OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL SERVICE & AMERICORPS
Agenda

- Structure of CNCS & AmeriCorps
- AmeriCorps Members
- What is the AmeriCorps Mission?
- Missouri Community Service Commission
- AmeriCorps Focus Areas
Structure of CNCS Programs

Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS)

AmeriCorps
- AmeriCorps State & National
- AmeriCorps VISTA
- AmeriCorps NCCC & FEMA Corps

Senior Corps
- Foster Grandparents
- Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)
- Senior Companions

Social Innovation Fund (SIF)

Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF)
AmeriCorps is referred to as “the domestic version of the Peace Corps”.

AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 Americans in intensive service each year at nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country.

Since its founding in 1994, almost 1 million AmeriCorps Members have contributed more than 1.2 billion hours in service across America while tackling pressing problems and mobilizing millions of volunteers for the organizations they serve.
What is an AmeriCorps Member?

- An individual enrolled for a specific term of service with an approved AmeriCorps program.
  - AmeriCorps Members are not volunteers or employees. They have a unique role in the community or organization.

- AmeriCorps Members may be eligible to receive in-service and post-service benefits including:
  - Living allowance
  - Health care coverage
  - Child care assistance
  - Segal AmeriCorps Education Award
AmeriCorps Mission

- **Direct Service:** Getting things done for America.
- **Member Development:** Expanding educational opportunity & building future leaders.
- **Capacity Building:** Strengthening nonprofits & the volunteer sector.
- **Community Building:** Leveraging a powerful return on investment.
Structure of AmeriCorps State

1. CNCS
2. AmeriCorps State
3. State Commissions
4. Sub-grantees/AmeriCorps Programs
Quick Facts:
1. CNCS is the federal agency that administers National Service in the U.S.
2. CNCS is the nation’s largest grant-maker for service and volunteering.
3. CNCS has helped to engage millions of citizens in meeting community and national challenges through service and volunteer action.
4. CNCS seeks to expand economic opportunity – helping Americans acquire the skills, education, and training they need for productive employment.
**Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) About Us**

- **Vision:** To strengthen Missouri communities through volunteerism and service.
- **Mission Statement:**
  The Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) connects Missourians of all ages and backgrounds in an effort to improve unmet community needs through direct and tangible service. The MCSC serves as the administrator for AmeriCorps State funding in Missouri by awarding monetary grants and providing oversight, monitoring, technical assistance and support to its sub-grantees.

- **Facts:**
  - We are housed within the Missouri Department of Economic Development, Division of Business & Community Services.
  - In addition to MCSC staff, we have Governor-appointed, Senate-confirmed Commissioners.
AmeriCorps State grants aim to focus funding in six areas identified by the Serve America Act:

- Disaster Services
- Economic Opportunity
- Education
- Environmental Stewardship
- Healthy Futures
- Veterans and Military Families
For an AmeriCorps Member to remain in compliance with Federal Regulations, there are a list of prohibited activities a Member can not be involved in while charging time, accumulating service/training hours.

- Political activity and advocacy
- Religious activity
- Benefitting for-profit entities
- Voter registration
- Abortion services

Please refer to the Program Director’s Handbook for examples of prohibited activities.
Questions/
Comments