have the support necessary to experience academic and personal success. The Clark County School District is the fifth largest in the United States and faces challenges in student outcomes including low test scores and low graduation rates. In 2011, the Foster Grandparent Program began partnering with Oasis Institute and Wellpoint Foundation to offer an evidenced-based nutrition and exercise curriculum. This program is not only proving successful at alleviating childhood obesity, it also is showing improved health outcomes for the volunteers who are teaching healthy habits to children.

Senior Corps RSVP

RSVP of Washoe County is sponsored by the University of Nevada Reno's Sanford Center for Aging. The mission of the center is to enhance the quality of life for older persons through innovation and leadership in interdisciplinary aging-related research, education, and community outreach. RSVP volunteers provide a range of services including independent living support, tutoring and educational support, crime prevention; and providing services and information to seniors.

Senior Corps Senior Companion Program

The Senior Companion Program, sponsored by Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, is making a difference in the lives of our frail, at-risk seniors. Seventy-two Senior Companions empowered and supported more than 260 clients in meeting their everyday needs last year. Our Senior Companions utilize a person-to-person centered volunteer assignment plan that focuses on maintaining the independence and well-being of each client in order to elevate depression and isolation. Through compassionate communication skills and knowledge in dealing with difficult behaviors, these high impact volunteers provided more than 62,000 hours of service to their senior peers. Surveys found that 96 percent of clients felt less depressed and isolated, resulting in improved health and well-being. A major focus of the program is the extensive on-going training that the volunteers commit to while in the program.