



Michigan's AmeriCorps Week Project Descriptions

LOCATION	DATE(S)	TIME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	POINT OF CONTACT
Northwood University Midland	Saturday, May 10	9:00 am–4:00 pm	“College Experience Day”; an all day event to provide exposure, education, and information to youth in foster care and adults about needs and issues related to youth in foster care.	Selene V. Wadhawan (989) 835-7512 Holly Ball (989) 835-7098
Grand Rapids (West MI) Creston Plaza Apts.	Saturday, May 17	8:30 am–1:00 pm	The Cherry Street Community HealthCorps Team will be hosting a Community garden/clean-up in the Creston Plaza Apartments, which will include planting flowers, vegetables, and plants and also walking around the neighborhood picking up trash and other items.	Jamisha Alexander Patient Advocate Cherry Street Community HealthCorps (National Direct) JamishaA@cherryhealth.com (616) 954-1998 x183 Keitsha Perkins, Patient Advocate KeitshaP@cherryhealth.com (616) 742-9945
Muskegon (West MI)	Friday, May 16	9:00 am–1:00 pm	Volunteer Muskegon's AmeriCorps members, along with community volunteers, will be assisting in a clean-up of downtown Muskegon.	Lisa Schillaci AmeriCorps Program Director Volunteer Muskegon's AmeriCorps americorps@volunteermuskegon.org (231) 722-6600 x15
Wolverine (Northern MI) Village Pavilion	Saturday, May 10	11:00 am–3:00 pm	Huron Pines AmeriCorps will be sponsoring a one day river clean-up of the Sturgeon River from the town of Wolverine to Haakwood Campground. This project is open to the public and will address the importance of river conservation and giving back to the community. Volunteers will be partnered with Huron Pines AmeriCorps members and resource professionals to maintain the natural beauty of this “blue ribbon” stream. Lunch will be provided.	Nathan Skibbe Volunteer Coordinator Volunteer@huronpines.org (989) 344-0753 x14
Emmet County (Northern MI) Ray Johnston Nature Preserve	Saturday, May 17	8:30 am–4:00 pm	This project will consist of: trash clean-up; construction of gates, fences, and other barriers; trail and boardwalk construction; benches and table construction; and habitat restoration.	Kristin Jeffers AmeriCorps Member Char-Em ISD AmeriCorps kristinj@charemisd.org (231) 547-9947

Detroit Area (Southeast MI)	Monday, May 12	10:00 am- 4:00 pm	<p>On Monday, May 12th, all programs will participate in a rally at Romanowski Park, which will include guest speakers and information about the AmeriCorps Alums network.</p> <p>Following the rally, members, volunteers, and alums will be doing service projects in partnership with The Greening of Detroit. Various projects have been planned to support up to 200 participants. Lunch will be provided.</p> <p>Other service project opportunities include: -May 16th with Motor City Blight Busters -May 17th with Lower Huron Metro Parks, Southgate – Relay for Life.</p>	<p>Joe Spain Program Director Downriver CARES AmeriCorps ispain@guidance-center.org (734) 785-7705 ext. 7209</p> <p><i>Other programs involved:</i> <i>City Year Detroit</i> <i>Jumpstart Michigan</i> <i>Michigan AmeriCorps Partnership</i> <i>readetroit Corps (CIS Detroit)</i> <i>Michigan AIDS Partnership</i></p>
	Friday, May 16 (Motor City Blight Busters Project)	9:00am- 3:00pm		
	Saturday, May 17 (Lower Huron Metro Parks Project)	9:00am- 3:00pm		
Kalamazoo (Southwest MI)	Wednesday, May 14	3:30 pm- 5:30 pm	<p>The S.I.S. and B.R.O (Sisters Influencing Sisters and Brothers Reaching Out) youth group at New Genesis is a group of high school students who have been connected with a Woodward Elementary student for an onsite mentoring program initiated by New Genesis in collaboration with Big Brothers Big Sisters. On Wednesday, May 14, the mentors and mentees will engage in a yard beautification project called "Clean and Grill." Prior to the 14th, students will canvas the neighborhood to find out which residents are interested in having their yard raked and/or flowers planted. Students will work together to rake leaves and plant flowers for approximately 90 minutes. During the last 30 minutes, students and neighbors will engage in a meal of hotdogs, chips, and a beverage.</p>	<p>M. Joyce Armstrong AmeriCorps Member Armst236@msue.edu (269) 343-7023</p>
Holland (West MI)	Wednesday, May 7		<p>The Faith In Youth AmeriCorps team, along with youth and site supervisors will march in the annual tulip time festival parade on May 7th. Participation in the parade will demonstrate that AmeriCorps is present and supported. During AmeriCorps Week (the following week), members will assist with 2-1-1, a local nonprofit directory hub. Members will gather much needed resources to build the directory for the youth and families members currently serve.</p>	<p>Robyn Afrik Program Director Faith In Youth Partnership rafrik@goodsamministries.com (616) 392-7159 x107</p>
Cheboygan County (Northern MI)	Monday, May 12 – Friday,	During school hours	<p>We are having a Pet Food Drive for the Humane Society in Cheboygan County. The project is based out of Inland Lakes High School in Indian River. We are accepting all kinds of animal and pet foods. We have a classroom at</p>	<p>Jessica Mills Success Coach 4-H Mentor Michigan Initiative</p>

Inland Lakes High School	May 16		Inland Lakes school (there will be signage at the entrance to the high school directing people where to go) where we will be stocking donations. Donations will be delivered to the Humane Society on the following Monday.	jmills@inlandlakes.org (231) 238-6868 x9107
St. Joseph (Southwest MI) Tiscornia Beach	Saturday, May 17	9:00 am	The Beach Clean Up will consist of picking up debris from the beach (driftwood, bottles, paper, and other things that make the beach look unappealing and unsafe). The collected debris will be piled into one area and the City of St. Joseph will bring a truck down and haul it away.	Gay Story AmeriCorps Member 4-H Mentor Michigan Initiative gstory@berriencounty.org (269) 944-4126 x4026
Lansing (Central MI) Foster Community Center	Saturday, May 17	12:00 pm–4:00 pm	We are hosting a Books, Bottles, and Barbeque event, which is open to the public. A free barbeque will be provided to people bringing books or bottles/cans to donate. The event will be held at Foster Community Center. The Kickoff will include a guest speaker, as well as AmeriCorps members presenting information about AmeriCorps and the mentoring program. Current mentors and mentees will run games and other activities throughout the day. We expect approximately 200 people to attend this event. Money raised will be donated to Ele's Place in Lansing and the books will be donated to the Advent House Ministries for use by homeless youth.	Kimberly Martus AmeriCorps Member 4-H Mentor Michigan Initiative martuski@msu.edu (517) 676-7302
Monroe (Southeast MI)	TBD		The Monroe Museum has several historical sites and May is a big time for them. We are organizing a team of high school students and kids on the Big Brothers Big Sisters waiting list to assist with site clean up and upkeep, as well as participate in historical re-enactments. It will not only be a great representation of member service, but it will also be great citizenship training and education about the rich history from which we came.	Teri Selogy AmeriCorps Member teri@bbbsmonroecounty.org (734) 242-8540
Traverse City (Northern MI) GT Village Commons	Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10		This will be a community service project taking place in conjunction with a fundraising benefit for our local Child and Family Services Agency. The event "Festival of Tables" requires an entry fee in either a viewing or raffle category. BCBS has agreed to sponsor us by donating the \$500.00 entry fee. We are now requesting donations of cash or items for our table design from local businesses for our raffle table. I am bringing two local youth mentoring groups together in collaboration to brainstorm the items we will need for our entry. Our theme, "Youth Voices-Eclectic Mix" is meant to be a metaphor honoring Foster Families and our Youth so our items will be a blend of unmatched and gently	Linda Forwards Youth Mentor Coordinator (231) 929-0159

			<p>used tableware. This project is intended to be a learning experience for the foster youth in the “giving back” process, as well as to honor our foster Youth and Foster Families. The youth will attend buying or gathering trips with me for the necessary items and get a first hand experience of Community Service! This is a two day event with the Gala Preview on Friday and Luncheon on Saturday. The potential for awareness is awesome with attendance being in the thousands! We will have signage, cards, brochures, and personal contacts during both days. If you are interested in attending either event, cost of tickets are: \$100.00 for Friday and \$50.00 for Saturday.</p>	
<p>Grand Rapids (West MI) Indian Trails Camp</p>	<p>May 14–17 / Open to public on Saturday, May 17</p>	<p>9:00 am– 2:00 pm</p>	<p><i>AmeriCorps Spring Summit</i> is a collaborative effort of AmeriCorps Together We Prepare members throughout Michigan participating in a four day service and overnight training experience at a Grand Rapids summer camp dedicated to serving individuals with physical and developmental disabilities. Indian Trails is especially excited about utilizing newly donated AmTrykes®, which are therapeutic tricycles designed to facilitate cardiovascular fitness and improve motor coordination and strength development. Camp staff has identified the need for a place on the campground to use and store these devices safely. During AC Week, ATWP members will construct a quarter-mile track and storage facility for a fleet of 16 AmTrykes® (the only one of its kind in the U.S.!). Members will spend evening hours participating in teambuilding and professional development workshops. The final day of service will be open to the public and will be dedicated to preparing the camp to kick off its first summer session. Projects include general construction, landscaping, interior painting of six cabins, grounds and trail maintenance, food storage organization, and clean-up. If you would like to participate in this service experience, please call (800) 482-2411 ext. 3503.</p>	<p>Jordan O’Neil Program Director AmeriCorps Together We Prepare joneil@ggr.redcross.org (616) 456-8661 x3503</p>
<p>Grand Rapids (West MI)</p>	<p>-Clean-ups– ongoing -Saturday, May 17 - Youth Fair and Basketball tournament</p>		<p>Camp Fire USA will be teaming up with community partners to do neighborhood revitalization and clean-up in Grand Rapids. There will also be a Youth Fair and basketball tournament between AmeriCorps members and kids.</p>	<p>Katie Warren Program Director Neighborhood Youth Development Katie.warren@campfireusawmc.org (616) 949-2500 x30</p>

Lansing (Central MI) Gone Wired Café 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Saturday, May 17	11:00 am – 1:00 pm	We will host a reception May 17 at Gone Wired Cafe' featuring artwork from public school students who have participated in one or more restorative justice interventions. Along with the students' artwork, we will feature information about each of our AmeriCorps members and an AmeriCorps Alum, who are working within their schools conducting restorative justice interventions and building the process into school culture. Each AmeriCorps member will play a role in organizing the event and will offer some activity at the reception so they are interacting with guests.	Nancy Schertizing Restorative Justice Coordinator lansingrjcenter@aol.com (517) 755-2814
Williamston (Central MI)	Friday, May 16 th	9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Michigan Habitat's AmeriCorps will be holding their AmeriCorps Week project in Williamston, Michigan. The project will involve making repairs to the town park that was damaged by the tornado that occurred in October 2007. There will also be clean-up activities taking place for the Red Cedar River, which is located adjacent to the town park. The tornado demolished parts of the wooden play structure. Members will work to rehabilitate that section of the park, and also do any other touch-ups the park needs.	Jamie Cianfarani AmeriCorps Member JCianfarani@inghamhabitat.org (517) 655-1872
Houghton (Upper Peninsula)	Monday, May 12 – Saturday, May 17	All area schools	Superior AmeriCorps will be conducting a canned food drive for the Western U.P. Food Bank. There will be contests within the schools to see which class can bring in the most food donations. The winner will receive a pizza party at the end.	Bonita Neveau AmeriCorps Member bsneveau@bhfirfirst.org (906) 524-7300
Lansing (Central MI) Lansing Center	Tuesday, May 13 and Wednesday, May 14	9:00am- 5:00pm	The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) is coordinating an AmeriCorps Week onsite service project at the 2008 Michigan Nonprofit SuperConference in Lansing on May 13-14. Space will be provided in the conference exhibit hall for conference participants to help make fleece blankets. The fleece blankets will be donated to a Lansing nonprofit organization. AmeriCorps members wearing their "grays" (the standard AmeriCorps uniform) will be stationed at the project to talk to participants about AmeriCorps and national service. The Michigan Nonprofit SuperConference has become the major celebration for community volunteers throughout the state. This year's SuperConference theme is "Teaming Up for Community Success."	Michelle Mackie Administrative Assistant Metzmakerm1@michigan.gov (517) 241-3606