



National Service in Maine



MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS IN MAINE

More than 2,300 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 440 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 \$6,430,000 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 \$4,760,000 in other resources to strengthen community impact, build local support, and increase return on taxpayer dollars. Nationwide, CNCS, its grantees, and project sponsors generated more than \$1.25 billion in outside resources from businesses, foundations, public agencies, and other sources in FY 2015.

AmeriCorps: This year AmeriCorps will provide more than 500 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 6,000 Maine residents have served more than 8.5 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$19,760,000.

Senior Corps: More than 1,800 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 1,800 young people who have special needs. Senior Companions help more than 750 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 220 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	17	42	\$246,916	\$299,609 ³
AmeriCorps State Competitive	4	23	339	\$657,968	\$1,430,272
AmeriCorps State Formula	4	14	92	\$322,728	\$693,616
AmeriCorps VISTA	1	46	32	\$183,450	\$522,592
AMERICORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	14	100	505	\$1,411,062	\$2,946,089
Senior Corps	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Foster Grandparent Program	2	97	245	-	\$854,477
RSVP	5	229	1,453	-	\$410,736
Senior Companion Program	2	34	135	-	\$445,882
SENIOR CORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	9	360	1,833	-	\$1,711,095
Other Funding	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Martin Luther King Day	1	-	-	-	\$120,714
State Commission Operations Support	1	-	-	-	\$250,000
OTHER FUNDING TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	2	-	-	-	\$370,714
PROGRAM TOTALS	25	460 ⁴	2,338	\$1,411,062	\$5,027,898
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING (Including Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards)					\$6,438,960
TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT (Non-CNCS Resources)					\$4,760,910 ⁵
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING + TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT					\$11,199,870

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.

- ¹ This figure represents the number of awarded positions available to be filled in the 2015 - 2016 program year. For AmeriCorps VISTA, this represents the actual number of VISTA members in active service.
- ² 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.
- ³ 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.
- ⁴ The service location total may contain multiple counts of unique locations where multiple CNCS programs are operating.
- ⁵ 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 or other revenue used to support their programming activities across the state. Last year, CNCS, its grantees, and project sponsors generated more than \$1.25 billion in outside resources from businesses, foundations, public agencies, and other sources.

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State Commission

A priority of the Maine Commission for Community Service (MCCS) is to permanently increase local capacity to engage and effectively support volunteers. In 2015, MCCS conducted five training events for 332 community leaders: CMV 101 is an online 30 hour course for novice managers of volunteers; the state volunteerism conference is a one-day educational program; and the Service Enterprise Trainers network certifies leaders who then work with local agencies to increase efficiency and effectiveness through volunteer engagement. The impact of this training was reflected in these comments: “The Service Enterprise training has made a very significant difference in the way we do work at Heart of Biddeford. It was the time and focus we needed to bump our work to the next level and have volunteers contribute to operating the organization.” Another attendee commented, “I found the course immensely valuable, especially the second half. I know this will help, not only in future volunteer management, but some business planning and leadership principles we entrepreneurs can never learn too much about.”

AmeriCorps State

In 2015, 1,373 students completed educational programs supported by AmeriCorps members in three programs. At Spruce Mountain High School in the town of Jay, students still struggle to complete their regular courses. To address this issue, the AIMS HIGH program continues credit recovery support to students in the school. Last year, AmeriCorps members had 27 students from April to June in credit recovery programs, including Plato, Springboard English, and Math XL interventions. Of the 27 students, 14 have recovered course credit by the close of the school year, and seven are continuing with credit recovery programs to complete by the end of the summer. The last six students either moved to the alternative education program at Spruce Mountain, or felt confident enough in their progress to retake courses with teachers in the traditional manner. Out of the 14 who completed the program successfully this quarter, four were seniors who finished school and graduated on time. This impact is a direct outcome of AmeriCorps members support to students.

In 2015, AmeriCorps members improved or rehabilitated 143 miles of trails in Maine parks, wilderness areas, and municipal recreational areas. In addition, Maine Conservation Corps AmeriCorps members collaborated with local emergency responders and assisted in the search for a missing hiker in Baxter State Park. Two Maine Conservation Corps AmeriCorps teams worked to cover tough terrain of to locate the missing hiker. Local emergency responders, impressed by the service of the AmeriCorps members, expressed their intent to engage AmeriCorps members in future search efforts.

AmeriCorps National

FoodCorps has 12 AmeriCorps members serving in Bryant Pond, Ellsworth, Gardiner, Liberty, Lincolnville, Machias, Portland, Oxford, Skowhegan, Union, and Waterville. FoodCorps is a nationwide team of AmeriCorps leaders who work under the direction of local partner organizations to connect children to real food and help them grow up healthy. They teach children hands-on lessons about food and nutrition build and tend school gardens, teach cooking lessons, and help change what's on lunch trays so that children can eat healthy food from local farms. In the past year, the FoodCorps members in Maine served 12,383 children, built or brought back into use 27 school and community gardens, harvested 2,715 pounds of produce, and recruited 282 community volunteers.

AmeriCorps VISTA

Goodwill Industries of Northern New England became a new AmeriCorps VISTA partner in early 2015. Their goal is to help move 10,000 people out of poverty and into stability – a perfect fit for VISTA. Goodwill has been operating AmeriCorps programs in Maine for more than 10 years and has a staff that is 100 percent AmeriCorps Alums and 75 percent VISTA Alums. Goodwill recruited and placed 32 VISTA members and 2 VISTA leaders in 28 sites in both rural and urban settings in the most impoverished pockets of the state. One site, Mano en Mano, builds a stronger and more inclusive community in Downeast Maine by working with diverse populations to provide affordable housing and educational opportunities and removing barriers to healthcare and other social services. The AmeriCorps VISTA at that site is creating a bilingual resource guide so that will help Spanish-speaking community members have equal access to essential community resources. She is also developing and putting in place a system of volunteer management so that volunteer interpreters can help with medical appointments and school visits.

The Goodwill VISTA Partnership places AmeriCorps VISTA members throughout the state, including Aroostook County, which has the state's second-highest poverty rate. Aroostook Aspirations Initiative is dedicated to the education, inspiration, and leadership of Aroostook County youth, especially students who are at risk for not completing a college education. The Community Development Coordinator VISTA is working with each school district in Aroostook County to manage the Community Action Team, which made up of students, local businesses, and members of the community. The team identifies opportunities for students to engage in community service, creates opportunities for students to network with businesses in the spirit of service to community, and supports local fundraising to benefit Aroostook Aspirations Initiative. The VISTA is creating and managing several community events and promotes a spirit of service and commitment to Aroostook County. The VISTA has written several blog posts to build awareness of the needs of this community and the mission of the initiative.

AmeriCorps NCCC

An AmeriCorps NCCC team served with Habitat for Humanity-Seven Rivers in Topsham to support their Weatherization and Winterization program. Traditionally, Habitat has helped families leave dangerous and energy-inefficient homes in favor of newer, more sustainable properties. Habitat for Humanity Seven Rivers helps low-income families have homes by building sustainable housing and repairing, weatherizing, and winterizing existing homes. Most of the homeowners that the team's service helped were disabled, elderly, or low-income earners with several dependent children at home. The NCCC team did carpentry, weatherization, and winterization tasks – they caulked, retrofitted insulation, and built winter storm windows. Throughout the project, Habitat emphasized to the members the interconnectedness of heating, structure, appliances, and materials, and helped them understand the unique needs of Maine's rural towns, where the housing stock is among the oldest in the nation.

An AmeriCorps NCCC FEMA Corps team worked with the Maine Cultural Emergency Resource Coalition to help ten cultural institutions across the state build disaster plans. They scheduled meetings, prepared agendas and relevant materials, facilitated discussions about disaster preparedness, and assembled resources and information to build a final disaster binder for each institution. The disaster plans outlined a variety of emergency contacts, floor and evacuation plans for the institutions' facilities, emergency salvage techniques for the institutions' collections, and additional sections according to each location's needs. By the end of the project, the team had completed and presented nine disaster plans, helped the Coalition at their offices in the Maine State Museum, and built a Facebook page for the Coalition's program.

Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program

The People's Opportunity Alliance Foster Grandparent Program, based in Portland, typically has 110 volunteers who serve 15-35 hours every week in schools and pre-schools. The Foster Grandparents help at-risk youth, and children who are not performing at grade level, with school readiness, reading, and math. In southern Maine in the 2014-15 school year, the volunteers tutored more than 1,200 children. The children's teacher report that 990 improved in literacy, math, and school readiness. Children also report feeling safer at school, happier to attend school, and that learning is more fun because of their Foster Grandparent volunteer. This past year, the program's volunteers, which include 3 veterans, served 25 children who had a parent in prison, 45 abused or neglected children, 205 children with developmental disabilities, 103 children with emotional disabilities, 23 homeless children, 352 children with learning disabilities, and 403 children with language barriers.

Senior Corps RSVP

Aroostook RSVP, sponsored by the Aroostook Area Agency on Aging, covers 6,700 square miles – the largest county east of the Mississippi River. More than 2,770 people (22 percent) of its citizens age 65 and older live at or below 125 percent of the poverty level. Aroostook RSVP's 282 volunteers meet critical needs of people in the county's rural and poor communities. The volunteers prepare and deliver a week's worth of healthy meals to food-insecure older adults, drive people to medical appointments, give companionship and lessen social isolation at Maine Veteran's Home, support 11 food pantries, lead Matter of Balance classes, maintain parks and trails Aroostook National Wildlife Refuge, help with Red Cross disaster response, do VITA tax preparation, and present classes on avoiding fraud and scams that target seniors. In the past year, seven volunteers presented Medicare information in group sessions and one-on-one counseling to 664 people. They helped Medicare recipients understand their options and benefits and helped them enroll in a Medicare Savings Program and Medicaid.

Senior Corps Senior Companion Program

The University of Maine Senior Companion Program is newly sponsored by the UMaine Center on Aging. The Center promotes and organizes education, research and evaluation, and community service activities about aging to support the highest quality of life for older citizens and their families. A 2014 research project concluded that the Senior Companion independent and respite services saved Maine approximately \$4.6 million each year in long-term care expenses, based on average nursing home cost in Maine. In the past year, 105 Senior Companion volunteers gave 73,151 hours of service. Those Senior Companions gave companionship to 373 older citizens, which allowed 80 percent of the clients to stay independent in their homes. In addition, 19 Senior Companions gave 3,071 hours of respite for 37 clients and their caregivers. When they were asked how they make a difference in the lives of their clients, one Senior Companion summed up the general sentiment: they "believe all of my clients are success stories. I am happy to be able to visit with these people and make their lives less lonely."

AmeriCorps in Maine



AMERICORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS/PROJECTS
CURRENT (as of February 22, 2016)	505	14
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	105	11

Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Augusta	AmeriCorps Somerset county (Current) MEDICAL CARE DEVELOPMENT INC	21	AmeriCorps State Formula
Augusta	Augusta - Disaster Survivor Assistance (March 23 - May 9, 2015) FEMA - Region I	6	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Augusta	Maine Conservation Corps (Current) Maine Conservation Corps	86	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Augusta	Maine Conservation Corps (Current) The Corps Network	3	AmeriCorps National
Augusta	Maine VISTA Project (Completed) Maine Commission for Community Service	-	AmeriCorps VISTA
Augusta	Spectrum Generations (Current) University of Maryland	24	AmeriCorps National
Bangor	Bangor AmeriCorps Opportunity Collaborative (Completed) Eastern Maine Community College	30	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Bangor	Bangor AmeriCorps Opportunity Collaborative II (Current) Eastern Maine Development Corporation	33	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Bar Harbor	Acadia National Park (August 31 - October 9, 2015) Acadia National Park	7	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Falmouth	SySTEM REAL Stem Service Learning Project (Current) RSU 14 Windham Raymond Schools	34	AmeriCorps State Formula
Farmington	Rangeley Region Guides & Sportsmen's Association (September 5 - October 2, 2015) Rangeley Region Guides & Sportsmens Association	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Lewiston	Bates College ME 04240-6028 (Completed) The College of New Jersey	12	AmeriCorps National
Lewiston	Take 2 (Current) Goodwill Industries of Northern New England	76	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Milbridge	SCA Maine (Current) Student Conservation Association, Inc.	1	AmeriCorps National
Portland	Good Shepherd Food Bank (Current) Share Our Strength	2	AmeriCorps National
Portland	Goodwill VISTA Partnership (Current) Goodwill Industries of Northern New England	32	AmeriCorps VISTA
Portland	LearningWorks AIMS HIGH (Current) LearningWorks	144	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Portland	Multilingual Leadership Corps (Current) Goodwill Industries of Northern New England	27	AmeriCorps State Formula
Portland	Portland - Disaster Survivor Assistance (December 8 - March 12, 2015) FEMA - Region I	6	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Rangeley	Rangeley Region Guides and Sportsmen Association (July 29 - August 14, 2015) Rangeley Region Guides & Sportsmens Association	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Rockland	Island Fellows AmeriCorps Program (Completed) Island Institute	10	AmeriCorps State Formula
Waldoboro	FoodCorps Maine (Current) FoodCorps, Inc.	10	AmeriCorps State Formula
Waldoboro	UMaine Cooperative Extension (Current) FoodCorps, Inc.	12	AmeriCorps National
Wells	US Fish & Wildlife (August 31 - October 21, 2015) US Fish & Wildlife Service, Northeast Region Fire Management	8	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Wells	Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve (April 27 - May 15, 2015) Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve	8	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

AmeriCorps in Maine



AMERICORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS/PROJECTS
CURRENT (as of February 22, 2016)	505	14
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	105	11

Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
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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 February 22, 2016)	1,833	9
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	0	0

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
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	186	RSVP
Scarborough	Southern Maine Agency on Aging (Current) Southern Maine Agency on Aging	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.

Other Programs in Maine



Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Program Type
Augusta	State Administrative Grant (Current) Maine Commission for Community Service	State Commission Operations Support
Augusta	Volunteer Generation Fund (Completed) Maine Commission for Community Service	Volunteer Generation Fund
Orono	University of Maine (Current) Iowa Western Community College	Martin Luther King Day