

NOTE TO PRESS SECRETARY: Details about the grants are in the accompanying letter and fact sheet. Many states and districts have multiple grants. If you'd like more information or need assistance, please contact CNCS Press Secretary, Samantha Jo Warfield at (202) 606-6775 or sjwarfield@cns.gov.

Serve Wisconsin Announces \$6.2 Million in AmeriCorps Funding for Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 8/17/2018

CONTACT: Jeanne Duffy, Executive Director

PHONE: 608-261-6716

EMAIL: jeanne.duffy@wisconsin.gov

[Madison, WI] - Serve Wisconsin proudly announces that Wisconsin has received \$6.2 million in AmeriCorps funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency responsible for AmeriCorps and other national service programs.

"These funds will put 850 AmeriCorps members on the ground to tackle some of the toughest problems in Wisconsin including the opioid epidemic, the academic achievement gap, housing shortages for low-income families, and healthcare access," stated Jeanne Duffy, Executive Director, Serve Wisconsin.

After completing a full term of service, AmeriCorps members receive an award of approximately \$6,000 that they can use to pay for college or to pay off student loans, resulting in an additional \$3.3 million in Segal AmeriCorps Education Award funding for the 850 Wisconsin AmeriCorps members.

The funding will support the following Wisconsin AmeriCorps programs:

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee EARN 72 AmeriCorps members serve in the following three programs: SPARK- AmeriCorps members provide tutoring sessions and small group reading activities to students in grades K-3 in order to improve literacy; Camp Whitcomb/Mason Environmental Initiative- AmeriCorps members create, implement and lead youth through environmental education lessons and activities, and Arts Initiative- AmeriCorps members develop, manage and implement a comprehensive art program and serve youth ages 6-18 in visual and performing arts in after school club facilities.

College Possible 33 AmeriCorps members provide intensive coaching and support to low-income high school and college students in order to make college admission and success possible.

College Possible STEP 2 AmeriCorps members will prepare low-income students for success in post-secondary education through academic and college preparation programming in underserved areas in non-urban areas of Wisconsin through a tech-connected based program.

Dane County Department of Human Services Partners for After School Success (PASS) 52 AmeriCorps Members are placed in predominately low-income or resource scarce communities in order to enhance the academic achievement and school engagement of middle and high school youth through positive relationships, literacy tutoring, extended learning programs and volunteer service.

Easter Seals Wisconsin 51 AmeriCorps members provide intensive personal care and lead or facilitate therapeutic recreation activities for individuals with disabilities and their families at Camp Wawbeek and Respite Camp. AmeriCorps members also provide therapeutic recreation activities for veterans and their family members at Veteran Family Camps.

Marquette University will develop a program to meet the volunteer needs of local schools and nonprofits, particularly in regard to middle and high school youth that are currently unmet.

Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps Afterschool 25 AmeriCorps members provide support to afterschool programs through promoting academic success, personal/social development and healthy active living for youth ages 8-18.

Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps Recovery Corps 20 AmeriCorps members will be trained as recovery coaches to help people recover from opioid addiction.

Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps Volunteer Wisconsin 45 AmeriCorps members are placed in non-profits across the state to increase their capacity to effectively engage and utilize volunteers.

Milwaukee Christian Center, Inc. - Youthbuild 23 AmeriCorps members make a tangible impact on their community through the construction of affordable, energy-efficient housing and accessible home modifications, while gaining job and leadership skills, improving their education and developing community through service.

North Central Community Action Program 31 AmeriCorps members provide direct services to youth and their families as mentors and tutors during and after school. Members serve elementary, middle school, high school and adult learners.

Public Allies, Milwaukee 45 AmeriCorps members work on service projects that enhance and expand the capacity of nonprofit organizations to deliver critical direct services to Milwaukee residents.

Racine Zoological Society will develop a program in order to expand the zoo's educational programming.

Renewal Unlimited, Inc. Fresh Start Program 25 AmeriCorps members construct two single family homes that are sold to low- and moderate-income families. While working on the houses, they develop educational skills, pre-employment skills, job skills, independent living skills and leadership skills.

Teach For America 103 AmeriCorps members lead classrooms across the city of Milwaukee while growing and strengthening the movement for educational equality and excellence.

United Way of Dane County Achievement Connections 27 AmeriCorps members tutor high school students in math and leverage additional volunteers to provide tutoring with the goal of increasing the number of students who pass Algebra by 10th grade.

United Way of Dane County Schools of Hope AmeriCorps Project 20 AmeriCorps members work with school staff to increase the academic performance of students of color and those from low-income families through literacy tutoring. Members also work as coordinators for community volunteer tutors.

United Way Fox Cities Weight of the Fox Valley 25 AmeriCorps members will deliver Health Education sessions, with a focus on physical activity and/or healthy eating, as part of a multi-dimensional approach towards obesity prevention in Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago counties.

UW-Eau Claire Blugold Beginnings 67 AmeriCorps members will engage youth in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) through robotics and coding afterschool clubs, STEM day and overnight camps, tutoring and mentoring in northwestern Wisconsin.

UW-Eau Claire ECLIPSE 45 AmeriCorps members provide one-on-one interventions to 3-5 year old children who are at risk and/or from low income families in order to help them grow in the areas of language, literacy, social interaction and initiative skills.

UW-Whitewater College of Education and Professional Studies will develop a teacher training program targeted to people living in and wanting to teach in rural Wisconsin.

Western Dairyland EOC, Inc. Fresh Start 17 AmeriCorps members construct new homes for income-eligible families in the local community while working on achieving high school diplomas/HSEDs, developing career goals, improving self-esteem and alleviating barriers to economic self-sufficiency.

Wisconsin Association for Homeless and Runaway Services 37 AmeriCorps members provide street outreach services to homeless youth and respond to referrals from police departments, schools and other youth-serving agencies.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Farm to School 26 AmeriCorps members leverage community volunteers to implement farm to school strategies in a variety of high-need Wisconsin communities to provide students healthy local foods.

Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association Wisconsin HealthCorps 22 AmeriCorps members are placed in community health centers, public health departments and health focused non-profits in order to serve as patient navigators, health educators and community outreach specialists.

WisCorps 47 AmeriCorps members will complete high priority conservation projects across the state of Wisconsin. Members will be responsible for improving public land, planting trees, establishing firebreaks at homes, establishing or maintaining trails, installing or restoring rain gardens, and engaging individuals in environmental education programs.

AmeriCorps' unique model means the Wisconsin AmeriCorps programs will leverage an additional \$5.1 million from the private sector, foundations, and other sources - further increasing the return on the federal investment for Wisconsin communities.

Every year, 75,000 AmeriCorps members serve nationwide through 21,000 schools, nonprofits, and community and faith-based organizations across the country. These citizens have played a critical role in the recovery of communities affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. They also tutor and mentor young people, connect veterans to jobs, care for seniors, reduce crime and revive cities, fight the opioid epidemic, and meet other critical needs.

Since 1994, AmeriCorps members nationwide have provided more than 1.4 billion hours of service and earned more than \$3.6 billion in education scholarships, more than \$1 billion of which has been used to pay back student debt. Those interested in joining AmeriCorps can learn more at [AmeriCorps.gov/Join](https://www.americorps.gov/Join).

Serve Wisconsin works with AmeriCorps programs throughout the state of Wisconsin to address human, educational, environmental, public safety and homeland security needs. AmeriCorps members are given the opportunity to enrich the lives of the people and communities they serve and their own lives through professional and personal development. Serve Wisconsin is governed by 21-member citizen body appointed by Governor Walker. For more information visit <https://serve.wisconsin.gov>.

AmeriCorps is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that engages more than five million Americans in service through AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, the Social Innovation Fund, and the Volunteer Generation Fund, and leads the President's national call to service initiative, United We Serve. For more information visit www.nationalservice.gov.

-- end --