



Utilizing Service As A Strategy

What is the Michigan Community Service Commission?

The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) is the state's lead agency on volunteerism. Since its inception in 1991, the MCSC has been promoting service as a strategy to address Michigan's greatest challenges and providing vision and resources to strengthen communities through volunteerism.

By utilizing funds awarded by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the MCSC administers two national service programs in Michigan — AmeriCorps and the Volunteer Generation Fund. The MCSC also administers Mentor Michigan, Volunteer MICHIGAN and the Governor's Service Awards.

Through these key programs, the MCSC has granted more than \$100 million to communities for volunteer initiatives over the past 23 years. These funds have leveraged more than \$85 million in local funds, engaged more than one million people in volunteerism, and impacted critical community issues including literacy, homelessness, foreclosure, environment, and public safety.

The MCSC is housed in the Michigan Department of Human Services.

"The Michigan Community Service Commission provides real results for our state by marrying proven service strategies such as AmeriCorps, service-learning, and youth mentoring, with the power of our state's many volunteers. By investing in these cost-effective service methods, the Commission is delivering a powerful return on investment that benefits those who serve, those who are served and the state as a whole."

Carolyn Bloodworth—Chair, Michigan Community Service Commission

MCSC Signature Programs

Michigan's AmeriCorps

In 2014-2015, MCSC is funding 24 AmeriCorps programs throughout the state through the Michigan's AmeriCorps initiative. More than 750 AmeriCorps members in Michigan will provide foreclosure prevention counseling, organize tutoring programs, mentor youth, preserve our environment, build houses, feed the hungry, recruit volunteers, and more.

Mentor Michigan

The Michigan Community Service Commission seeks to enable all youth to successfully transition to adulthood and reach their full potential through its Mentor Michigan initiative. Mentor Michigan supports nearly 250 mentoring programs with training, research, partnerships, and building public awareness.

Volunteer MICHIGAN

The Volunteer MICHIGAN initiative encompasses a number of unique volunteer engagement strategies that seek to more effectively leverage Michigan's volunteers. These tools include service project mini-grants, social media, the Volunteer Generation Fund and other volunteer promotion efforts. By employing these different methods, Volunteer MICHIGAN strives to tap each of the state's volunteer resources, engage under-utilized populations, and ultimately increase the number of volunteers in Michigan.

Governor's Service Awards

Each year, the MCSC works with the Office of the Governor to honor volunteers, organizations, and businesses with the Governor's Service Awards. These awards are given annually to the heroes of Michigan who are committed to volunteerism and helping to solve community issues through service.