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ServeOhio Celebrates 25 Years of AmeriCorps and Announces \$8.2 Million in AmeriCorps Grants

900 AmeriCorps members will serve 1.2 million hours at organizations across Ohio

Columbus, OH (October 9, 2019) – ServeOhio, Ohio’s governor-appointed commission on service and volunteerism, awarded \$8.2 million in AmeriCorps grants to support 900 Ohio AmeriCorps members who will provide intensive service throughout the year to address locally-identified needs. To celebrate AmeriCorps’ 25th anniversary, ServeOhio swore-in this year’s members during an event that took place yesterday highlighting AmeriCorps programs and service in Ohio.

“National service is an essential part of the solution to many of the social challenges facing our communities,” ServeOhio Executive Director William Hall said. “In the past 25 years, more than 35,000 Ohio residents have served as AmeriCorps members, and this year 900 new members join this group to develop civic and leadership skills that will last a lifetime.”

The more than 900 AmeriCorps members will serve at over 600 different sites across the state to provide interventions that improve local communities in the areas of education, economic opportunity, healthy futures and environmental stewardship. Many Ohio AmeriCorps members will work directly with students in local schools – focusing on school readiness; Ohio’s Third Grade Reading Guarantee; high school completion; and guidance related to post-graduation career and education goals. AmeriCorps members will be eligible for over \$4.2 million in education awards upon the successful completion of service to pay for future higher education or to pay back student loans.

The following agencies and organizations were selected to receive AmeriCorps funding through ServeOhio, which will be used through summer 2020:

- **After-School All-Stars** (Franklin, Cuyahoga, Lucas Counties) – Planning Grant - \$75,000
- **City of Dayton** (Montgomery County) – 70 AmeriCorps Members - \$310,213
- **City Year Cleveland** (Cuyahoga County) – 76 AmeriCorps Members - \$1,134,832
- **City Year Columbus** (Franklin County) – 62 AmeriCorps Members - \$881,947
- **College Now Greater Cleveland/Ohio College Guides** (Statewide) – 70 AmeriCorps Members - \$959,011
- **College Now Greater Cleveland/AmeriCorps Career Coaches** (Cleveland) – 10 AmeriCorps Members - \$151,920
- **Educational Service Center of Central Ohio/Ohio Reading and Math Corps** (Statewide) – 120 AmeriCorps Members - \$900,000
- **Educational Service Center of Central Ohio/Mentors for Success** (Central Ohio) – 20 AmeriCorps Members - \$165,000
- **Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association** (Cuyahoga and Lake County) – Planning Grant - \$74,978
- **Horizon Education Centers** (Cuyahoga County) – 18 AmeriCorps Members - \$223,936
- **John Carroll University** (Statewide) – 41 AmeriCorps Members - \$531,727
- **Mercy Health** (Clermont, Hamilton, Clark, Brown, and Lucas Counties) – 11 AmeriCorps Members - \$151,817

- **Ohio Campus Compact** (*Statewide*) – 15 AmeriCorps Members - \$167,515
- **Ohio Department of Aging** (*Statewide*) – 14 AmeriCorps Members - \$212,688
- **Ohio Historical Society** (*Statewide*) – 10 AmeriCorps Members - \$149,835
- **Ohio University** (*Athens County*) – 17 AmeriCorps Members - \$258,264
- **Rural Action** (*Southeast Ohio*) – 31 AmeriCorps Members - \$470,056
- **Santa Maria Community Services** (*Hamilton County*) – 15 AmeriCorps Members - \$227,881
- **Shawnee State University** (*Scioto County*) – 14 AmeriCorps Members - \$118,794
- **Springfield Promise Neighborhood** (*Clark County*) – 20 AmeriCorps Members - \$151,899
- **Teach for America – Ohio** (*Cuyahoga, Hamilton, and Montgomery Counties*) – 155 AmeriCorps Members - \$155,000
- **Tinker’s Creek Watershed Partners** (*Northeast Ohio*) – 13 AmeriCorps Members - \$195,709
- **University Settlement** (*Cuyahoga County*) – 15 AmeriCorps Members - \$167,112
- **YMCA Central Ohio** (*Franklin County*) – 24 AmeriCorps Members - \$181,729
- **Zoological Society of Cincinnati** (*Hamilton County*) – 12 AmeriCorps Members - \$182,183

During yesterday’s celebratory event, Lt. Governor Jon Husted administered the AmeriCorps pledge to swear-in the 900 new members. Ohio Senator Hearcel Craig shared remarks about the importance of local service, and Andrew Hanauer, director of the One America Movement, provided the keynote address. A panel of AmeriCorps alumni, moderated by Elizabeth Brown, Columbus City Councilmember, shared their personal stories of service and how it shaped their future.

“My experience as a teacher’s assistant for middle school students seeded my desire to work in public policy and fight to level the playing field for every family and community,” said Columbus City Councilmember Elizabeth Brown. “Service through AmeriCorps is a tremendous opportunity to learn more about yourself and the world. And for many people — like me — it is foundational for charting your career.”

ServeOhio supports AmeriCorps members by providing resources and leadership development for their service year. Additionally, ServeOhio works closely with local nonprofit organizations and governmental entities to structure evidence-based programming that builds the capacity of local entities to increase student achievement and bolster community-improvement objectives.

Throughout the nation, AmeriCorps programs engage more than 80,000 individuals in intensive, results-driven service each year through more than 21,600 organizations across the country. Upon completion of 1,700 hours of service, full-time AmeriCorps members earn a \$6,095 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award to help pay for college or pay back student loans. Since 1994, more than 1 million men and women have served in AmeriCorps, providing more than 1.4 billion hours of service and earning more than \$3.3 billion in scholarships, more than \$1 billion of which has been used to pay back student loan debt.

For more information about the awarded grants, AmeriCorps program or how to get involved, visit serveohio.org.

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About ServeOhio

ServeOhio is the state’s Commission on Service and Volunteerism created to empower local communities to mobilize AmeriCorps members and volunteer resources for the purpose of building a stronger Ohio. ServeOhio increases the effective utilization of AmeriCorps members and community volunteers working to address the state’s frontline issues in education, health and economic opportunity. Interested participants may learn more about ServeOhio at www.serveohio.org, or on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

About AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps is a national service program administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that engages more than 80,000 Americans in intensive service through its AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and Volunteer Generation Fund programs, and leads volunteer initiatives for the nation. For more information, visit [NationalService.gov](https://www.nationalservice.gov).