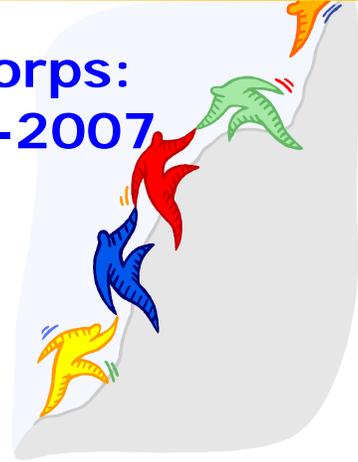


Michigan's AmeriCorps: Who's Who in 2006-2007



"Getting Things Done!"

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Connecting Cultures

The Arab-American Resource Corps is a national direct program that brings together Americans from all backgrounds to promote civic engagement and economic empowerment in Arab-American communities throughout the nation. We inspire new leadership through a commitment to voluntary service and hands-on activism. We strengthen our communities by working through Arab-American grassroots organizations, and we build bridges between the diverse communities that make up America's rich cultural fabric. Our 61 full-time members help recent immigrants integrate into American life, and encourage cultural dialogue and closer community ties between Arab and non-Arab Americans. ARC AmeriCorps members provide services in their local communities ranging from offering social services, teaching ESL, conducting cultural outreach, organizing and running youth programs, and doing health outreach.



A debris clean-up day with Arab-American Resource Corps.

For more information on Arab-American Resource Corps, please contact us at (313) 624-0210.

Energy of Youth

Volunteer Muskegon exists for one reason: to link volunteers—people willing to donate their time, energy and talents—with the agencies and services that need them the most. Our mission is to provide leadership, services and programs that support, promote and recognize volunteerism thereby enriching the lives in our community, as well as to increase the developmental assets of our youth through service-learning projects and commitments. Our program has 18 full-time and 5 minimum-time (300 hours) members.

For more information on Volunteer Muskegon, please contact AmeriCorps Program Director Angela Sullivan at 231-722-6600 ext. 15.



Team challenges with Volunteer Muskegon



Building the Relationship

Mentor Michigan is a statewide initiative to strengthen the capacity of programs through training, research, and the forming of partnerships among organizations throughout the state. Mentor Michigan AmeriCorps (MMA) is a program of the Connect Michigan Alliance working toward the goals of this initiative. MMA members serve with mentoring programs statewide to recruit, retain, and reward mentors. The primary goal of the MMA program is to increase the quality and the quantity of mentor-mentee relationships throughout the state of Michigan.

Mentor Michigan AmeriCorps*VISTAs (MMV) act as transformative agents between mentoring organizations and their surrounding neighborhoods. The role of the MMV members is to build capacity and sustainability, leaving programs with structures in place that no longer require staffing from an MMV member. Currently, Mentor Michigan has 32 AmeriCorps members and 11 VISTAs serving. We are all excited about the 2007 year.

If you are interested in Mentor Michigan AmeriCorps, please contact us at (517) 492-2440.

Sweat Equity!

Habitat for Humanity's mission is to build simple, decent homes in partnership with people in need and to eliminate sub-standard housing. Local affiliates in over 80 Michigan counties build and rehabilitate decent, affordable housing in partnership with families. These families must put hundreds of hours of work, called "sweat equity," in on the houses of other families, as well as their own. At the completion of their house they are given a no-interest mortgage. Volunteer labor and the donation of materials keep the price of the house affordable for the homeowner, helping to break the cycle of poverty and hopelessness by helping families achieve homeownership. Habitat Michigan's 30 AmeriCorps Members serve as Construction Liaisons, Volunteer Recruitment Liaisons, and Family Liaisons. The 18 full-time members and 12 part-time members serve in 9 counties across the state of Michigan.



Another hard day's service for Habitat for Humanity's AmeriCorps members.

If you would like more information about Habitat for Humanity AmeriCorps program, please contact Debi Drick, Director of National Service Programs, ddrick@habitatmichigan.org.

Prepared to Succeed

... one child at a time



Here at Jumpstart Michigan we are working toward the day that every child in America enters school prepared to succeed. We do this through one-on-one partnership between local at risk children and caring, civic minded adults. Our 75 minimum-time and 8 quarter-time members are trained to foster the development of literacy, language, and social skills in young at risk children ages three to five years old. We provide the children of Washtenaw County (Ypsilanti) and Wayne County (Dearborn) with the necessary skills for later academic and social success.

For more information about Jumpstart, please contact the Jumpstart Program Site Managers: Christie Cadmus at (734) 487-3045 or ccadmus@emich.edu for Washtenaw County, or Pattie Skelly at (313) 583-6401 or jumpstart@umd.umich.edu for Wayne County.

At your Service

The AmeriCorps Together We Prepare (ATWP) program provides vital emergency assistance to victims and communities affected by disaster. ATWP also increases preparedness in the areas of greatest need before disaster strikes by recruiting, training and supporting young adults who will provide integrated community outreach and education through Red Cross service activities focusing on homeland security. There are 25 full-time members serving at 11 American Red Cross chapters across the state of Michigan. Last year ATWP members taught Community Disaster Education classes to 16,198 Michigan residents, distributed 48,594 pieces of preparedness literature, and recruited 512 new American Red Cross volunteers.

In 2005-06, ATWP Corps members responded to 228 local disasters providing emergency assistance to 1,759 Michigan residents. They also completed 23 National Disaster assignments assisting over 50,000 individuals. The 2006-07 members are currently on track to exceed these numbers.

For more information on the AmeriCorps Together We Prepare program, please contact Jordan O'Neil at the American Red Cross of Greater Grand Rapids at joneil@ggr.redcross.org.

ATWP ensuring that we are all prepared when the time comes to act!

Dynamic Partners



Relationships are growing every day with MAP.

The Michigan AmeriCorps Partnership (MAP) is a dynamic program that was started in 1995 as a partnership between the University of Michigan and the Michigan Neighborhood Partnership and currently has 60 members (20 full-time and 40 part-time). The Partnership has grown to include eleven graduate and undergraduate programs at the University of Michigan, although only two thirds of members are University students; the rest come from diverse backgrounds from around the metro Detroit area. The mission of MAP is to address local human needs related to education, urban planning, social work, health and economic development through direct service and capacity building. Annually MAP places members with about 40 organizations, mainly in the city of Detroit. Local partnering

organizations vary and have included: ACCESS, Focus: HOPE, Dominican Literacy Center, Jefferson East Business Association and Motor City Blight Busters.

For more information on Michigan AmeriCorps Partnership, please contact Program Director, Addell Austin-Anderson at (313) 593-0937 or addell@umich.edu, or visit us online at <http://umich.edu/~mserve/ameriCorps>.

Serving Superior

Superior AmeriCorps, first known as Copper Country AmeriCorps (est. 1997), now has 57 full-time AmeriCorps members. The program serves seven western Upper Peninsula counties. Our mission is to strengthen the community for youth by creating opportunities in education and child development while fostering collaboration among entities serving youth and promoting an ethic of service. Service sites include Head Start, Elementary, Middle, High, and Bridge Schools, Copper Country Intermediate School District, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Little Brothers, and Friends of the Elderly. You can see the wide range of environments in which our group serves. Each site is a great place to tutor, mentor, teach, and, of course, learn. Proud to be in the Upper Peninsula, it is a great honor knowing that members of this team are also positive role models.



For more information on Superior AmeriCorps, please contact Program Director, Michelle LaCourt at mrlacour@bhkfirst.org.

Skills for the Future



Something smells delicious in The Smart Choice Project kitchen.

At The Smart Choice Project in Benton Harbor, 11 full-time AmeriCorps members help youth realize their full potential as responsible, productive and caring citizens in Berrien County. Through the Boys and Girls Club of Benton Harbor, members support programs and services in the areas of: 1) Character and Leadership Development, 2) Academic and Career Development, 3) The Arts, 4) Health and Life Skills, and 5) Sports, Fitness, and Recreation.

Six members serve elementary and middle school students at the Boys and Girls Club's Main Street Site, and five members serve youth ages 14-18 at the Boys and Girls Club's Teen Center. All Members help build and showcase the Boys and Girls Club mission: *To inspire and enable all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.*

For more information, please contact Program Coordinator, Tracy Cleveland at (269) 926-8766, ext. 19.

Youth on Fire



Camp Fire USA West Michigan Council is a non-profit youth development organization that serves school-age children and youth in Kent County. Since 1919, Camp Fire USA has offered boys and girls from kindergarten through high school a variety of fun programs that build relationships with peers and caring adults, foster self-esteem, healthy lifestyles, character development, leadership skills, and social responsibility. Through Camp Fire's **Neighborhood Youth Development AmeriCorps Program**, members present Self-Reliance curriculum in elementary and middle school classrooms, serve in after-school programs, assist with summer day camps, and facilitate a number of service projects and service learning activities throughout the year. Camp Fire USA currently has 5 full-time members, 11 half-time members, 4 reduced half-time members, and 6 minimum-time summer members.

For more information on Camp Fire USA please contact Karen Amos at 616-949-2500 x33.

Samaritans in Action

The **Faith in Youth Partnership** is a collaboration of Good Samaritan Ministries and six faith-based churches and youth organizations in Ottawa County. Through the partnership, Good Samaritan Ministries enlists and supports 11 AmeriCorps members (8 full-time and 3 part-time) who serve within local youth-organizations to expand and enhance mentor-based programs for at-risk middle school youth. Good Samaritan serves as an intermediary providing grant management, personnel management, fiduciary responsibilities, and a comprehensive training curriculum, while the AmeriCorps members provide direct services to area youth. These programs are involved in youth mentoring, including after school drop in and one-on-one mentoring relationships. We are focused on the developmental assets of at-risk middle school students, and making sure they are fulfilled through our programming. We are excited about the impact of this program and the good things that are to come!

For more information on Faith in Youth, please call (616) 399-9190 ext.115.



This team of Good Samaritans is ready to head out and show their unstoppable leadership skills.

Young Heroes

City Year Detroit's mission is to build democracy through citizen service, civic leadership, and social entrepreneurship. City Year Detroit's 39 full-time Corps members are supported by office staff and AmeriCorps*VISTAs. The majority of their service takes place at five extremely diverse schools, four of which are in the Detroit public school system and one in the Dearborn public school system.

Corps members serve in a variety of capacities, including tutoring children and youth during the school day and facilitating after-school and summer

programs. Some of the Corps members are also responsible for running Young Heroes and City Heroes, which are service-learning programs for middle and high school students. City Year also partners with other non-profit organizations in the Detroit area to do service projects, such as planting trees, cleaning up the city, or painting murals.

For more information on City Year Detroit, please contact our recruitment department at (313) 874-6859.



Detroit City Year is always ready for an adventure in service.

Fostering Head, Hands, Heart and Health



4-H program receives recognition for service well done!

The Michigan State University Extension 4-H: **Explore, Experience, Achieve Through 4-H Mentoring program** engages 20 full-time AmeriCorps members in 17 communities across Michigan to build the capacity to establish one-to-one, small group or peer-mentoring programs. 4-H believes all youth need caring, nurturing, open and encouraging adults in their lives to reach their optimum potential in Head, Hands, Heart and Health. Mentoring is an important tool for the positive development of youth and 4-H has a rich history in supporting that development through the efforts of volunteers. 4-H mentoring programs strengthen mentoring efforts for families, neighborhoods, communities and cities throughout Michigan by extending resources, supporting the expansion of existing programs, and assisting in training staff and collaborators interested in establishing mentoring programs in local communities.

For more information on 4-H Mentoring Program, please contact Julie Chapin, Program Director, at (517) 432-7608.

Just a Little Support and Compassion



A Great Start AmeriCorps program is a counseling program hosted by Catholic Family services. Our mission is to provide social services to all teen parents, regardless of faith, ethnic background or socioeconomic status with compassion, care and concern. A Great Start has 13 full-time members who help educate teen parents in Kalamazoo, Berrien, and Van Buren Counties so they are able to meet the challenges of parenting young children. We also run a Fatherhood program to encourage the participation of teen fathers in goal setting and service plan development. AmeriCorps members provide emotional support and resources to pregnant teenagers throughout their pregnancy and after their delivery. Examples of resources include maternity clothes, baby clothes, diapers, furniture, and toys. We also have a crisis intervention plan to assist with emergencies, such as housing, food, domestic violence, abuse or neglect.

For more information, please contact Program Director, William Larson at (269) 757-1671.

Schools to Youth



AmeriCorps members at MARESA take time to meet new people.

The **MARESA Michigan's AmeriCorps program** is located in the Central Upper Peninsula and is coordinated by Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency (MARESA), where *service is our middle name*. We serve Marquette and Alger counties with 11 full-time and 6 half-time members placed in elementary, middle and high school settings, as well as the Salvation Army, disability services, and youth recreation centers. Our members provide community strengthening services such as mentoring, tutoring, service-learning projects, technology support and promotion of community involvement in schools and non-profit educational institutions. Because of our northern location, we are excited to take on every challenge as an adventure.

For more information on MARESA AmeriCorps program, please contact Program Director Joe Zahn at (906) 226-5130.

Freshwater Allies

The majority (one fifth) of the freshwater in this country is in the Great Lakes basin. How do we protect one of the most important natural resources? In 2005-06, over 18,000 people received environmental education at information booths, over 15,000 risk assessments were completed, and over 700 water samples were collected from migrant camps. Most importantly, nearly 23,000 students received environmental education. These are some of the activities of the 20 full-time AmeriCorps members of the **Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program**.

Members in 55 counties mitigate risks to groundwater from pesticide and nitrogen fertilizer use by educating Michigan's citizens. The Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program has a wide scope and addresses the many possible areas of groundwater risk. Members help the public one-on-one through Home*A*Systs, Lawn*A*Systs, and Lake*A*Systs. These risk assessments are designed to educate people about the best way to protect the groundwater at their home, lawn, or lakeshore property.



Groundwater Stewards in ACTION!!

For more information on Groundwater Stewards, please contact Program Director, Suzanne Ebright at (517) 241-2154.



Char-Em AmeriCorps members help children learn to resolve conflict appropriately.

Preventing Violence in Schools

The **Char-Em ISD AmeriCorps Program** enrolls 19 full-time members to integrate on-site violence prevention programs in 19 school buildings. The primary goal of the program is to decrease the incidence of aggression, assault, and violence within schools. Members implement violence prevention and conflict resolution programs such as Teaching Students to be Peacemakers, No Bullying, Don't Laugh at Me, and Be Cool.

For more information on the Char-Em ISD AmeriCorps Program, please contact Dennis Halverson or Linda Johnson at (231) 547-9947.

Supporting Children and Families

Downriver CARES (Community, Action, Resources, Enrichment, and Service) AmeriCorps members promote social and emotional readiness for learning for children, adults, and families within The Guidance Center. The 20 full-time members also encourage the community to support these efforts through volunteerism. Service activities vary depending upon placement and may include: enrichment programming and out of class time involvement with preschoolers and school age youth; developing group mentoring projects for children and/or families; planning service projects with teens; engaging community volunteers; supporting and encouraging parents through play groups and support groups; planning enrichment activities; facilitating groups and other activities that will promote self-esteem and build assets for children, adults, and families; and providing computer literacy support.

For more information on Downriver CARES AmeriCorps program, please contact Program Director, Joe Spain at (734)785-7705 x 7209 or jspain@guidance-center.org.

Service Learning in Action



Service-learning is fun with Ionia County AmeriCorps members!

The **Ionia County AmeriCorps program** enrolls 12 full-time AmeriCorps members to serve throughout Ionia County. Members focus their service in two areas: promoting the development of effective mentoring programs and supporting service-learning. Members serve in each of the county's six school districts and in Ionia County ISD schools. Activities include: development and distribution of resources for in-school mentoring programs, partnering with schools to develop mentoring programs, academic service-learning, service-learning clubs in out-of-school time, family involvement programs and events, and countywide community service projects.

For more information about the Ionia County AmeriCorps program, please contact Program Director, Amy Buckingham at (616) 527-4900 x 1266 or readcorp@ionia-isd.k12.mi.us

College Students in Service

Michigan Campus Compact's **Michigan Service Scholars** (MSS) enlists 350 minimum-time (300 hour), Education Award Only AmeriCorps members to support youth development and increase volunteer capacity throughout the state. This program engages approximately 42 partner campuses statewide, which recruit students to work with local community- and faith-based organizations.

In an effort to increase self-esteem and academic performance, 150 members serve as mentors, facilitate after-school programming, and provide homework help to 650 children throughout the year. The primary goal of the remaining 150 members is to strengthen volunteer infrastructure and volunteer management capacity of community- and faith-based organizations by assessing current capacity, developing volunteer recruitment systems and forms, and helping organizations utilize volunteers more effectively. In addition, all members work with local community- and faith-based organizations to recruit volunteers, resulting in 3,000 additional community volunteers contributing 15,000 hours in support of local programming.

For more information, visit www.micampuscompact.org/mss.

Increasing Health-Related Services

The Michigan Primary Care Association (MPCA) Community HealthCorps program engages 17 full-time and 6 half-time AmeriCorps members to address patient self-management, school-based health, and outreach and enrollment. Members are placed in community health centers across the state. The MPCA Community HealthCorps Program uses community outreach to inform the public about health plans available to the uninsured and preventative health care measures. Members would help patients become more active in the management of their illnesses, and reduce health disparities in Michigan. Community forums are used to inform the public about adolescent health issues. Corps members will work with 100 patients each year, with 60% of the patients taking an active role in treating and preventing their illnesses.

For more information about MPCA Community HealthCorps, please contact Program Director John Taylor at (517) 381-8000 ext. 229, or jtaylor@mpca.net.

Moving Toward Literacy



The Readetroit Corps utilizes 25 full-time AmeriCorps members to address the critical literacy needs of children identified as having extreme reading deficiencies. All service recipients are students attending Detroit Public Schools (DPS) that are designated as "failing" by the state. Members, placed in teams of two at elementary schools, address local needs by: 1) providing individual and group tutoring, 2) recruiting and training community volunteers to serve in DPS, 3) after-school program support, 4) parental literacy activities, and 5) activities designed to build relationships between schools, parents, and the community. Specific activities include: conducting individual and group tutoring sessions, starting book clubs,

taking students on library trips, arranging for volunteers to read with students, conducting information sessions designed to help students prepare for tests, facilitating family literacy nights. The program strives to increase the reading levels of students, as well as recruit community volunteers to further support local youth.

For more information about the Readetroit Corps, please contact Pandora Brown, Director of Volunteer Services, 313-571-3400 ext.31 or pandorabrown@cisdetroit.org.



Michigan's AmeriCorps Member Council

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