

**Tony Evers**  
Governor

**Christine Beatty**  
Board Chair

**Jeanne Duffy**  
Executive Director  
608-261-2716



1 West Wilson St., Rm. B274  
Madison, WI 53703

[ServeWisconsin@wisconsin.gov](mailto:ServeWisconsin@wisconsin.gov)

[www.servewisconsin.wi.gov](http://www.servewisconsin.wi.gov)

---

## SERVE WISCONSIN

# Serve Wisconsin Announces \$7.1 Million in AmeriCorps Funding for Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 8/29/2019

CONTACT: Jeanne Duffy, Executive Director

PHONE: 608-261-6716

EMAIL: [jeanne.duffy@wisconsin.gov](mailto:jeanne.duffy@wisconsin.gov)

[Madison, WI] - Serve Wisconsin proudly announces that Wisconsin has received \$7.1 million in AmeriCorps funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency responsible for AmeriCorps and other national service programs.

"We are so pleased to be supporting more AmeriCorps members in Wisconsin – Congratulations to all the organizations who were selected to receive funding," said Chester Spellman, director of AmeriCorps. "AmeriCorps members are improving the lives of millions of citizens, including in Wisconsin, and are an indispensable resource for nonprofits, communities, and the individuals they serve. As we mark the 25th anniversary of AmeriCorps, we salute all AmeriCorps members and alumni for standing up and serving our country."

"These funds will put more than 900 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 \$3.5 million in Segal AmeriCorps Education Award funding for the over 900 Wisconsin AmeriCorps members that will be serving this program year.

This fall marks the 25th anniversary of the first class of AmeriCorps members, with over 26,000 Wisconsin residents having served since 1994. The AmeriCorps members announced today will take their AmeriCorps pledge at a statewide event hosted in Milwaukee in October.

The funding will support the following Wisconsin AmeriCorps programs:

**Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee AmeriCorps - Academic & Career Planning** 23 AmeriCorps members provide college preparation and career readiness programming, including academic tutoring, assistance with college exploration and application, and job readiness and financial literacy education to low-income high school students.

**Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee - EARN** 91 AmeriCorps members serve students in three program areas of the Education through Art, Reading and Nature (EARN) program. SPARK Early Literacy 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. Arts Initiative AmeriCorps members develop, manage, and implement a comprehensive art program and serve youth ages 6-18 in visual and performing arts through after-school programming.

**Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee - Inspire HOPE** 12 AmeriCorps members work with K-8 students in after-school programs to support social-emotional learning programming through large-group, small-group, and individualized instruction.

**College Possible Milwaukee** 42 AmeriCorps members provide intensive coaching and support to low-income high school and college students in order to make college admission and success possible.

**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.

**Gio's Garden** This program is being developed through a planning grant. The program is being designed to expand services for families with children with special health needs by having AmeriCorps members provide respite care and school readiness programming for young children with special health needs and educational information and support for their parents.

**Marquette University - 414 Fellows** 30 AmeriCorps members will engage low-income children ages 0-3 in one-on-one and group literacy and language building activities to increase school readiness through gains in language and literacy skills.

**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 and other substance addiction and provide community education about substance use disorders and recovery resources.

**Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps - Volunteer Wisconsin** 35 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 to enhance and expand the capacity of nonprofit organizations to deliver critical direct services to Milwaukee residents.

**Racine Zoo AmeriCorps Program** 15 AmeriCorps members will provide environmental education programming to elementary, middle school, and high school students to reinforce grade-level science curriculum through inquiry and research activities, environmental presentations, and programming for participating classes at the zoo.

**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.

**Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers** This program is being developed through a planning grant. The program is being designed to improve health outcomes for individuals from low-income families and areas with shortages of medical professional care by having AmeriCorps members serve as health resource navigators and enhance educational programming for women's health, obesity, chronic illness, and other medical needs.

**Teach For America** 72 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** 28 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 serve as literacy tutors and tutor coordinators in high-need elementary schools where they work with staff to increase the literacy skills of students in kindergarten through fifth grade.



**United Way Fox Cities - LiveWell Fox Valley** 15 AmeriCorps members will deliver Health Education sessions and programming, 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.

**United Way of Racine County** This program is being developed through a planning grant. The program is being designed to support students in predominately low-income elementary community schools where AmeriCorps members will support programming to reduce chronic absenteeism and foster social emotional and academic growth, including an expansion in the availability of afterschool programs available to students and families.

**UW-Eau Claire - Blugold Beginnings** 54 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.

**Western Dairyland EOC, Inc. - Chippewa Fresh Start YouthBuild** 48 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** 25 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** 24 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 \$5.9 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. AmeriCorps members make a critical difference through their service by educating students for the 21st century workforce, supporting veterans and military families, completing conservation projects, tackling the opioid epidemic, promoting economic opportunity in our communities, helping people to live healthier lives, and through several other projects to make their local communities stronger. Additionally, they have played a critical role helping communities throughout the United States recover from flooding, hurricanes, wildfires, and other national disasters, including several disaster relief projects in Wisconsin over the past year.

Since 1994, AmeriCorps members nationwide have provided more than 1.5 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. Included within those numbers are the more than 26,000 Wisconsin residents who have served approximately 40 million hours through AmeriCorps, earning Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$101.2 million. Those interested in joining AmeriCorps can learn more at [AmeriCorps.gov/Join](https://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 Evers. For more information visit <https://servewisconsin.wi.gov>.

AmeriCorps is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that engages millions of Americans in service through its AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs and leads the nation's volunteer and service efforts.

-- end --

