Filling the breaks

Presented by
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Learning objectives

• Explore the various national service programs and pathways for partnering with those programs in Washington
• Learn about the Washington Service Corps AmeriCorps programs
• Explore how United Way of King County leverages national service, and specifically the VISTA Summer Meal Program
• Begin to think about how national service can be a program partner for you and create an opportunity path for the youth you support
Serve Washington

Background

- The Governor’s commission for national and community service
- Administers AmeriCorps State programs and Volunteer Generation funding within Washington state
- WA has the 3rd largest competitively funded AmeriCorps portfolio in the nation
- Hosts the Governor’s Volunteer Service Awards
Foster Grandparents are role models, mentors, and friends to children with exceptional needs. The program provides a way for volunteers age 55 and over to stay active by serving children and youth in their communities.
RSVP is one of the largest volunteer networks in the nation for people 55 and over. You can use the skills and talents you’ve learned over the years, or develop new ones while serving in a variety of volunteer activities within your community.
AmeriCorps Programs
# Requirements of Each AmeriCorps Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>VISTA</th>
<th>State &amp; National</th>
<th>NCCC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Member recruitment and supervision responsibilities</strong></td>
<td>The sponsor organization is responsible for the recruitment and selection process, and has a national platform to recruit applications. The CNCS State Office has the final selection authority for the VISTA candidates.</td>
<td>The sponsor organization is responsible for the recruitment and selection process, and has a national platform to recruit applications. <strong>Or you can partner with an intermediary</strong></td>
<td>The sponsor organization is responsible for lodging, supervision, and training. NCCC recruits and enrolls all service members.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financial resources</strong></td>
<td>Possible Cost Share around $15K per member/year.</td>
<td>The grant must be matched, starting at 24%</td>
<td>Must resource the project the members will be completing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Staff resources</strong></td>
<td>The sponsor organization must recruit, train, supervise, and otherwise support VISTA members.</td>
<td>The sponsor organization must have staff assigned to manage the members and oversee grant compliance. This may be included in the grant budget.</td>
<td>Staff must be available to supervise the project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term of commitment</strong></td>
<td>Grants are awarded annually</td>
<td>Grants are awarded over 3 years, with annual awards</td>
<td>Project period Round 1- 5 ½ weeks Round 2 and 3 - 12 ½ weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managing Office</strong></td>
<td>CNCS Washington State Office</td>
<td>Serve Washington (State Commission)</td>
<td>NCCC Regional Office in Sacramento</td>
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## Service Member Experience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Type</th>
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<th>State &amp; National</th>
<th>NCCC</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Type of Service</strong></td>
<td>Work with organizations to fight poverty through capacity building projects</td>
<td>Meet community needs through diverse projects</td>
<td>Conduct hands-on service projects with a team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Service Term Duration</strong></td>
<td>12 months (365 days)</td>
<td>Generally 3 to 12 months</td>
<td>10-12 months for member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Living Allowance</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, depending on term of service</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education Award</strong></td>
<td>Up to $6,095 (or $1,800 cash stipend)</td>
<td>Up to $6,095</td>
<td>Up to $6,095</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional benefits vary by program, but may include child care, health care, meals, housing, transportation, federal non competitive eligibility benefits, etc.
Activity

Is your program already using national service members?

How could you see your program utilizing national service members?
What is the easiest path to build a partnership with national service?
WSC is a large intermediary AmeriCorps program, based in Olympia and hosted by the Employment Security Department.

WSC formed in 1983 to fill unmet community needs and serve as a pipeline of service to work.

Oldest service program in the country and one of the largest.

Program is based on federal, state and local funding and collaborative partnerships.

The WSC currently manages two major programs, the Washington Service Corps and the Washington Reading Corps.

725 total member opportunities at nearly 300 sites across the state.
Washington Service Corps

We believe that service makes a different in low-income, high need or rural schools, non-profits, government agencies and religious organizations. We serve under-resourced communities and meet their needs through AmeriCorps members volunteering across the state of Washington.

Areas of focus include: Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, Veterans & Military Family and Youth Programs.

Alternative service is part of most member positions but especially in the education focus areas because of planned school closures.
2018-2019

WASHINGTON SERVICE CORPS IMPACT REPORT
Summary of Program Year 2018-2019 Outcomes

654
WSC AmeriCorps members served in communities throughout Washington State

61,365
Community members were recruited, trained, and supported by WSC members contributing more than 436,776 service hours

Volunteer

2,209
Acres of parks or public land were improved

24,069
Individuals participating in environmental education programs gained knowledge in environmental stewardship

1,449
AVID students were better prepared for post-high school opportunities by maintaining a 3.0 GPA or higher, and enrolling in at least 1 rigorous course

2,998
WSC supported students improved their performance in reading or math; 1,386 more students showed improved academic engagement

278
Economically disadvantaged individuals were transitioned into housing

241
Economically disadvantaged individuals were placed in jobs; 391 more improved their skills through adult basic education or English language classes

148
Individuals who received financial literacy training showed improved financial knowledge

9,775
Individuals participating in health education programs increased healthy behaviors, and 289 gained greater food security

300
Individuals receiving independent living services reported increased social support

1,861
Individuals were enrolled in health insurance, health services, and health benefits programs

203
Veteran community volunteers felt more connected to their community

618
Individuals who participated in disaster preparedness training showed increased knowledge in how to respond to a disaster
Washington Service Corps

Washington Service Corps Education focus K-12

Academic engagement and improvement
AVID Tutors
General tutoring
Family engagement
General early learning

Washington Reading Corps PK-4

Highly focused program on literacy
Early Learning
K-4
Tutoring
Family engagement
Literacy development support
Washington Service Corps

**Alternative Service Definition**

Alternative service is a direct service activity performed outside of a member’s regular service activity. E.g., not indicated on the PDF.

Members may perform alternative service in addition to their regular service, or they may need to increase service hours to ensure they successfully reach their minimum service-hours requirement.

**Includes**

- **Alternate service location** – what could benefit the member’s professional development?
- **Service project** – what are some gaps that could be filled while site is closed?
Building a community where people have homes, students graduate and families are financially stable.
National Service Engagement

- Engage AmeriCorps State members as a subgrantee of Serve Washington AND a host site for Washington Service Corps
- Run an AmeriCorps VISTA Program & deploy members to local non-profits
- Host AmeriCorps VISTA Summer members
- Sponsored an AmeriCorps NCCC Team

Annually engage around 200 national service members!
United Way of King County’s Free Summer Meals Program

FREE SUMMER MEALS

FOR KIDS & TEENS

FreeSummerMeals.org
Framing Questions

• What barriers or challenges might kids and families face during the summer time?

• Having just learned all about AmeriCorps, what kind of activities do you think AmeriCorps can do to help bridge summer time for kids and families?
One in 5 children in Washington struggles with hunger
Tackling Childhood Hunger

• We help kids access food where they live, learn, and play.
• School Breakfast
• School Lunch
• Afterschool Meals
• Nutrition Education
• Emergency Response
• Summer Meals!

So many kids in our community use Free- and Reduced-price meals during the school year.
In the summer, those meals go away.
We’re all here to help solve this problem! And AmeriCorps is a big part of that solution.
Summer Meals is Awesome

• Free, nutritious meals for anyone under 18
• No barriers to service – no questions asked!
• Helps families stretch their food-buying dollars
• Gives kids a fun, safe, environment over the summer

BUT:

• Only 1 in 5 eligible kids access summer meals
• Washington State has one of the lowest participation rates in the US
Where does United Way fit in?

Our goal: feed more kids!

We...

• Provide funding to sponsors and sites
• Work with OSPI to pilot innovative strategies
• Lead outreach for King County
• Hire and deploy AmeriCorps members to sites across King County
Our Secret Weapon: AmeriCorps
Removing Barriers

Barrier: Availability

• 250+ sites in King County
• New sites
• Longer hours & More Meals
• Meal prep
• Meal service
Removing Barriers

Barrier: Access

• Makes sites fun and inviting
• Activities and enrichment
• Building community
Removing Barriers

Barrier: Awareness

• Outreach
• Outreach
• And more Outreach!

[Image of people at a table with a banner saying "United Way Live United"]
# Mobilizing the Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recruitment</td>
<td>April-June</td>
<td>UWKC recruits, interviews, and places up to 100 VISTAs</td>
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<tr>
<td>UWKC Training</td>
<td>3 day training in end of June</td>
<td>UWKC leads core training components</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Trainings</td>
<td>1-4 days of additional training specific to site location</td>
<td>Site hosts lead independently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployment</td>
<td>10 weeks of service (July and August and includes days in training)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Support and Strategy</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>UWKC, CNCS, and Sites-in person, email, phone, newsletters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebration</td>
<td>End of August</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Roles and Responsibilities

**Site Supervisor**
- Site-specific training
- Questions specific to food service and running your site
- Meal counts and ordering
- On site concerns
- Running late or needing to schedule absences and makeup days

**UWKC**
- Concerns about hours
- Questions about AmeriCorps or UWKC policies
- Concerns with site or supervisor
- Outreach assignments
- Any non-food site needs – outreach materials, activity materials or more

**SHARED**
- Inspiration, engagement and support
- Problem solving
- Reporting
- Mentoring
Impact

Since 2010, meals served in King County has gone from 350,000 to nearly 600,000 in 2018. 2019 results will be available in December.

In 2019, based on preliminary site data, Summer VISTAs reached over 100,000 kids directly through their sites, which means reaching more than 2,500 kids per day in King County with meals and enrichment activities.
Stories of Service
Discussion

What was your biggest take-away learning about national service?

What do you think are the biggest barriers to engaging national service members within your programs?
Questions?
For more information

AmeriCorps State - Serve Washington
servewa@ofm.wa.gov

Senior Corps & VISTA - CNCS State Office
WA@cns.gov

NCCC - NCCC Regional Office in Sacramento
NCCCCPacific@cns.gov
Thank you

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