

## ISSUE BRIEF

# National Service: A Resource for Volunteer Connector Organizations



*Through its various programs and initiatives, the Corporation for National and Community Service is a key source of support to help nonprofit and faith-based organizations recruit, train, manage, and use volunteers. The Corporation's five-year Strategic Plan identifies volunteer mobilization as one of its top priorities, and sets a national goal of 75 million adult volunteers in the United States by the year 2010. Between 2003 and 2006, the Corporation awarded \$94.5 million to the four major nonprofit networks whose missions center on connecting prospective community volunteers to local nonprofit organizations:\**



- \$39.7 Million in Partnership Grants to the Points of Light Foundation
- \$29.9 Million to the Volunteer Center National Network
- \$17.9 Million to the Hands On Network
- \$14.7 Million to United Ways



*The Corporation provides significant support to these and other volunteer connector organizations through subgrants of its Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America programs. The Corporation has granted an additional \$12.1 million to other volunteer connectors through its Martin Luther King Day of Service, Disability Outreach, and Challenge Grant programs. Moreover, through the RSVP program, the Corporation awarded more than \$215.9 million to organizations to recruit and place more than 400,000 volunteers age 55 and older.*

### POINTS OF LIGHT FOUNDATION

- \$39.7 million directly to the Points of Light Foundation through Partnership Grants designated by Congress

### VOLUNTEER CENTER NATIONAL NETWORK

- \$11.9 million through Senior Corps grants directly to Volunteer Centers, including \$11.0 million through RSVP and \$900,000 through Foster Grandparents
- \$6.9 million in AmeriCorps State and National grants directly to Volunteer Centers
- \$3.6 million in other grants, including Disability Outreach, Training and Technical Assistance, Challenge Grants, and Martin Luther King Day of Service grants either directly to Volunteer Centers or through subgrants from the Points of Light Foundation

- \$1.8 million in Learn and Serve America's K-12 School-Based and Community-Based Programs to Volunteer Centers through the Points of Light Foundation
- \$4.9 million in AmeriCorps VISTA funds to support 292 AmeriCorps VISTA members serving in Volunteer Centers, placed directly or indirectly through the Points of Light Foundation
- \$800,000 in other grant initiatives directly to Volunteer Centers, including Challenge Grants, Next Generation Grants and Martin Luther King Day of Service grants

### HANDS ON NETWORK

- \$13.8 million in AmeriCorps State and National grants
- \$716,000 in AmeriCorps VISTA funds to support 43 AmeriCorps VISTA members
- \$2.8 million in other grant initiatives, including Training and Technical

*(Continued)*

- Assistance, Challenge Grants, and Martin Luther King Day of Service grants
- NOTE: In March 2007, VISTA announced an initiative to deploy 50 VISTA members to fight poverty in Southern states through the Hands On Network—an investment valued at \$600,000.

## UNITED WAYS

- \$7.2 million in Senior Corps grants, including \$3.9 million through RSVP, and almost \$3 million through Foster Grandparents
- \$4.5 million in AmeriCorps State and National grants
- \$2.7 million in AmeriCorps VISTA funds to support 161 AmeriCorps VISTA members
- \$309,000 in other grant initiatives, including Next Generation Grants, Hurricane Rebuilding Funds, and Martin Luther King Day of Service grants

## OTHER VOLUNTEER CONNECTOR ORGANIZATIONS

- \$7.8 million in Disability Outreach Grants to engage people with disabilities in volunteer service
- \$1.3 million in Martin Luther King Day of Service grants to organizations to support service on the King Holiday
- \$2.9 million in Challenge Grants to support mobilization of baby boomer volunteers responding in helping Gulf Coast communities recover from the hurricanes of 2005

## VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT AND RECOGNITION

The Corporation supports numerous volunteer recruitment and matching efforts, including:

- Providing back-end support for USA Freedom Corps' [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov), the nation's largest volunteer matching website

- Launching [www.getinvolved.gov](http://www.getinvolved.gov), aimed at recruiting baby boomer volunteers in service
- Administering the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, which provides President's Volunteer Service Awards ([www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov))
- Administering the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, which recognizes outstanding community service by colleges and universities ([www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll](http://www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll))
- Providing training and technical assistance in volunteer management and recruitment through the [www.nationalservice.gov/resources](http://www.nationalservice.gov/resources) website

## CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Corporation for National and Community Service improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. Each year, the Corporation provides opportunities for more than 2 million Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country. Together with USA Freedom Corps, the Corporation is working to foster a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility in America.

\* Individual support adds up to more than the total figure because several organizations are part of more than one network

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