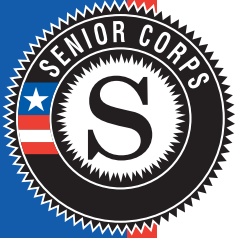


Faith-Based and Community Initiatives



EMPOWERING FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

The Corporation for National and Community Service is committed to President Bush's initiative to strengthen the work of faith-based and small community organizations, which provide compassionate care to millions of Americans. These organizations effectively tackle some of our nation's most intractable problems. In doing so, they turn around individuals' lives and give hope to countless communities in need.

During the past decade, the Corporation for National and Community Service - through our Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America programs - has established partnerships with a wide variety of faith-based and community groups. In many instances, we have been able to provide these organizations with trained individuals and other resources to help them meet local needs and build up their organizational strength and effectiveness.

As the Corporation moves forward, we are looking to strengthen those partnerships and to reach out to even greater numbers of grassroots organizations, both faith-based and secular. We are also looking to promote the numerous service opportunities offered through our programs to individuals associated with faith-based and community groups.

PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

The Corporation recently identified several programming priorities designed to engage faith-based and small community organizations in national service and empower them with resources to produce innovative community solutions. These priorities include:

- **The President's Mentoring Initiative**
Through its programs, the Corporation supports efforts to build capacity, recruit volunteers, and provide services related to mentoring children of inmates, other at-risk youth, and ex-offender re-entry services.
- **Asset Accumulation for the Poor**
The Corporation supports initiatives that empower the poor through asset accumulation strategies such as home ownership, micro-enterprise, financial literacy, and related individual development account savings incentives.
- **Strengthening Families**
The Corporation partners with faith-based and small community organizations to strengthen America's children and families and break the intergenerational cycle of poverty.

(Continued)

SAMPLE PROJECTS

Amachi

Amachi is an effective faith-based mentoring initiative serving the spiritual, emotional, educational, family and community needs of children of incarcerated youth. AmeriCorps*VISTA members and Senior Corps volunteers are working with Amachi in 15 cities nationwide, helping to build congregational mentoring hubs, recruit volunteers, and increase organizational capacity.

Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services, Dearborn, MI

AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps*VISTA members are helping to develop a comprehensive community-based health clinic to provide emergency services to new immigrants and low-income residents. They also are coordinating adult and child literacy programs.

California Youth Authority

The California Youth Authority (CYA) provides education, training, and treatment services to the most serious youthful offenders in California. Senior Corps' Foster Grandparents provide one-to-one tutoring, mentoring, and counseling to approximately 900 youths in after-school settings.

South Phoenix Village, Phoenix, AZ

Close to 130 AmeriCorps*NCCC members partnered with the citizens of South Phoenix Village to revitalize a 12-block area. Members traveled to Phoenix to commemorate the service legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and helped refurbish 14 homes in an economically depressed area.

Xavier University of Louisiana New Orleans, LA

Through a Learn and Serve grant, Xavier University of Louisiana, the only historically Black Catholic university, engages more than 500 students in service-learning projects through co-curricular service and 20 courses spanning 12 academic disciplines. The University also supports service-learning pilot projects in K-12 schools by providing training and technical assistance to faculty and K-12 teachers.

AVODAH, New York, NY, & Washington, DC

AmeriCorps members serving with AVODAH combine frontline anti-poverty work and community building. The program places members in more than 30 community-based organizations focused on issues such as housing, immigrant and urban education, food-bank coordination, foster care, HIV/AIDS reduction, and job training for the homeless.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Corporation for National and Community Service

www.nationalservice.org/fbci

White House Office for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

www.fbci.gov

The Corporation's National Service Resource Center

www.nationalserviceresources.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about our programs and resources, contact 1-866-78FACES or E-mail faithandcommunity@cns.gov

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