



## National Service in South Dakota



### MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS IN SOUTH DAKOTA

More than 2,900 people of all ages and backgrounds are helping to meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement through national service in South Dakota. Serving at more than 510 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 \$3,290,000 to support South Dakota 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 \$1,240,000 in other resources to strengthen community impact, build local support, and increase return on taxpayer dollars.

**AmeriCorps:** This year AmeriCorps will provide more than 150 individuals the opportunity to provide intensive, results-driven service to meet education, environmental, health, economic, and other pressing needs in communities across South Dakota. Most AmeriCorps grant funding goes to the Serve South Dakota, 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 2,000 South Dakota residents have served more than 2.4 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$5,760,000.

**Senior Corps:** More than 2,700 seniors in South Dakota 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 2,000 young people who have special needs. Senior Companions help more than 460 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 370 groups across South Dakota.

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](http://NationalService.gov) or [Serve.gov](http://Serve.gov) or call 202-606-5000 or TTY 1-800-833-3722.

# South Dakota At a Glance

<b>AmeriCorps</b>	Projects	Service Locations	Participants <sup>1</sup>	Education Scholarships <sup>2</sup>	Program Funding
AmeriCorps National	4	5	2	\$33,267	\$26,000 <sup>3</sup>
AmeriCorps State Competitive	1	17	78	\$440,310	\$62,400
AmeriCorps State Formula	3	6	51	\$229,115	\$541,583
AmeriCorps Tribes/Territories	1	14	20	\$56,450	\$195,000
AmeriCorps VISTA	-	3	-	-	-
<b>AMERICORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>\$759,143</b>	<b>\$824,983</b>
<b>Senior Corps</b>	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Foster Grandparent Program	2	67	191	-	\$647,110
RSVP	6	376	2,475	-	\$445,132
Senior Companion Program	1	29	102	-	\$367,390
<b>SENIOR CORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>2,768</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$1,459,632</b>
<b>Other Funding</b>	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
State Commission Operations Support	1	-	-	-	\$249,161
<b>OTHER FUNDING TOTAL (Current Projects Only)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$249,161</b>
<b>PROGRAM TOTALS</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>517 <sup>4</sup></b>	<b>2,919</b>	<b>\$759,143</b>	<b>\$2,533,776</b>
<b>TOTAL CNCS FUNDING (including Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards)</b>					<b>\$3,292,919</b>
<b>TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT (Non-CNCS Resources)</b>					<b>\$1,245,452 <sup>5</sup></b>
<b>TOTAL CNCS FUNDING + TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT</b>					<b>\$4,538,371</b>

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 South Dakota. 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.
- 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.



Since 1994, more than 2,000 South Dakota residents have served more than 2.4 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$5,760,000.

## AmeriCorps VISTA

Seven AmeriCorps VISTA members sponsored by Volunteers of America served at five nonprofit organizations. Their collective impact for the last quarter of 2013 includes:

- 323 volunteers managed by VISTAS provided 2,443 hours of service to their agencies.
- \$129,424 cash and \$16,032 worth of in-kind contributions were raised with the help of VISTAS.
- 3,658 children benefited from educational services supported by VISTAS.
- 28 veterans received support as a result of VISTA efforts.

VISTA member serving with the Boys and Girls Club in Pierre through the Volunteers of America, Dakotas Program has started a program called the Torch Club. The Torch Club is a community based program, with youth from the ages of 10 to 16 who focus on making a difference in their community through service. Some activities that have been completed are: cleaning up the stream around the club, removing the trash in the water and on the grounds. Also included were trips to a senior center where the youth provided seniors' assistance with hair and manicures as well as companionship and games such as chess and bingo.

## AmeriCorps NCCC

Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota cares for, supports and strengthens individuals, families and communities. During the summer of 2014, two AmeriCorps NCCC teams served with Lutheran Social Services following a devastating tornado and flood. The team responding to the flood served 25 homes in Lincoln and Union Counties where they mucked and gutted homes, which resulted in the removal of 5,000 pounds of wood, insulation, wood paneling, and dry wall debris. In addition, the team removed washed up corn husks, fencing, and removing sandbags used to protect structure during the flood. The team was also able to hasten the arrival of assistance for South Dakota homeowners, by organizing the contact information for volunteers, organizations, and homeowners. The NCCC team that served with Lutheran Social Services in tornado recovery cleaned 160,000 pounds of debris from 52 properties. Corps members created a 20 minute film for Lutheran Social Services that detailed the disaster recovery efforts for the tornado. The team also helped coordinate 50 volunteers, who responded to the tornado. Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota first became an AmeriCorps NCCC sponsor in 2011.

Fort Sisseton was established in 1864 to ensure safe passage for settlers, surveyors, and others in the Dakota Territory. It joined the state park system in 1959. In 2014, the Fort celebrated its 150th anniversary. From 1984-2007, the site undertook massive conservation and preservation efforts to successfully preserve the sites' 14 remaining historic structures and collections. Almost seven years later, the structures are in need of paint, basic preventative preservation efforts, and deep cleaning. Additionally, the exhibits must be systematically cleaned and exhibit items inventoried. An AmeriCorps NCCC team assisted with these tasks in preparation for the 150th Anniversary Celebration. They scraped, painted and deep cleaned 11 of the 14 buildings at the Fort. They removed debris and leaves from 800 feet of gutters, cleaned 18 Fort signs, and installed a new floating floor. In addition, they inventoried 510 items and uploaded 445 photos to the inventory tracking system. Fort Sisseton first became a sponsor in 2014.

## Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program

The Black Hills Special Services Coop Foster Grandparent Program supported 36 Foster Grandparent volunteers who provided tutoring to 646 elementary school students across western South Dakota last year. According to surveys completed by classroom teachers, more than 80 percent of students served by Foster Grandparents showed improved literacy. Foster Grandparents focused on reading and literacy and helped beginning readers with basic skills. Additionally, they served as an attentive, helpful audience to assist older readers with gaining more experience and understanding. The volunteers worked with many children whose families do not encourage reading at home. Additionally, the volunteers themselves experienced numerous benefits as a result of volunteering: 88 percent of volunteers said they noticed increased health benefits, 97 percent said volunteering increased their self-esteem and overall sense of well-being, and 97 percent said their stipend helped them continue to live independently or maintain their current level of independence.

## Senior Corps RSVP

When tornadoes devastated residents in communities in Nebraska and South Dakota, the South Central South Dakota RSVP jumped into action. Working from the RSVP program's office in Yankton, RSVP volunteers partnered with the Yankton United Way to conduct a disaster drive for the victims. United Way staff researched the needs in each area and RSVP volunteers and other local volunteers were the driving force to collect hundreds of cases of sport drinks and snacks to be transported to the affected areas. RSVP volunteers manned disaster drive tables at the local grocery store and shoppers generously contributed hundreds of cases of sport drinks and snacks. RSVP volunteers also baked dozens of baked goods for the tornado survivors. Eight RSVP volunteers manned the disaster drive tables for two days to receive the goods. United Way staff and volunteers transported the donated items to the tornado stricken areas to the north and south of Yankton. The power of great organizations, teamwork and a generous community made a difference in the wake of disaster.

## Senior Corps Senior Companion Program

The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society Senior Companion Program serves all of South Dakota. In 2013, the program supported 113 Senior Companions who served 69,845 hours with 513 frail older adults. Senior Companions assisted with basic activities such as light housekeeping, meal preparation, shopping, transportation for groceries and medical appointments, reading and paying bills, and providing emergency information. This support allowed the clients to stay in their homes and live independently. Of the 475 clients receiving in-home services, 82.5 percent were able to remain in their homes six or more months. These home services allow clients to delay nursing home placement, thereby benefiting from a better quality of life and providing cost savings to the clients, their family members, and taxpayers. Furthermore, Senior Companions also provided weekly scheduled respite care to 38 caregivers. When surveyed, 96 percent of these caregivers indicated that they felt less stress and worry because of these visits. Eighty-five percent agreed that they have the support and resources needed to continue caregiving for at least six additional months.

# AmeriCorps in South Dakota



AMERICORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS/PROJECTS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	151	9
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	418	21

Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Aberdeen	Richmond Lake Recreation Area (October 6 - November 7, 2014) South Dakota Game Fish and Parks, Richmond Lake Recreation Area	7	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Beresford	South Dakota State Park District #8 (March 17 - May 1, 2014) Newton Hills State Park	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Canton	Lutheran Social Services - Canton 2014 (October 8 - November 7, 2014) Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota	7	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Canton	South Dakota State Park District #8 (March 17 - May 1, 2014) Newton Hills State Park	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Custer	Mountain Pine Beetle Project (March 17 - March 31, 2014) Custer State Park	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Custer	SCA Veterans Fire Corps South Dakota (Current) Student Conservation Association, Inc.	-	AmeriCorps National
Harrisburg	South Dakota State Park District #8 (March 17 - May 1, 2014) Newton Hills State Park	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Hot Springs	The Nature Conservancy - Western Dakotas Program (May 10 - June 12, 2014) The Nature Conservancy - Western Dakotas Program	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Keystone	SCA South Dakota (Current) Student Conservation Association, Inc.	-	AmeriCorps National
Lake Andes	North Point Recreation Area (September 29 - October 7, 2014) South Dakota Division of Parks, North Point Recreation Area	5	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Lake City	Fort Sisseton State Park (April 1 - May 1, 2014) Fort Sisseton State Park	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Mccook Lake	South Dakota State Park District #8 (March 17 - May 1, 2014) Newton Hills State Park	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Mission	AmeriCorps GED Program (Current) Sinte Gleska University	20	AmeriCorps Indian Tribes
Mission	Sinte Gleska University AmeriCorps Planning Project (Completed) Sinte Gleska University	-	AmeriCorps Indian Tribes
Mission	Teach For America South Dakota (Completed) Teach For America	60	AmeriCorps State without Commissions
Mission	Teach For America- South Dakota (Current) Teach For America	78	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Mitchell	SD - Dakota Wesleyan University (Completed) University of Denver (Colorado Seminary)	28	AmeriCorps National
Pine Ridge	Teca Oyate Waonspekiya (Current) Red Cloud Indian School, Inc.	24	AmeriCorps State Formula
Rapid City	Black Hills Area HFH (Current) Habitat for Humanity International, Inc.	-	AmeriCorps National
Rapid City	Black Hills Workshop (March 17 - May 1, 2014) Black Hills Works	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Rapid City	Brighter Tomorrows (Completed) Volunteers of America, Dakotas	-	AmeriCorps VISTA
Sioux Falls	American Red Cross NPRC - Sioux Falls Office (Current) American National Red Cross DC	2	AmeriCorps National
Sioux Falls	AmeriCorps Service at Lutheran Social Services of South Dako (Current) Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota	17	AmeriCorps State Formula
Sioux Falls	SD - Augustana College (Completed) University of Denver (Colorado Seminary)	24	AmeriCorps National
Sioux Falls	South Dakota State Park District #8 (March 17 - May 1, 2014) Newton Hills State Park	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Spearfish	Spirit of the Hills Wildlife Sanctuary (September 8 - October 7, 2014) Spirit of the Hills Wildlife Sanctuary	10	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Sturgis	North Rapid Community Schools Partnership (Current) Black Hills Special Services Coop (BHSSC)	10	AmeriCorps State Formula



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CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	151	9
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	418	21

Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Vermillion	SD - University of South Dakota (Completed) University of Denver (Colorado Seminary)	214	AmeriCorps National
Wessington Springs	Lutheran Social Services - Wessington Springs 2014 (September 8 - October 4, 2014) Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota	8	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Wounded Knee	Earth Tipi (August 8 - August 28, 2014) Earth Tipi	10	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects

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 South Dakota



SENIOR CORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	2,768	9
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	350	1

Primary City	Program Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Mitchell	South Central SD RSVP (Current) City of Mitchell	675	RSVP
Pierre	Central SD RSVP (Current) Avera St. Mary's Hospital	260	RSVP
Rapid City	Black Hills RSVP (Current) City of Rapid City	500	RSVP
Sioux Falls	FGP Eastern SD (Current) Volunteers of America, Dakotas	108	Foster Grandparent Program
Sioux Falls	RSVP Heartland Region (Current) Volunteers of America, Dakotas	240	RSVP
Sioux Falls	RSVP Volunteers of America, Dakotas (Current) Volunteers of America, Dakotas	450	RSVP
Sioux Falls	SIOUXLAND RSVP (Completed) The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society	350	RSVP
Sioux Falls	South Dakota SCP (Current) The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society	102	Senior Companion Program
Spearfish	BHSU RSVP (Current) Black Hills State University	350	RSVP
Sturgis	Black Hills FGP (Current) Black Hills Special Services Coop (BHSSC)	83	Foster Grandparent Program

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