

Michigan's AmeriCorps Introduction

What is AmeriCorps?

AmeriCorps is a national service program designed to strengthen citizenship and the ethic of service by engaging thousands of Americans on a full-time or part-time basis to help communities to address their toughest challenges. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)

administers AmeriCorps at the federal level and works in partnership with states to develop service programs and create a community-based national service network. The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) is the administrative agent for Michigan's AmeriCorps.



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4-H Mentor Michigan Initiative



The 4-H Mentor Michigan Initiative Program has 55 full-time AmeriCorps members serving at 32 sites around the state. They

seek to help youth reach their full potential by providing them with positive, caring, and nurturing adults. Members engage youth ages 5-19, using one-on-one, peer, and small-group mentoring models. With resources from Michigan State University Extension and Mentor Michigan, the 4-H Mentor Michigan Initiative strengthens mentoring efforts and addresses an overall need for mentors in neighborhoods and communities

across the state. The role of each member varies by site but typically includes: screening, training, and recruiting mentors, matching and supporting mentors and mentees, developing community partnerships, and building capacity for mentoring programs. 4-H Mentor Michigan Initiative AmeriCorps members use their head, heart, hands, and health to help get things done in Michigan!



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Camp Fire USA AmeriCorps

Camp Fire USA is a national nonprofit that seeks to build caring, confident youth and future leaders. It is focused on providing children a safe and healthy environment where they can learn and grow through life skills programming such as Camp Fire Trails and two special curriculums: Self Reliance and A Gift of Giving. AmeriCorps members teach

classes that focus on safety training, self-confidence, responsibility, conflict resolution, and the importance of service learning. Camp Fire USA West Michigan Council offers year-round programming in 11 different public schools in Grand Rapids. Members serve more than 2,500 at-risk children by building positive and healthy mentoring relationships. The

Camp Fire USA AmeriCorps team currently consists of five full-time members and 16 part-time members.



Michigan Campaign to End Homelessness

In 2007, Michigan reported almost 80,000 homeless individuals living on the streets and in shelters during the year. The Campaign to End Homelessness supports the vision that housing is a right, and that no man, woman, or child should be forced to sleep on the street or in a shelter on any night, in any town or city

in the state. The Campaign's AmeriCorps program has 20 full-time members to assist in the efforts of the Campaign. Members work to build the capacity of local community service agencies throughout the state and fill a critical gap in services. Members will assess barriers to housing, develop strategic plans, and identify

housing opportunities for those already homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The goal is to reach a minimum of 760 individuals statewide, as well as to assist families, youth in transition, and youth aging out of foster care to seek and keep permanent housing.

City Year Detroit



City Year Detroit is a youthful and energetic organization providing transformative services to the metro Detroit community. Over 60

AmeriCorps members from around the country dedicate 10 months to help youth in school-based programs. Members serve daily in the Detroit Public School System to provide mentoring and tutoring, in addition to after-school programs where students have the opportunity to get involved in enrichment activities and get help with their homework.

The Heroes program is held on Saturdays where students discuss topics such as poverty, environmentalism, and racism, and then engage in relevant community service in an effort to make a difference. City Year's vision is that someday the most commonly asked question of a young adult will be, "Where are you going to do your service year?"



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Char-Em ISD

The Char-Em ISD AmeriCorps Program equips students with tools and skills necessary to be successful in all current and future endeavors. Members build bonds with at-risk students and act as positive role models, demonstrating where hard work, determination, and integrity can take you. With an emphasis on literacy, academic mentoring by members helps students improve their

performance in core subjects. Members also serve to build social skills, and focus on how to resolve conflicts in a civil and appropriate manner that will decrease violence and conflict within their schools and communities, further promoting a safe and positive environment for learning and growth. Ten full-time members serve in nine elementary schools in Charlevoix, Emmet, and Antrim

Counties. They also partner with area nonprofits to develop service projects that bring various community members together to succeed.



Downriver CARES



Downriver CARES (Community, Action, Resources, Education, and Service) promotes social and emotional readiness for children, adults, and families through programs

offered by The Guidance Center. Twenty full-time members and 15 part-time members serve in the Downriver communities of Southeast Michigan. Programming includes: parent-child interaction groups, mental health support and recovery groups, school-based tutoring, mentoring, therapeutic services, case management services, life skills development, and home-based support for families.

Downriver CARES also encourages the community to support these efforts through volunteerism. Members serve in these programs Monday through Thursday and then come together on Fridays to do service projects throughout the metro Detroit area. Members provide services to approximately 2,500 Guidance Center clients and complete 60 service projects every year.

the readetroit corps

The readetroit corps program utilizes 26 AmeriCorps members to serve in 12 Detroit Public Schools. They provide a range of reading and literary activities for students and parents, specifically focusing on developing basic reading skills and a general interest in reading

for elementary students. Their overall goal is to increase the reading level of all the students they serve through activities such as starting book clubs, conducting individual and group tutoring sessions, and recruiting volunteers to help with their efforts in literacy.





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AmeriCorps Together We Prepare



The mission of the AmeriCorps Together We Prepare program (ATWP) is to provide vital emergency assistance to victims

and communities affected by disaster, and increase preparedness in the areas of greatest need before disaster strikes. This is accomplished by recruiting, training, and supporting individuals that provide integrated community outreach and education through Red Cross service activities

focused on homeland security. Members are involved in community education, blood drives, youth development, and disaster preparedness. The ATWP program is a joint effort of nine American Red Cross chapters accounting for 25 full-time AmeriCorps members.

Community HealthCorps

Cherry Street Health Center is a nonprofit community health center that offers service to 14 sites within the community: nine community clinics, two traveling clinics, and three others in area schools. Members help out in a variety of ways with the services centers provide, including medical,

dental, vision, and behavioral health. Cherry Street Health Services is committed to providing the highest quality and most effective primary health care services to people of all economic levels with a special sensitivity to the needs of economically disadvantaged people of diverse cultural

backgrounds. Members serve to remove barriers to health care by promoting prevention, personal responsibility, and collaboration among community partners.



Michigan Primary Care Association



The mission of the Michigan Primary Care Association (MPCA) is to promote, support, and develop comprehensive,

accessible, and affordable community-based primary health care services to everyone in Michigan. MPCA Community HealthCorps has 14 AmeriCorps members serving at eight different sites throughout the state. These members serve in a variety of capacities with an overall goal of improving the health of Michigan's citizens. Patient Self-Management and Community and Literacy

Outreach Specialists focus on patient self-management, literacy programs, and prevention education in schools and community health care centers. Members make more than 3,000 patient contacts, recruit in excess of 300 volunteers, and contribute over 30,000 hours of community service.



Michigan's AmeriCorps

Marquette Alger Regional Educational Service Agency

The MARESA Michigan's AmeriCorps program is located in the central Upper Peninsula and is coordinated by the Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency (MARESA). Ten full-time and four part-time members serve in Marquette

and Alger county school settings, providing educational support services such as mentoring, tutoring, before and after-school activities, service-learning projects, technology, and career support. Members also promote community involvement in schools

and nonprofit educational institutions.



Huron Pines AmeriCorps



Huron Pines AmeriCorps: Developing Leaders in Conservation, continues its efforts of helping organizations meet their goals of improving

Michigan's natural resources. Members aid organizations focused on conserving the forests, lakes, and streams of Northeast Michigan, and are dedicated to the mission of strengthening stewardship of our natural resources. Last year, Huron Pines recruited 572 volunteers to implement 15 member-driven service projects, including stream-bank restoration, native plant rescues,

in-stream habitat improvement, and three river clean-ups. This year, 10 members continue their positive impact on the environment at the local level by serving with nonprofit conservation groups and conservation districts. They also foster opportunities for future leaders in conservation through volunteer coordination, public outreach, and education.

Jumpstart Michigan

Jumpstart Michigan is a literacy-based mentor program serving Washtenaw and Wayne Counties. Jumpstart recognizes the state of inequality in early educational experiences in America. They also recognize that quality early educational experiences have a lasting impact. Therefore, Jumpstart pairs college students from Eastern Michigan University and University of Michigan-Dearborn with at-risk preschool

children through placements in early education settings. The program's eight quarter-time and 75 minimum-time (300 hours) AmeriCorps members work one-on-one to prepare their partner child for success in school and in life by encouraging the development of literacy and social skills needed for academic success. The children's progress is measured through a School Success Checklist, which assesses

language and literacy, social, and initiative skills. The results speak for themselves: children who participate in Jumpstart programs consistently build skill levels at a greater rate than non-participating children.





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Michigan Habitat's AmeriCorps

The mission of Michigan Habitat's AmeriCorps mission is to increase the capacity in the state of Michigan to build simple, decent homes in partnership with people in need. Their focus is to affiliate with local chapters of Habitat for Humanity International to build and rehabilitate affordable housing. The program currently has 18 members serving with Habitat for Humanity: 12 full-time, 10 part-time, and 24 quarter-time. Habitat for Humanity International offers homeownership opportunities

to families unable to obtain conventional home financing. Generally, those whose income is 30-50% less than the area's median income can receive assistance. In most cases, prospective Habitat homeowner families make a \$500 down payment and contribute 300 to 500 hours of "sweat equity" on the construction of their home or someone else's home. Because Habitat houses are built using donations of land, material, and labor, mortgage payments are kept affordable. Through this program, more than 200,000

volunteers have been recruited and trained to build homes. Michigan Habitat affiliates have built more than 2,200 homes, providing more than 10,000 individuals with proper housing. Michigan affiliates are currently building 200 homes annually.



Faith In Youth Partnership



The Faith In Youth Partnership (FIY) is a collaborative program with the Good Samaritan Ministries. Located in Holland, this program has eight full-time and

four part-time AmeriCorps members. Good Samaritan Ministries' mission is building collaborations of faith-based organizations, nonprofits, government, and schools, to meet pressing community needs. Good Sam's vision and history of collaborative development remains vital to our community as we continue to eliminate duplication of efforts, leverage financial resources, and build cross-

sector partnerships to make the best use of the unique resources of all partners. Fifteen members provide transformational relationships to youth in our community by serving at various faith-based sites focused on after-school programs aimed primarily towards at-risk youth. The FIY Partnership demonstrates what is possible in a cross-sector collaboration of service to the greater good.



Michigan's AmeriCorps

Michigan Service Scholars

The Michigan Service Scholars Program (MSS) provides \$300,000 annually in education awards statewide to students attending Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) member campuses. The 300 participating students complete 300 hours of community service during one calendar year and are awarded

a \$1,000 educational award, used for qualified educational purposes. To complete 300 hours during a regular academic year, students average 10 hours of community service per week. Community service hours are completed during the academic year and/or over school breaks.



Michigan Campus Compact



The Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) program was created through a partnership

between MCC and the Michigan Corporation for National and Community Service state office. MCC*VISTAs promote the education and commitment of Michigan college students to be civically engaged citizens through creating and expanding academic, co-curricular, and campus-wide opportunities for community service and service-learning. The program has 13 full-time members who act as

transformative agents between higher educational institutions and their communities. Members create service opportunities to engage students in order to gain a richer and more valuable experience outside the classroom. They also build beneficial relationships within the community, which lead to partnerships between organizations and colleges.

Michigan AmeriCorps Partnership

The Michigan AmeriCorps Partnership (MAP) is a collaborative program between the Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning at the University of Michigan and the many organizations served. Since 1995, MAP has served over 30 diverse nonprofit organizations, schools, and communities in the Detroit area. Stationed at multiple service sites, MAP

members strive to address local human needs through direct service activities related to social, economic, and community development, health education and health promotion services for children and families, academic enhancement of youth in after-school or summer programs, and volunteer recruitment and retention. Forty-nine members currently serve in the program,

and since its start, 769 members have served over 647,408 hours of service and recruited over 72,504 volunteers who have served over 239,923 hours!





Michigan's AmeriCorps

Superior AmeriCorps

Superior AmeriCorps encompasses seven western counties of the Upper Peninsula and its primary focus is education. Thirty-five full-time members strive to meet the motto of the program: Serving to strengthen communities through youth education, volunteer recruitment, and the promotion of community service. Members serve in preschools, local school

districts, and nonprofit community organizations, serving youth from elementary to high school, including alternative and after-school education, as well as toddlers in preschools. Superior AmeriCorps members demonstrate the ideals of volunteerism and positive influences throughout the community.



Volunteer Muskegon's AmeriCorps



Volunteer Muskegon's AmeriCorps members are

placed at several sites in Muskegon, Oceana, and Newaygo Counties. Fifteen full-time and five part-time members involve K-12 youth in service-learning projects. Members develop strong leadership skills in youth development and grassroots community problem-solving.

Muskegon's AmeriCorps team is dedicated to building awareness of national service and facilitating large-scale service projects on days of national service. Members serve in school systems, health organizations, and various nonprofit agencies.

AmeriCorps Alums

AmeriCorps Alums is a national network of civic leaders who are actively engaged in shaping America's communities. More than 400,000 alumni of AmeriCorps national service constitutes a powerful force for change. Alums chapters bring together those with a commitment to service in an effort to connect, support, and mobilize AmeriCorps alumni

to strengthen communities and the nation. Alums help others continue to "get things done" by connecting people, advancing their commitment to service, supporting and advocating for AmeriCorps programs, and building the capacity of alumni to be agents of change. Members do not have to be an AmeriCorps alum to be involved. Visit www.americorpsalums.org to find

events and meet with local chapters and see how citizens can continue to "get things done!"





Michigan's AmeriCorps

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