



National Service in West Virginia



MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS IN WEST VIRGINIA

More than 4,300 people of all ages and backgrounds are helping to meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement through national service in West Virginia. Serving at more than 550 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 \$13,040,000 to support West Virginia 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 \$3,930,000 in other resources to strengthen community impact, build local support, and increase return on taxpayer dollars.

AmeriCorps: This year AmeriCorps will provide more than 1,000 individuals the opportunity to provide intensive, results-driven service to meet education, environmental, health, economic, and other pressing needs in communities across West Virginia. Most AmeriCorps grant funding goes to the Volunteer West Virginia, 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 11,000 West Virginia residents have served more than 17 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$26,970,000.

Senior Corps: More than 3,200 seniors in West Virginia 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 1,300 young people who have special needs. Senior Companions help more than 200 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 200 groups across West Virginia.

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.

West Virginia At a Glance

AmeriCorps	Projects	Service Locations	Participants ¹	Education Scholarships ²	Program Funding
AmeriCorps National	8	8	90	\$363,509	\$373,748 ³
AmeriCorps State Competitive	4	47	617	\$1,257,820	\$2,694,085
AmeriCorps State Formula	12	70	177	\$649,862	\$1,329,374
AmeriCorps VISTA	7	54	152	\$863,055	\$2,473,040
AMERICORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	31	179	1,036	\$3,134,246	\$6,870,247
Senior Corps	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Foster Grandparent Program	4	153	503	-	\$1,676,167
RSVP	7	208	2,632	-	\$632,045
Senior Companion Program	1	17	148	-	\$482,300
SENIOR CORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	12	378	3,283	-	\$2,790,512
Other Funding	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
State Commission Operations Support	1	-	-	-	\$250,000
OTHER FUNDING TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	1	-	-	-	\$250,000
PROGRAM TOTALS	44	557 ⁴	4,319	\$3,134,246	\$9,910,759
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING (including Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards)					\$13,045,005
TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT (Non-CNCS Resources)					\$3,937,404 ⁵
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING + TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT					\$16,982,409

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 West Virginia. 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 11,000 West Virginia residents have served more than 17 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$26,970,000.

AmeriCorps State

Energy Express engages 500 AmeriCorps members in an eight week summer reading and nutrition program located in low income and rural communities throughout West Virginia. The program is designed to slow or stop the "summer slide" which occurs in low income homes and communities throughout the state. This past summer, AmeriCorps members served at 74 sites in 37 counties. Members served more than 3,000 students entering grades 1-6. Members also sent 20,028 take home books home with the children and provided them with 139,520 meals through the USDA. The meals provides 58 percent of their daily nutritional requirements. A total of 73 percent of children in the program qualified for free and reduced breakfast and lunch during the school year. Significant increases were seen in letter-word recognition, reading fluency, passage comprehension and broad reading. This past summer children attending Energy Express showed a 1.9 month increase in Broad Reading Achievement. Also, 63.2 percent of enrolled students who completed participation maintained or increased their reading achievement scores.

Program Name: AmeriCorps on the Frontline Geographic Location: West Virginia Members: 35 Halftime Year-round Members AmeriCorps on the Frontline of School Success mentors at-risk middle school students to improve attendance, behavior and course performance 35 members served at sites in eleven counties: Cabell, Doddridge, Kanawha, Lincoln, McDowell, Monongalia, Monroe, Pleasants, Pocahontas, Raleigh and Randolph. Recently, a program participant named Matt was called to court as a follow up to his behavior infraction that caused him to be expelled. The judge informed him that he had improved his behavior so dramatically during the year that he did not need to appear again in court. At the end of the court appearance, the student turned around and said, "This is my mentor, Amanda, and she is helping me turn my life around."

AmeriCorps VISTA

The Step By Step West Virginia Dreamers VISTA project serves a five county area in southeastern West Virginia. The project is committed to addressing the root causes of poverty in low income rural communities by building organizational and community capacity; creating economic opportunities for individuals and families living in rural, isolated communities; helping to create infrastructure to support students and their families make a successful transition from high school to post-secondary education or a career; and supporting and increasing access to healthy foods. Over the past year, the Step By Step AmeriCorps VISTA members have recruited 2,510 community volunteers who served 24,157 hours; supported the development of community and school based gardening programs and food sharing programs in three counties impacting 457 families; developed the infrastructure for a drop-out prevention program and truancy intervention program impacting 302 youth; and leveraged cash resources in the amount of \$482,956 through grants from Grow Appalachia, Flex-E grants, and other community and foundation grants.

West Virginia's Promise –The Alliance for Youth is a statewide program that mobilizes partners to strengthen the capacity of local communities to develop and support young people. West Virginia's Promise AmeriCorps VISTA Project places 30 members throughout the state to strengthen the capacity of local communities so that every young person in West Virginia receives the Five Promises: caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, an effective education, and opportunities to help others. In 2014, the West Virginia's Promise VISTA members recruited 5,416 community volunteers who served 24,501 hours of service. VISTAs also enhanced the capacity of organizations to support healthy futures initiatives that impacted 1,224 low-income youth; organizations and school systems to provide education opportunities to 646 low income youth; and organizations that provide services to veterans and military families that impacted 210 individuals. The VISTAs leveraged nearly \$182,000 through community and foundation grants and secured in-kind resources valued at \$282,000.

AmeriCorps NCCC

In partnership with Step by Step, a Appalachian nonprofit which brings together diverse organizations to help better serve economically challenged communities in Southern West Virginia, an AmeriCorps NCCC team succeeded in bringing sustainable change the local community by improving the infrastructure of the Big Ugly Community Center (BUCC). The BUCC serves a community where over 50 percent of children under 18 years of age live below the poverty line and less than five percent of adults have any post-secondary education experience. The NCCC team worked to renew the BUCC facility, painting murals, renovating classrooms, two libraries, and a gym, and constructing 2 storage facilities. The team also completed an environmental and energy conservation project in which they established a recycling program and solicited help with renovations by organizing a community engagement day deemed "Keep Big Ugly Beautiful." The team worked with BUCC summer campers to receive and inventory food and clothing and to construct teepees for the kid's Native American History Unit. One community member summarized the work NCCC did best by saying, "Y'all brought magic into this place."

Two AmeriCorps NCCC teams, in partnership with River to Ridges Heritage Trail Inc., participated in projects that revitalized and restored multiple sites in the Scott Depot area. The mission of Rivers to Ridges is to facilitate the development and promotion of a 120-plus mile scenic byway in West Virginia. The efforts of the NCCC team helped in the preserving the historic sites in order to educate people about Appalachian culture and history and promote local tourism. The team completed work at five major sites: the Hoge House where they restored an historic building and the surrounding area, the Virgil Lewis House where they prepared the historic house for relocation to the Farm Museum, Hometown Park where the team helped restore park assets like picnic tables and playground equipment that were damaged due to a devastating derecho in 2012, the River Museum, which the NCCC team restored and revitalized, and the Esther and Norman Walter Nature Trail which the team worked to repair. The team's largest project was restoring the Buffalo Town Square playground in Buffalo, WV. They also worked to demolish the historic Shumaker-Lewis house in Mason, West Virginia, and convert the site into a park.

Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program

The Foster Grandparents Program sponsored by the Region 8 Planning and Development Council has 89 volunteers serving 13 counties in West Virginia. On average, 58 percent of 4th graders living in the counties served are reading below grade level. The majority of schools in this program's catchment area are Title I schools and do not meet progress benchmarks. The Foster Grandparents work with children from low-income and disadvantaged homes, many of whom suffer severe delays in learning and who are falling behind and/or are not socially interactive. Over the last year, 89 Foster Grandparents provided 114,060 hours of service to at risk children in need of educational supports such as tutoring and mentoring. Ninety six percent of the children served in varied academic settings were able to complete assigned tasks and socialize in a healthy and appropriate manner. Seventy five percent of the children with language and motor skill delays receiving supports from Foster Grandparents through the Head Start program were able to enter Kindergarten on time.

Senior Corps RSVP

The RSVP program of the Council of the Southern Mountains has 530 RSVP volunteers serving in a four county area in rural southern coal fields of West Virginia. The communities served - once booming mining towns - are now cut off from lack of services and isolated by non-existent public transportation systems. A total of 160 RSVP volunteers make reassurance/check in calls and home visits to ensure clients' basic health and well-being. Ten volunteers visit veterans and deliver toiletries and other comfort items. These activities impact 564 individuals and 100 percent of those surveyed report feeling less isolated because of the visits from RSVP. Twenty-nine volunteers served more than 300 hours to distribute food, clothing, and furniture to ease the financial burden on families. Ninety-eight percent of the recipients report being able to meet their monthly financial obligations because of the assistance provided by RSVP. Another 368 RSVP volunteers have established 26 neighborhood watch programs impacting 9,000 individuals and families. Yearly surveys completed by the Sheriff's departments report an 86.9 percent reduction in crime as a result of RSVP efforts.

Senior Corps Senior Companion Program

The Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council sponsors a Senior Companion Program that serves 23 of the 55 counties in West Virginia. West Virginia has one of the highest rates of both seniors and people with disabilities living within its borders. With limited funding and very limited programming that provides companionship, respite and independent living services outside of the state waiver programs, the Senior Companion program fills a critical need in the counties and communities served. In fact, each of the current service sites has a waiting list for companions because of the tremendous need. Over the last year, 113 Senior Companions provided 116,608 hours of community service to individuals in need of independent living and companionship services. One hundred percent of the individuals who received services from Senior Companions reported that they feel an increased social support because of participation in the program. The Senior Companion volunteers were very active in their communities in other ways by collecting food for community food banks, reaching out to veterans and worked with other streams of national service on service projects.

AmeriCorps in West Virginia



AMERICORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS/PROJECTS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	1,036	31
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	64	16

Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Alderson	Bethlehem Farm (Completed) Catholic Volunteer Network	9	AmeriCorps National
Athens	Concord College WV 24712-1000 (Current) The College of New Jersey	-	AmeriCorps National
Beckley	Appalachian Coal Country Team (Completed) Citizen's Conservation Corps of West Virginia	-	AmeriCorps VISTA
Beckley	Citizens Conservation Corps of West Virginia (Current) The Corps Network	36	AmeriCorps National
Beckley	Coal Heritage Highway Authority (Current) Coal Heritage Highway Authority	10	AmeriCorps VISTA
Beckley	Conservation Legacy (Current) Conservation Legacy	85	AmeriCorps VISTA
Beckley	Promote Civic Engagement with Service Projects in Appalachian Communities (July 10 - September 9, 2014) Conservation Legacy VISTA Program	7	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Beckley	Southwest Conservation Corps (Completed) Conservation Legacy	-	AmeriCorps VISTA
Beckley	Twin Branch Recreation Area (Current) Citizen's Conservation Corps of West Virginia	16	AmeriCorps State Formula
Beverly	Stabilize and Rehabilitate Historic Community Buildings (March 9 - April 29, 2014) Historic Beverly Preservation, Inc. (HBP)	8	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Bridgeport	Job Squad Operating Site (Completed) Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation	3	AmeriCorps National
Charleston	AmeriCorps on the Frontline of School Success (Current) The Education Alliance	35	AmeriCorps State Formula
Charleston	East End Family Resource Center II (Current) East End Family Resource Center	-	AmeriCorps State Formula
Charleston	Legal Aid of West Virginia (Current) Equal Justice Works	1	AmeriCorps National
Charleston	LifeBridge AmeriCorps (Current) United Way of Central West Virginia	70	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Charleston	LifeBridge AmeriCorps Veteran Corps (Current) United Way of Central West Virginia	20	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Charleston	LifeBridge, Inc. (Current) United Way Central West Virginia	11	AmeriCorps VISTA
Charleston	Step by Step, Inc. (Current) Step by Step, Inc.	13	AmeriCorps VISTA
Charleston	Veterans Community Outreach Team (Current) WV Commission for National and Community Service	5	AmeriCorps VISTA
Charleston	WV Farm to School AmeriCorps Program (Current) West Virginia Department of Education	10	AmeriCorps State Formula
Dunmore	Pocahontas Communications Cooperative (Completed) Pocahontas Communications Cooperative	-	AmeriCorps VISTA
Elkins	AFHA - Enhancing Assets to Benefit Communities (Current) Appalachian Forest Heritage Area	27	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Elkins	AFHA: Growing Communities through Heritage Development (Current) Appalachian Forest Heritage Area	11	AmeriCorps State Formula
Elkins	Kump Education Center (Current) Kump Education Center	-	AmeriCorps State Formula
Elkins	Preserve WV AmeriCorps (Current) Preservation Alliance of West Virginia	17	AmeriCorps State Formula
Elkins	YouthBuild Elkins, WV (Current) YouthBuild USA, Inc	25	AmeriCorps National
Franklin	Almost Heaven HFH (Completed) Habitat for Humanity International, Inc.	2	AmeriCorps National

AmeriCorps in West Virginia



AMERICORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS/PROJECTS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	1,036	31
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	64	16

Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Harts	Paint and Repair Facilities at the Big Ugly Community Center (May 22 - June 28, 2014) Step By Step WV	5	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Hillsboro	High Rocks Youth Education and Empowerment (Current) High Rocks Educational Corporation	27	AmeriCorps State Formula
Huntington	Communities Helping Communities (Current) Playmates Child Care on Behalf of the Cabell-Wayne Early Childhood Council	31	AmeriCorps State Formula
Kearneysville	West Virginia's Promise (Current) WV Commission for National and Community Service	18	AmeriCorps VISTA
Kincaid	YouthBuild Kincaid, WV (Current) Southern Appalachian Labor School	-	AmeriCorps National
Kincaid	YouthBuild Kincaid, WV (Current) YouthBuild USA, Inc	26	AmeriCorps National
Montgomery	Construct In-Stream Structures to Provide Habitat for Aquatic Life (March 9 - April 29, 2014) Morris Creek Watershed Association Inc	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Morgantown	Appalachian Coal County Team (July 11 - September 3, 2014) Appalachian Coal Country Team (ACCT)	-	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Morgantown	Energy Express AmeriCorps (Current) West Virginia University Research Corp.	500	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Morgantown	Mon County HFH (Current) Habitat for Humanity International, Inc.	1	AmeriCorps National
Morgantown	WV Higher Education Consortium Project (Completed) West Virginia Campus Compact--West Virginia University	-	AmeriCorps VISTA
Mullens	Creating Infrastructure To Promote Tourism In Rural WV (July 10 - September 9, 2014) Rural Appalachian Improvement League, Inc.	6	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Mullens	Rural Appalachian Improvement League, Inc. (Current) Rural Appalachian Improvement League, Inc.	-	AmeriCorps State Formula
Parkersburg	Change the Future WV (Current) Mid-Ohio Valley Board of Health	10	AmeriCorps State Formula
Pt Pleasant	Horseshoe AmeriCorps Program (Current) Ohio - West Virginia YLA	20	AmeriCorps State Formula
Romney	Eastern Regional Family Resource Network (Completed) Eastern Regional Family Resource Network	-	AmeriCorps VISTA
Scott Depot	Historic Building Preservation & Trail Construction (October 2 - October 14, 2014) Rivers to Ridges Heritage Trail, Inc.	6	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Scott Depot	Prepare a Historically Significant House to be Moved (March 9 - April 29, 2014) Rivers to Ridges Heritage Trail, Inc.	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Shepherdstown	West Virginia (Current) Student Conservation Association, Inc.	1	AmeriCorps National
Stonewood	WV Community Development Hub (Current) WV Community Development Hub	10	AmeriCorps VISTA

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 West Virginia



SENIOR CORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	3,283	12
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	0	0

Primary City	Program Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Charleston	Foster Grandparent Program of United Way (Current) United Way of Central WV	139	Foster Grandparent Program
Charleston	RSVP of United Way (Current) LifeBridge, Inc.	400	RSVP
Charleston	RSVP of United Way of Central WV (Current) LifeBridge, Inc.	332	RSVP
Follansbee	Brooke/Hancock/Ohio/Marshall RSVP (Current) Brooke County Committee on Aging	320	RSVP
Parkersburg	Foster Grandparent Program (Current) Mid Ohio Valley Regional Council	155	Foster Grandparent Program
Parkersburg	Mid Ohio Valley RSVP (Current) Mid Ohio Valley Regional Council	500	RSVP
Parkersburg	Senior Companion Fixed Grant (Current) Mid Ohio Valley Regional Council	148	Senior Companion Program
Petersburg	Foster Grandparent Program (Current) Region 8 Planning and Development Council	122	Foster Grandparent Program
Petersburg	Region Eight Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (Current) Region 8 Planning and Development Council	310	RSVP
Summersville	Fayette/Greenbrier/Nicholas/Webster RSVP (Current) Summersville Baptist Church	240	RSVP
Welch	Council of the Southern Mts' FGP (Current) Council of the Southern Mountains	87	Foster Grandparent Program
Welch	Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (Current) Council of the Southern Mountains	530	RSVP

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