



Office of Research and Evaluation

January 2024

## Economic Opportunity Programs Provide a Lucrative Return on Investment.

Growing economic opportunity is critical to how AmeriCorps 'gets things done for America.' AmeriCorps offers transformative resources, including funding and AmeriCorps members, to improve the economic well-being and security of underserved individuals through national service.

AmeriCorps and its partners focused on economic opportunity help generate financial and employment opportunity by teaching digital skills and financial literacy, sector and industry-based skills, growing critical thinking and leadership skills, and more. AmeriCorps members engage communities and share valuable resources to support economic opportunity across the country.

Return on investment (ROI) analyses help quantify a program's benefits relative to its costs, assessing program performance and demonstrating value to stakeholders, while building the larger evidence base. Calculating ROI for AmeriCorps programs can entail looking at benefits (relative to costs) experienced by:

- AmeriCorps members, such as increases in their wages and educational attainment.
- Government, such as increases in tax revenue and programmatic savings.
- Society, such as improvements in employability and socioeconomic mobility.

Economic opportunity programs grow individual and community potential. These programs not only demonstrate positive economic outcomes, but they also generate value from the funding invested in these programs. In terms of ROI:

- [Community Technology Empowerment Project](#) generates a return of **\$2.95 to \$34.26** per funder dollar invested.
- [Green City Force](#) generates a return of **\$0.69 to \$7.60** per funder dollar invested.
- [Habitat for Humanity AmeriCorps](#) generates a return of **\$0.62 to \$2.61** per funder dollar invested.
- [YouthBuild AmeriCorps](#) generates a return of **-\$0.40 to \$9.58** per funder dollar invested.



### About the Office of Research and Evaluation

The [AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation](#) assists AmeriCorps and its partners in collecting, analyzing, and disseminating data and insights about AmeriCorps programs and civic life in America.

### About AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps, the federal agency for national service and volunteerism, provides opportunities for Americans to serve their country domestically, address the nation's most pressing challenges, improve lives and communities, and strengthen civic engagement. Each year, the agency places more than 200,000 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in intensive service roles; and empowers millions more to serve as long-term, short-term, or one-time volunteers. **Learn more at [AmeriCorps.gov](#).**