Serve Wisconsin

Annual Report
2013 -2014
Program Year

Wisconsin National and Community Service Board
2013-2014 Board Members

Kathleen D. Groat
Board Chair

Lisa Delmore
A Representative of community-based agency
Vice Chair

Anthony F. Hallman
A representative with expertise in the educational, training, and development needs of youth, particularly disadvantaged youth

Christine Beatty
A representative with experience in promoting volunteerism among older adults

State Superintendent Tony Evers
Designee: Scott Jones
The head of the State education agency or his or her designee

Secretary Mike Huebsch
Designee: James Langdon
Department of Administration

Robert Guenther
A representative of local labor organizations in the State

Angela Ahlgrim
A representative of business

Robert Griffith
Representative of volunteer sector

Margaret (Jane) Moore
Public Representative

India McCanse, State Director
The state representative of the Corporation for National and Community Service

Secretary John A. Scocos
Department of Veterans Affairs
EX-OFFICIO

Secretary Reggie Newson
Designee: Scott Fromader
Department of Workforce Development
EX-OFFICIO

Secretary Kitty Rhoades
Designee: Amy McDowell
Department of Health Services
EX-OFFICIO

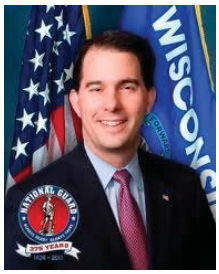
Adjutant General Donald P. Dunbar
Designee: Michael Hinman
Department of Military Affairs
EX-OFFICIO

Intersted in serving on the board?

Please contact Thomas Devine
thomas.devine@wisconsin.gov

SCOTT WALKER
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 7863
Madison, WI 53707



February 11, 2015

Dear Staff and Volunteers of Serve Wisconsin AmeriCorps:

Congratulations to all of the staff and members of Serve Wisconsin AmeriCorps on your commitment to service in the State of Wisconsin during the previous program year (2013 – 2014). You have improved the lives of our citizens through supporting community service and volunteerism in educating and mentoring young people, building homes for low-income families, preparing residents to respond to disasters, and helping meet basic human needs for veterans, military families, and others.

The lives of thousands of Wisconsin's citizens are being enriched every day because of dedicated service organizations and volunteers. Government alone cannot solve every problem nor meet every need, so we must rely on people helping people. On behalf of our state, I thank you for your efforts.

I hope this report will inspire others to service, and to make a difference in the lives of their fellow citizens.

Sincerely,

Scott Walker
Governor

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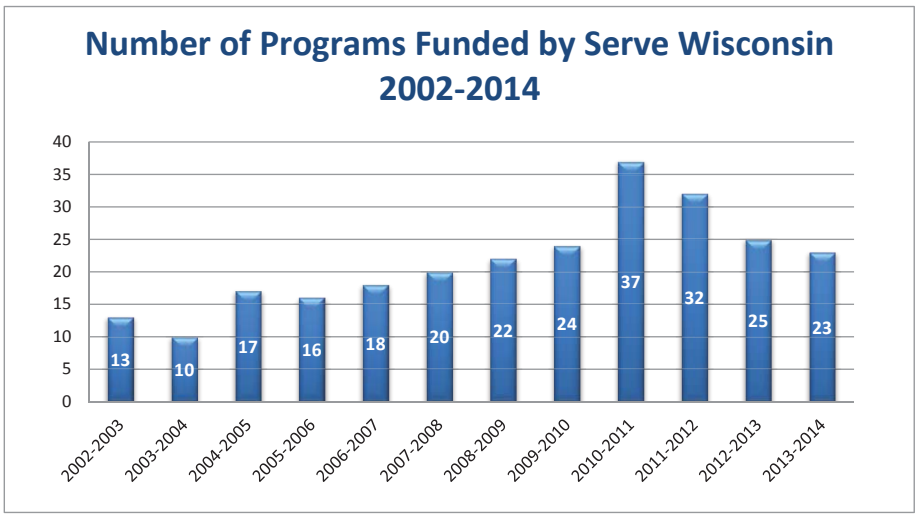
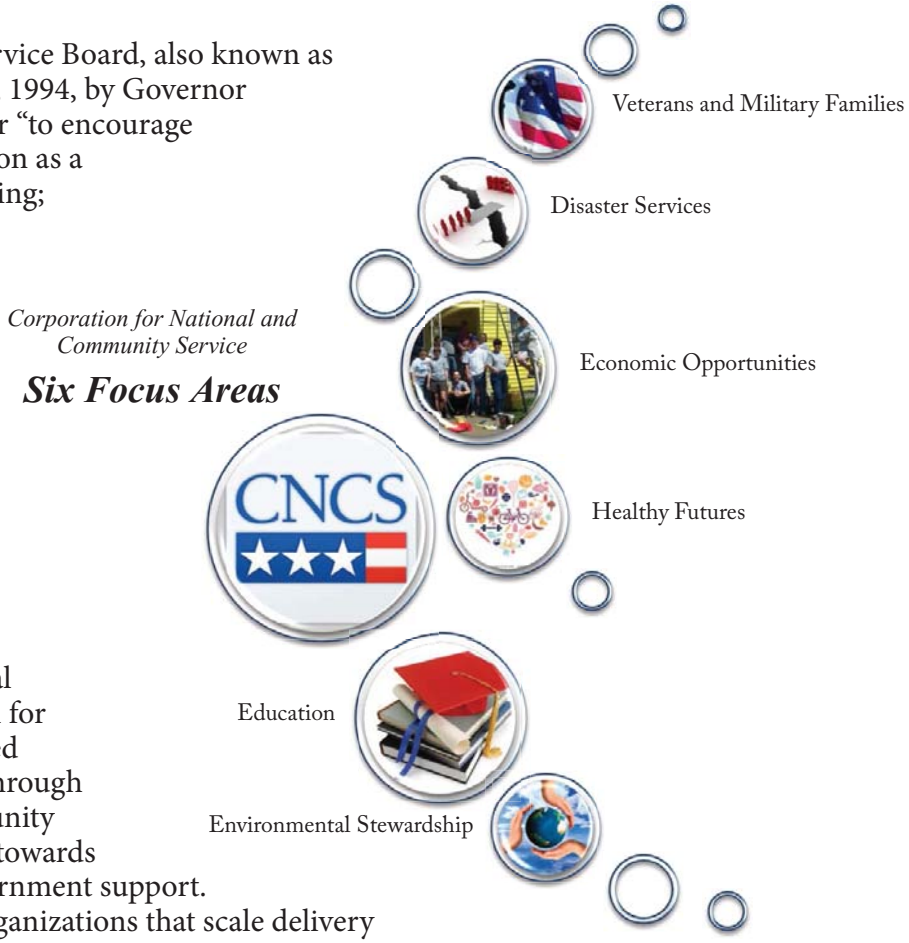


Wisconsin State Commission

The Wisconsin National and Community Service Board, also known as Serve Wisconsin, was established January 28, 1994, by Governor Tommy G. Thompson under Executive Order "to encourage community service and volunteer participation as a means of community and state problem-solving; to promote and support voluntary citizen involvement in government and private programs throughout the state; to develop a long-term vision and plan of action for community service initiatives in Wisconsin; and to serve as the state's liaison to national and state organizations which support its mission." The Board was later codified under 1993 Wisconsin Act 437.



Serve Wisconsin is a 21-member citizen body appointed by the Governor to support community service and volunteerism. Federal AmeriCorps resources from the Corporation for National and Community Service are awarded to organizations seeking to deliver services through an evidence-based approach creating community solutions. Management efforts will continue towards solutions that reach beyond continuous government support. In addition, Serve Wisconsin will support organizations that scale delivery system models addressing one or more of the six focus areas.

Serve Wisconsin State Service Plan Objectives:

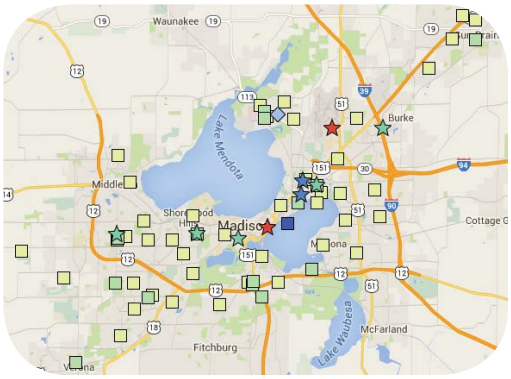
1. Serve Wisconsin will invest in sustainable service solutions that are supported by evidence based community needs and methods which increase the number of volunteers recruited, retained, managed, and recognized.
   a. Support the development of organizational capacity to engage additional volunteers.
   b. Continue to support Volunteer Connection as the electronic internet connector of volunteers with volunteer opportunities.
   c. Expand the reach of AmeriCorps by providing more choices to serve in rural and urban communities and track actual member placement using Beale Codes.
   d. Support cross sector collaboration (corporate, non-profit, & government) as a service strategy to increase the number of volunteers while encouraging shared measurements and terminology.
   e. Evaluate volunteer experience by creating a survey with standardized implementation practices, terminology, and reporting.
   f. Identify through the evaluation process and report out effective strategies and best practices.
   g. Enhance AmeriCorps member experience and verify through annual member survey.

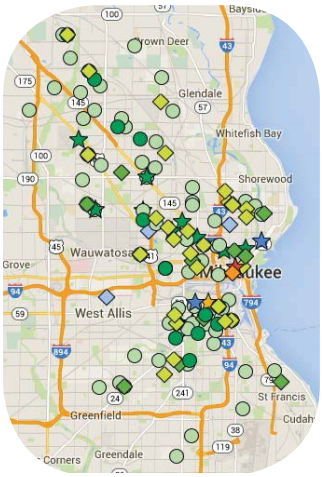
2. Serve Wisconsin will promote AmeriCorps and Volunteer Connection to expand recognition and awareness of service and volunteer opportunities.
   a. Secure a champion of service and volunteerism in Wisconsin.
   b. Maximize the use of the Volunteer in America Report information in defining volunteerism in Wisconsin.
   c. Continue the Governor's Service Awards.
   d. Serve Wisconsin will develop a plan to address needs in marketing and public relations around the concept of volunteerism.

3. Serve Wisconsin board members and program staff will engage in professional learning around the concept of collective impact models.

2013-14 Map Key	Program Name	Members	CNCS Grant Amount	Program Impact
★	Boys & Girls Clubs Greater Milwaukee	70	$266,000	Education/ Environmental Stewardship
◆	College Possible	20	$247,000	Education
■	Dane County Human Services	35	$388,738	Education
■	Easter Seals WI	53	$220,211	Education/ Veterans & Military Families
◆	Marshfield Clinic	20	$260,000	Healthy futures/ Capacity Building
◆	Marshfield Clinic (2) Afterschool	20	$260,000	Healthy futures/ Capacity Building
★	Milwaukee Christian Center	22	$169,650	Economic Opportunity – YouthCorps
●	Milwaukee Teacher Education Center	145	$116,000	Education
●	Mount Mary College	24	$19,200	Education
★	North Central CAP	22	$235,584	Education
■	Partners Energy Corps	8	$104,000	Environmental Stewardship
◆	Public Allies	45	$555,750	Capacity Building/ Economic Opportunity
★	Renewal Unlimited	36	$185,549	Economic Opportunity – YouthCorps
◆	Teach For America - Milwaukee	115	$156,600	Education
★	UW - Eau Claire ECLIPSE	44	$86,944	Education
■	UWDC - Schools of Hope	52	$325,163	Education/ Economic Opportunity
■	UW - Oshkosh VetCorps	22	$72,939	Veterans & Military Families
■	Western Dairyland EOC	20	$122,550	Economic Opportunity – YouthCorps
★	WI Assoc. for Runaway Services	25	$266,000	At-Risk Youth Outreach
★	WI Dept. of Public Instruction	30	$249,604	Education
◆	WI Primary Healthcare Association	20	$247,000	Healthy Futures
■	Wisconsin Department of Agriculture	28	$186,324	Healthy Futures
★	Wisconsin Emergency Management	12	$67,278	Disaster Services

Impact Area
Disaster Services
Economic Opportunity
Environmental Stewardship
Education
Veterans and Military Families
Healthy Futures





2013-2014 Serve Wisconsin Programs

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee: SPARK Early Literacy Program/ Environmental Education/ Arts Education

AmeriCorps members serving as part of the SPARK (Spheres of Proud Achievement in Reading for Kids) Early Literacy Program serve both during and after school in ten club/school partnership sites. Members work with students in Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades that have been identified by their classroom teachers as struggling readers. AmeriCorps members implement the SPARK Program by providing one-on-one and/or small group reading activities and initiate fun literacy games/activities that build students' phonemic awareness, phonics skills, reading fluency, vocabulary, and text comprehension.

Environmental Education members serve as village coordinators or as instructors in adventure based learning, agriculture/animal husbandry and outdoor living skills for youth attending Boys and Girls Clubs' Camp Whitcomb/Mason.

Arts Education members serve in 15 to 20 Clubs locations as arts instructors teaching fundamental art skills and techniques in media such as illustration, ceramics, painting, photography, and textiles.

College Possible

College Possible makes college admission and success possible for low-income students through an intensive curriculum of coaching and support. Each AmeriCorps member working with high school students leads weekly after school sessions for low-income students throughout Milwaukee preparing them for college admission. AmeriCorps members also work with college students to help in overcoming obstacles toward earning their college degree. AmeriCorps members help students improve ACT test scores, quality of college applications, chances of receiving financial aid and scholarships, and persistence toward college graduation.

Dane County Department of Human Services: Partners for After School Success (PASS)

Partners for After School Success (PASS) is a collaborative, multi-site program between the Dane County Department of Human Services and host site agencies that provide youth development programming throughout rural and urban Dane County. PASS responds to the Education Corps call to service by placing AmeriCorps members at host sites in predominantly low-income or resource scarce communities. The goal of PASS is to enhance the academic achievement and school engagement of middle and high school youth through positive relationships and the following member activities: literacy tutoring and academic support; youth development; after school programming that promotes school engagement, social and life skills; and youth engagement in community service and volunteer opportunities.

Easter Seals Wisconsin

The mission of the Easter Seals Wisconsin AmeriCorps program is to increase independence, maximize opportunities, minimize barriers, and enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities. Members serve during camp sessions throughout the year, increasing the camps' capacity to serve more individuals with disabilities. Additional members provide significant outreach activities for recreational/therapeutic camps for veterans and their families and for increasing awareness about the inclusion of people with disabilities in their communities.

Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation: Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps Coalition

Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps is a community-based initiative designed to strengthen the capacity of coalitions and achieve positive outcomes related to the reduction and prevention of substance abuse among youth. To reach this goal, the program places members in coalitions across Wisconsin to support out-of-school time activities and other evidence-based approaches to prevent youth substance use. Members provide program support, planning, after school activities, mentoring, learning events and more. The local coalitions and their partnering agencies provide supervision, service planning and support to each member.

Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation: Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps Afterschool

The purpose of Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps Afterschool is to develop a comprehensive afterschool model with a sustainable case management infrastructure capable of promoting academic success, personal/social development and healthy active living, which can be replicated at the state and national level. Members work directly with children to support and enhance healthy active living programs, provide academic assistance in day schools, participate in service learning and recruit/manage volunteers.

Milwaukee Christian Center, Inc.: Youthbuild

Milwaukee Christian Center - Youthbuild (MCCYB) is a Wisconsin Fresh Start Initiative. MCCYB AmeriCorps members build new in-fill housing, constructing Energy Star certified homes for sale to families earning no more than 80% of County Median Income. During the warm weather months, Corps members assist in vegetation

management along the Kinnickinnic River corridor. The Corps members are also engaged in GED/HSED completion, basic skills instruction, citizenship and emergency response training.

Milwaukee Teacher Education Center (MTEC)
MTEC AmeriCorps members implement meaningful and relevant service learning projects with students. By implementing service, the goal is to strengthen teachers as educators and as citizens, and to create awareness among students of their role as citizens and community members. The end goal is to bridge schools and communities in an effort to find solutions for "everyday" issues.

Mount Mary College: Urban Education Fellows Program (UEFP)
The UEFP provides professional development through accelerated and non-accelerated components as a teaching fellows program. In the accelerated two-year component, members teach full-time while completing their program requirements. In the non- accelerated component, members fill teacher shortages and may have been granted emergency licensure or are unlicensed teachers while completing coursework and fieldwork requirements to meet new certification and/or master's degree requirements. All members integrate service learning into their curriculum, which helps improve the overall skills of their students, teaches civic responsibility, and positively affects their community.

North Central Community Action Program: AmeriCorps Team-Greater Wausau Area
AmeriCorps Team – Greater Wausau Area members serve at 12 different host sites that include schools and a variety of local non-profit organizations. Focusing on educational opportunities, positive interactions, and outreach to underserved populations, AmeriCorps members primarily provide direct services to youth and their families as mentors and tutors during and after school. Students served include pre-K, elementary, middle school, and high school learners. Members are also engaged in planning and serving at a number of community service projects throughout the year.

Partners for Community Development: Energy Conservation Corps
AmeriCorps members provide free-of-charge weatherization and retrofitting services to low-income families. By providing this public service to their communities, Partners' AmeriCorps members learn valuable skills in the energy conservation field while implementing energy-efficient and safety measures in the homes of low-income individuals in their communities. Service in the Energy Conservation Corps exposes Partners' AmeriCorps members to new career paths.

Public Allies
Public Allies Milwaukee advances diverse young leaders (ages 18 to 30) to strengthen communities, nonprofits and civic participation. Public Allies achieves this mission by placing young adults, most from disadvantaged backgrounds, in full-time, paid, professional apprenticeships at nonprofit organizations where they serve for ten months on service projects that enhance and expand the capacity of nonprofit organizations to deliver critical direct services to Milwaukee residents. Over 80% of program graduates continue working in the nonprofit and public sector and over 50% return to school to further their education.

Renewal Unlimited, Inc.: Fresh Start Program
The Renewal Unlimited Fresh Start Program works with youth between the ages of 17 and 24; the majority of these youth are high school drop-outs. The youth serve in crews, and each crew constructs a single-family home consisting of three bedrooms. Upon completion, these houses are sold to low-to moderate-income families. Youth in this program receive training to improve in the areas of basic educational skills, pre-employment skills, job specific skills, independent living skills, health and nutrition, and leadership development skills.

Teach For America: Milwaukee
Teach For America is the national corps of recent college graduates who commit to teach for two years in urban and rural public schools and become lifelong leaders in expanding educational opportunity.

United Way of Dane County: Schools of Hope
The AmeriCorps Schools of Hope Project is a collaboration of the Madison Metropolitan School District, United Way of Dane County, and Centro Hispano of Dane County, with support from the Sun Prairie Area and Middleton-Cross Plains Area school districts. This effort aligns community volunteers and other resources to improve the academic achievement of low-performing pre-kindergarten through fifth grade students from a range of ethnic and linguistic backgrounds and low-income families. AmeriCorps members place and support trained tutors in elementary schools in Madison, Middleton and Sun Prairie. Home-based literacy materials are also provided to families.

UW-Eau Claire: ECLIPSE
Early Childhood Literacy Intervention Program, Services and Evaluation (ECLIPSE) provides intervention in the

areas of language, literacy, social interaction, and initiative skills to 3-to 5-year old children who are at-risk, and/or from families with low income. ECLIPSE members provide children who have been identified through screening with intense one-to-one intervention sessions during the school year. Members also provide additional support to the classroom teachers during regular class to improve the teacher-child ratio at the centers.

UW-Oshkosh: VetCorps

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh's VetCorps program serves veterans and family members of veterans in a four-county area of northeast Wisconsin. The program offers meaningful service opportunities to members, while at the same time providing much needed veteran-focused support to local nonprofit organizations. As a result of their participation in the program, members show an increased successful integration into civilian life, an increase in professional skills, and help leverage volunteers to help local nonprofit organizations to meet the needs of veterans and family members of veterans.

Western Dairyland EOC: Fresh Start

The Western Dairyland Fresh Start program provides at-risk youth with essential social, educational, employment, community service and life skills training. While constructing two new homes for income-eligible families in the local communities, the young adults work on achieving high school diplomas/HSEDs, developing career goals, improving self-esteem and alleviating barriers to economic self-sufficiency. The achievement of AmeriCorps education awards provide members with funding for post-secondary school training. Members emerge from the program as renewed young adults, prepared to enter the workforce or college as responsible citizens.

Wisconsin Association for Homeless and Runaway Services: Direct Service Outreach to Runaways

The Wisconsin Association for Homeless and Runaway Services AmeriCorps program provides street outreach services and response to referrals from police departments, schools, and other youth-serving agencies. AmeriCorps members are available to youth who are homeless, runaways or in crisis and are therefore "on the street." Youth are provided with hygiene packets, food vouchers, transportation vouchers, clothes, educational materials, and, most importantly, referral services to provide them with safe alternatives to the street. Members also provide services in shelters for runaway and homeless youth or homeless pregnant and/or parenting teens.

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection: Farm to School

AmeriCorps Farm to School members leverage volunteers to implement farm to school strategies in 14 high-need Wisconsin communities. Each community has at least one AmeriCorps member who focuses on community outreach and/or nutrition education. The main goal of the program is to expose students to local foods through farm to school activities including nutrition education in the classroom, lunchroom and other school programs, and garden education.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction: Service for Learning and Life

The Service for Learning and Life program is administered in conjunction with host sites around the state. Most members serve in schools; some serve under the auspices of Boys and Girls Clubs and the Special Olympics of Wisconsin. The program provides direct tutoring to students who need extra help, recruits and coordinates volunteer programs, and coordinates high-quality service-learning projects.

Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association: Wisconsin HealthCorps

Wisconsin HealthCorps is a joint program between the Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association and the Wisconsin Public Health Association, which places AmeriCorps members in either Community Health Centers or Public Health Departments, working on various levels of the health care delivery system. Members serve in several capacities: as patient navigators, assisting patients through the health care system by providing information on access to care, benefits, call-backs; as health educators, preparing materials for both individual patients and communities, teaching healthy lifestyles, eating habits, chronic disease maintenance, and public health concepts; and as community outreach specialists, working with several local organizations to improve the quality of care and resources available to patients.

Wisconsin Emergency Management: Ready Wisconsin

The ReadyWisconsin AmeriCorps Disaster Preparedness Project is dedicated to conducting emergency volunteer management capacity building, disaster preparedness outreach, and disaster services in the communities they serve. AmeriCorps members serve in Wisconsin city/county emergency management offices and two members serve in the Wisconsin Emergency Management central office in Madison. The AmeriCorps members are instrumental in developing programs to better prepare their own and neighboring communities to respond to disasters.

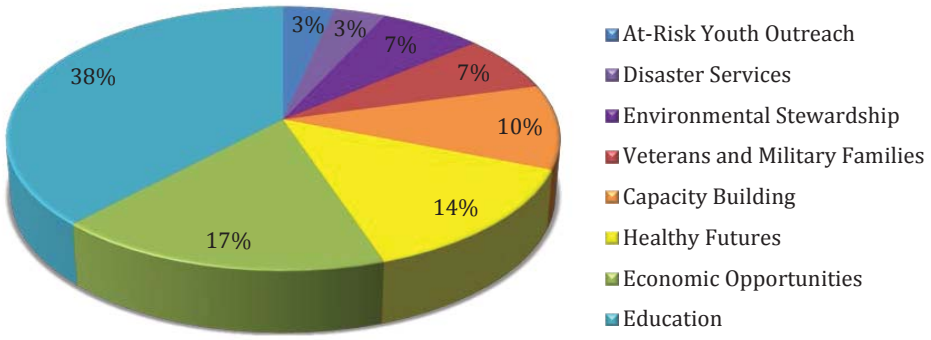
In 2013-2014, 23 Serve Wisconsin AmeriCorps programs enrolled 888 AmeriCorps members who served over 1,054,153 hours. These hours generated a local community value of $22,959,452 when using the Independent Sector calculation method.

Similarly, in 2013-2014, Serve Wisconsin AmeriCorps programs mobilized 22,799 volunteers and generated 221,659 volunteer hours resulting in the equivalent of $4,827,733 in local community value. The total AmeriCorps program investment in 2013-2014 was $8,271,945, making a $3.40 return on every dollar invested.

2013-2014 Quick Facts

23	Programs
654.60	Total Member Service Years
888.00	Total Member Positions
$7,345.07	Overall Cost Per Member Service Years
218	Total Competitive Slots
125	Total Full-Time Fixed Slots
261	Total Formula Slots
284	Total Education Award Program Slots

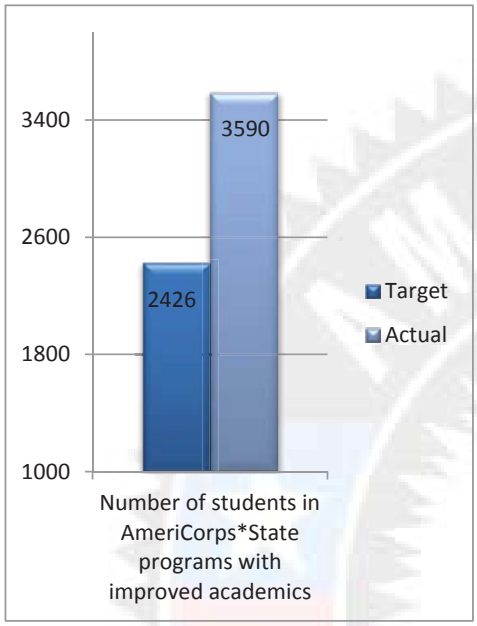
2013-2014 Program Impact Areas

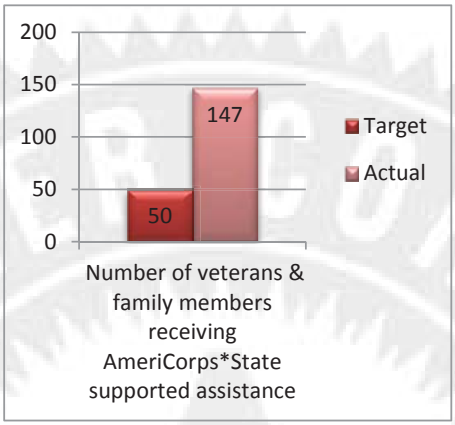


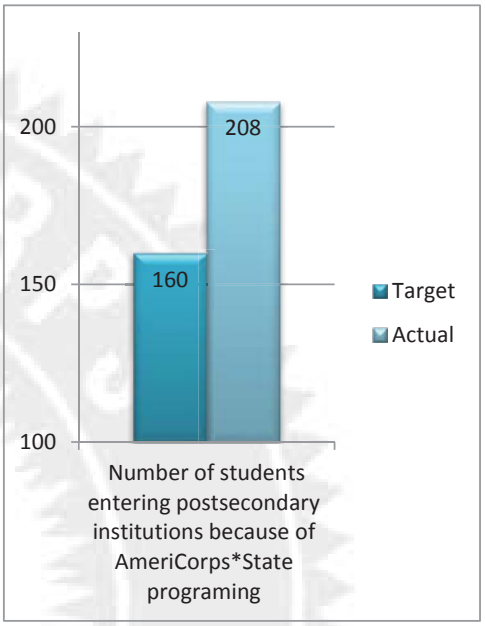
"I like to know that I am making a difference, and believe that it is important to keep making a difference in the world. AmeriCorps taught me the significance in staying involved and participating in service work around my community. I am grateful that I learned this fairly early in life, so that I can continue to help others and make an impact on peoples' lives."

~ Kelsey Krob, '13- '14
Easter Seals Wisconsin
AmeriCorps member

2013-2014 Program Impact Highlights

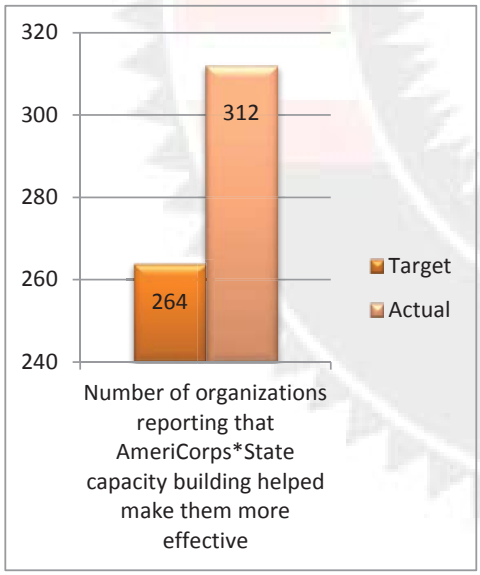


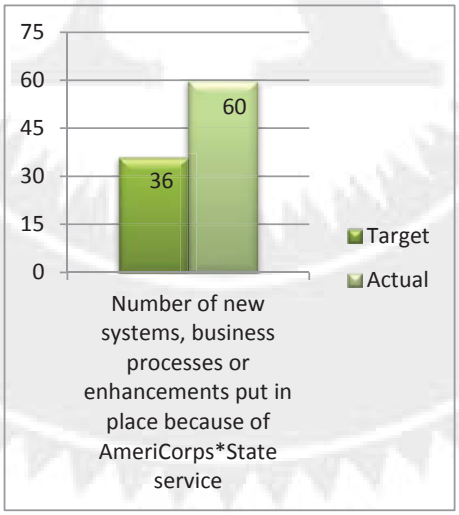


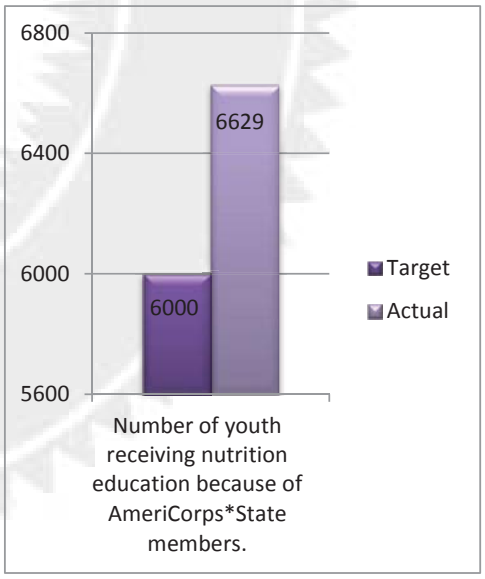


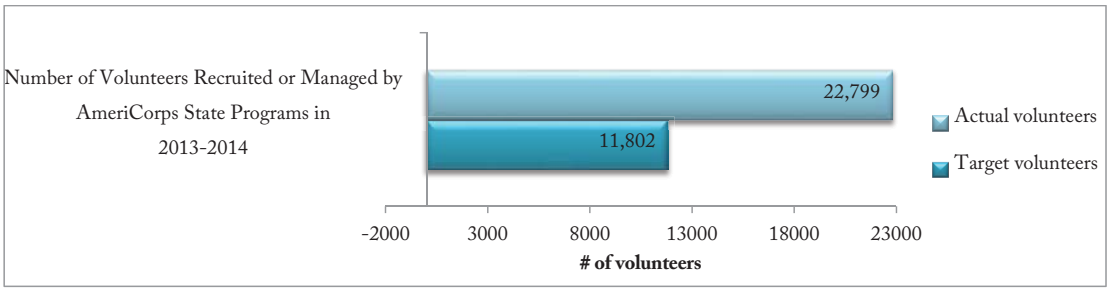
AmeriCorps*State Impact Snapshot

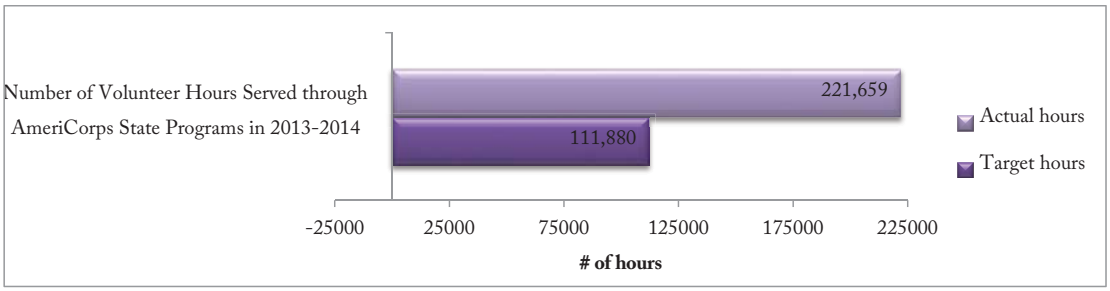
Wisconsin 2013-2014







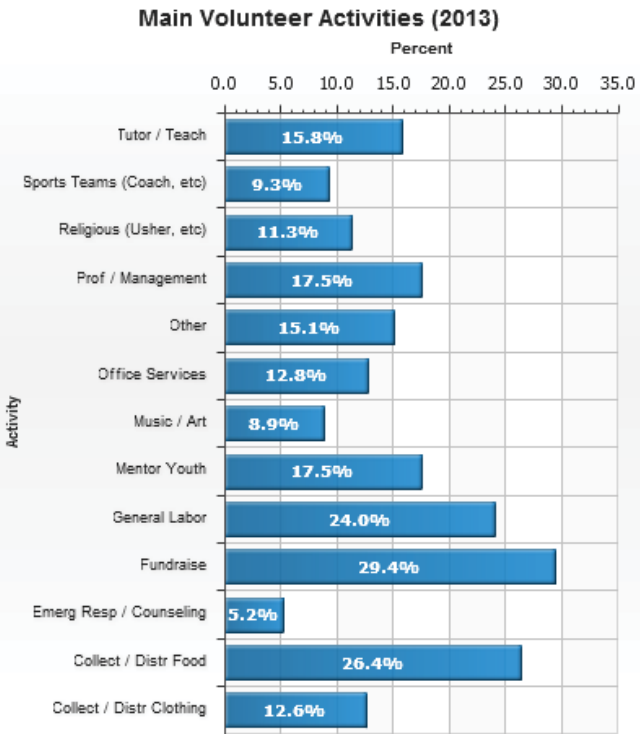


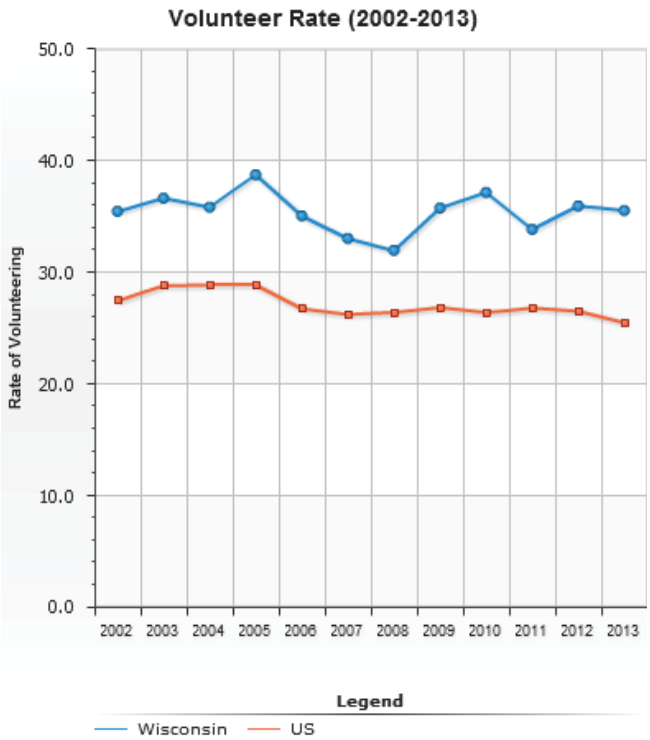


2013-2014 Civic Life Report: Volunteering and Civic Engagement in Wisconsin

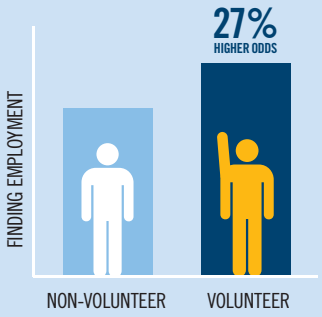
Overall, in Wisconsin in 2013:

* **35.1%** of residents volunteered, ranking Wisconsin **5th** among the 50 states and Washington, DC.
* **1.61 million volunteers** statewide performed **163.8 million hours** of service
* **$3.7 billion** of service contributed **35.9 volunteer hours** per capita
* **74.4%** of residents engage in "informal volunteering" (for example, doing favors for neighbors)
* Wisconsin ranked **2nd** with a Young Adult Volunteer Rate of 32.0%

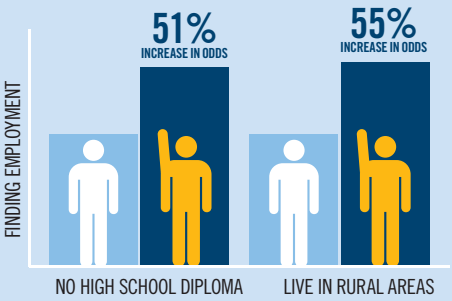




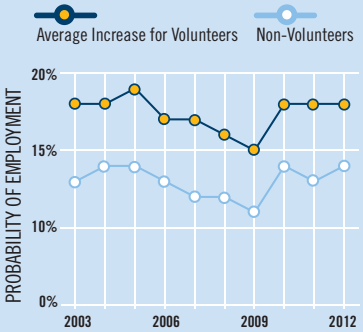
Volunteers have higher odds of finding employment in today's job market.



Volunteers have a 27% higher odds of finding employment than non-volunteers.



The relationship between volunteering and employment was strongest for individuals without a high school diploma and those who live in rural areas.



The relationship is stable across time and economic conditions.

Partner Volunteer Organizations

Initiated by a Volunteer Generation Fund grant by the Corporation for National and Community service, Volunteer Wisconsin is an initiative working in collaboration with Volunteer Centers and Serve Wisconsin to connect volunteers, promote volunteering, and support the capacity of nonprofits through volunteers. The mission is to leverage volunteer capabilities and local assets to enhance communities throughout Wisconsin.

In addition to Volunteer Connection, volunteering is promoted by partnering with organizations to showcase the impact of volunteering in Wisconsin and showcasing news and messages around how people can volunteer locally. The capacity of nonprofits is supported by providing volunteer management training workshops and webinars to increase nonprofit effectiveness in engaging volunteers to meet their mission.

www.volunteerwisconsin.org

National Volunteer Resources

- Corporation for National and Community Service
- United We Serve - Serve.gov
- Hands on Network
- Points of Light Foundation
- The Independent Sector
- Network for Good
- NobleHour
- Volunteer.gov - Public Sector Volunteer Opportunities
- Volunteer Match
- Volunteer Solutions

"You may seem like a small part of a large machine, and think that your volunteerism isn't valuable, but it is. The little moments and experiences add up, and at the end of your service, you look back and find yourself."

~ Mara Kubisch, 2013-2014 UW-Eau Claire ECLIPSE AmeriCorps Member

2013-2014 Member Reflections & Program Stories

The 2013-2014 program year saw countless acts of service, numerous moments of personal transformation, and many hours of dedicated effort by people across the state. The impact of AmeriCorps programs goes far beyond the quantifiable data produced by these outstanding programs. As any member who has ever been a part of AmeriCorps knows, service is not just about giving back; it is about becoming an active citizen within this country.

"Every kid I work with offers some strength, some potential, a spark. When given the space and positive encouragement to use their strengths, their knowledge, their interests, my students rise above my expectations, often surprising me with their abilities and insights. My time in AmeriCorps has taught me a lot about myself and my community but AmeriCorps has also offered me a new perspective on the potential within all of us."
~ Kellie Schweich, 2013-2014 Partners for After School Success AmeriCorps Member

"National service is important because it opens people up to things they never would have thought about doing before. In addition, people recognize your service, and they appreciate it.

People know that volunteering and serving are not requirements. But it does benefit a person's reputation when you take part in National Service.

My time in YouthBuild has been good and helpful; my life is changing slowly but surely. I know there is more to life than little jobs here and there; a career is what's best for people. My experience here has shown me some things and I'm happy to be learning these skills."
~ Curtis Matias, 2013-2014 Milwaukee Christian Center YouthBuild AmeriCorps Member

"This experience has not only changed my outlook on what I want to achieve in the future, but it has helped me grow as a person."
~ Kellie Arbuckle, 2013-2014 DPI Service for Learning and Life AmeriCorps Member

2013-2014 Highlights

AmeriCorps 20th Anniversary

On Sept. 20, 2013, CNCS kicked off the celebration of the extraordinary impact of AmeriCorps and its 20 years of serving America. Through events, stories, and service projects, AmeriCorps programs across the country spent the year recognizing the contributions and commitment of AmeriCorps members and alums in strengthening our communities and country through national service.

Since its inception, more than 820,000 men and women have taken the AmeriCorps pledge, serving more than 1 billion hours and improving the lives of countless Americans. Every day in communities across America, AmeriCorps members continue to make a powerful impact on the most critical issues facing our nation. Whether improving schools, fighting poverty, rebuilding after disasters, providing health services, preserving the environment, or supporting veterans and military families, AmeriCorps members are getting things done.

Governor's Service Recognition Event

On June 19, 2014, at the Department of Military Affairs in Madison, WI, five extraordinary awardees were honored by Governor Scott Walker at the 2014 Governor's Service Recognition event. The Governor's Service Recognition awards are presented to programs and individuals participating in organizations funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) through AmeriCorps and Senior Corps. This event provides an opportunity to recognize organizations and individuals that help solve serious social problems and help strengthen their community. These awardees exemplify the spirit of service through their hard work and commitment to meeting the needs of their communities. Governor Walker presented the awards, remarking that the honorees "exemplify the strong character and principles that make Wisconsin such a great place to live. Their spirit of kindness will continue to shape their communities."We congratulate these extraordinary individuals and programs for their impact in communities across Wisconsin. Thank you for your service!

Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps Participant & Program Honoree:
Monica Zindler - Marion House, Green Bay

Governor's AmeriCorps*VISTA Participant Honoree:
Olivia Henricks

Governor's Senior Corps Program Honoree:
RSVP Vision Screening Team

Marty Stein Friend of National Service Exemplary Supporter:
Richard Kohler

Veteran Volunteer Service Award:
Major (Ret) Jim Strong

Mayors Day 2014

Milwaukee Mayor, Tom Barrett, with Wisconsin Association for Runaway Services AmeriCorps Members

The second annual Mayor's Day of Recognition for Service was a big success nationally. On April 1, 2014, 1,760 mayors across the country participated in events and issued proclamations highlighting the impact of citizen service and encouraged more residents to serve in their communities. This was a 53% increase in participation from the 2013 Day of Recognition.

In Wisconsin, Mayors from Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, Milwaukee, Oshkosh, Racine, Wausau, and Wisconsin Rapids recognized the key role that national service plays in solving local problems and challenges.

Additionally, four Wisconsin Mayors attended the 82nd Annual Meeting of the United States Conference of Mayors. At the meeting the mayors unanimously passed a resolution endorsing national service, calling it a "critical and cost-effective strategy to meet city needs." They pledged to work with National Service leaders to find additional sources of funding, to expand our collective impact, to place a priority on hiring AmeriCorps alums, and to participate in future recognition events.

Easter Seals Service Project

On Friday, May 9, 2014, Serve Wisconsin programs from around the state participated in a service project at the Easter Seals camps in Wisconsin Dells. This busy day began with introductions from Serve Wisconsin Board Member Lisa Delmore, followed by a key note address from Wisconsin Dells Council President Ed Wojnicz and Lake Delton Village Board Trustee Gordon Priegel. After these touching remarks, Easter Seals kindly shared an insightful sensitivity training which brought all present to a greater awareness of the slight changes in language we can make to better allow for accessibility and acceptance for all people. Following the presentations, 101 AmeriCorps members, program directors, staff and board members broke out to do service projects around Camp Wawbeek and the Respite Camp. Whether they were scraping paint from a fence, clearing leaves around the grounds, building a wall, replacing ceiling tiles or painting a large gym, the joyful spirit of service was palpable around camp that day. While the work continued after lunch, the late afternoon was filled with the rhythms of a job well done. As the drum circle brought all the workers together to smile once more, the ropes course, climbing wall and zip line offered members a chance to have some fun after a rewarding day of hard work. As the day concluded, everyone left re-energized and ready to carry on their service to another day.

Serve Wisconsin
1 West Wilson Street,
Room B274
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
servewisconsin.wi.gov

AmeriCorps Oath

I will get things done for America -
to make our people safer,
smarter, and healthier.

I will bring Americans together
to strengthen our communities.

Faced with apathy,
I will take action.

Faced with conflict,
I will seek common ground.

Faced with adversity,
I will persevere.

I will carry this commitment
with me this year and beyond.

I am an AmeriCorps member,
and I will get things done.

Sponsored by Serve Wisconsin
Supported by the Corpration for National and Community Service.