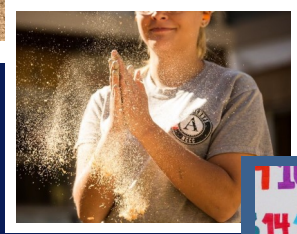
Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service

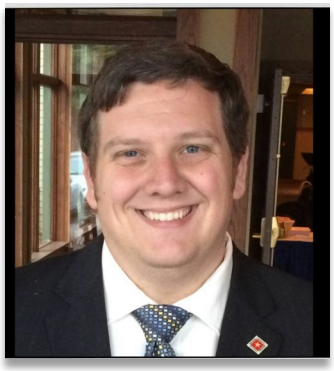


Annual Report 2017

IDPH
Illinois Department of Public Health

AMERICORPS
ILLINOIS

Letter from the Executive Director & Commission Chair



Everywhere you turn, people are standing up to help their neighbors, standing up to protect others, and standing up to make a difference. Perhaps that will be the lasting legacy of 2017 – people standing up.

It is our mission to help every citizen of Illinois to recognize they can do just that. They can stand up for what they believe in and stand up to serve others, and Illinois continues to be a model to the world of how every person can do just that. Over 2.5 million Illinoisans give back every year by volunteering their time, and over half of us give at least $25 to charity each year. In total, the 287 million hours volunteered in Illinois is worth $7.3 billion to our state. That is an amazing investment in our future!

2017 was our strongest year on record. In total, Serve Illinois programs invested $87 million into Illinois through the AmeriCorps program. Our 38 programs served nearly a half million people including over 200,000 youth and nearly 40,000 veterans and military families. They also provided over 1.5 million meals and served over 1,700 schools, faith-based organizations, and non-profits. It was without a doubt our strongest year for AmeriCorps, and we are just getting started.

So what does all this mean to you? We hope the stories and information presented in this report give you some ideas about how you can give back. If you already volunteer, find a way to bring someone new with you. If a person volunteers once, they are more than likely going to volunteer again, so you can serve as the catalyst. You can be the reason why someone else stood up, and in doing so, we can change the world, one person at a time.

Yours in Service,

Scott McFarland, Executive Director

Jeff Turnbull, Commission Chair

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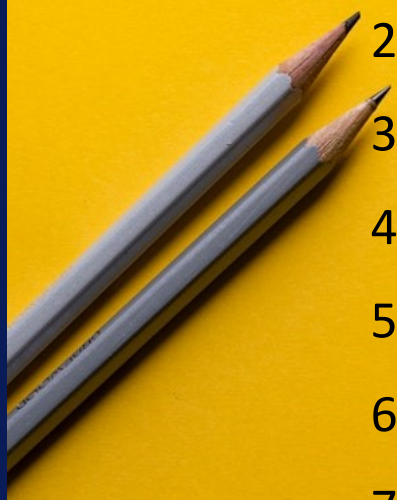

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Our Mission

is to improve Illinois communities by enhancing volunteerism and instilling an ethic of service throughout the State.

Our Vision

is an Illinois where all citizens recognize their ability and responsibility to help strengthen their communities through

SERVE ILLINOIS

Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service

Staff

Scott McFarland, Executive Director
Michelle Hanneken, Volunteer Programs Manager
Melissa Turley, AmeriCorps Programs Manager
Mike Esper, AmeriCorps Program Officer
Spenser Morrissey, Accountant
Jamie Stevens, Volunteerism Program Coordinator
Joshua Street, AmeriCorps Program Coordinator
Mike Stehlin, Training Coordinator

The Serve Illinois Commission is a 40-member (25 voting and 15 non-voting), bi-partisan board appointed by the Governor and administered by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Commission staff and commissioners work closely together to advance the mission and strategic plan of the Serve Illinois Commission.

Quarterly commission meetings are held in both Springfield and Chicago, which are open to the public.

Commissioners

Jeff Turnbull, Chair
Debra Marton, Vice Chair

Jane Angelis
Jennifer Benanti
Julian Brown
Barb Bryne
Nisan Chavkin
Laura Davis
Merri Dee
James Dixon
Chris Errera
Beth Ford
Amanda Guinn
Shawn Healy
John Hosteny
Howard Lathan
Adam McGriffin
Jenne Myers
Katherine Nelson
Joseph Rives
Giraldo Rosales
Anne Schuman
Cynthia Sims
Stephen Silberman
Tony Smith
Barbara Tubekis
Jennifer Witzel
Eric Wienheimer

Volunteerism

The Illinois Commission strives to increase awareness of the importance of traditional volunteerism to the citizens of Illinois. The Commission provides assistance to volunteers, volunteer organizations, government agencies, and the public at large through a variety of activities, including:

- Promoting National Service Days
- Enhancing volunteerism and service through awards and other recognition opportunities
- Providing individuals and organizations with informational materials such as the SERVE Illinois newsletter and other fact sheets

- Assisting in the training and professional development of Illinois' volunteer managers.
- Co-sponsoring conferences and training throughout the state
- Media announcements of volunteer activities and events

Illinois Volunteerism by the Numbers

- 2,429,013 volunteers
- 26.5 volunteer hours per capita
- 286,580,000 hours served
- $7,436,751,000 in service

#ServeIL

AmeriCorps

The Serve Illinois Commission administers AmeriCorps State Programs, and partners with organizations that administer other National Service Programs overseen by the Corporation for National and Community Service. In addition to AmeriCorps State programs, there are three other national service programs that utilize AmeriCorps Members:

- **AmeriCorps State**–Programs host members that perform direct service at specific host sites across Illinois.
- **National Direct**– Members perform direct service with organizations that operate in multiple states.
- **VISTA**– "Volunteers In Service To America" members focus on capacity building and work to eliminate poverty.
- **NCCC**– The National Civilian Community Corps is a residential service program where members are deployed in teams to various locations across the nation to work exclusively

Senior Corps

Senior Corps National Service Programs utilize senior volunteers in different capacities:

- **RSVP**– The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program engages individuals 55 and older to serve communities in a variety of capacities.
- **FGP**– The Foster Grandparent Program recruits senior volunteers to work in schools with students that are primarily low income.
- **SCP**– The Senior Companions Program utilizes senior volunteers to work with other senior individuals to help them maintain their independence.

Our AmeriCorps Programs

1611 Illinois AmeriCorps Members Served:

- 366,046 Illinoisans
- 1,544,222 Meals
- 699 Nonprofit Organizations
- 815 K-12 Schools in Illinois
- 39,744 Active Military, Military Family Mem-

Return on Investment

State & Local : $5.29 to $1.00

Federal: $3.90 to $1.00

Total Investment in Illinois:

$87,196,736

Since 1994, more than 39,000 Illinoisans have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to "get things done for America." Those members have given back more than 55 million hours to their communities, which equates to more than $1.4 billion in impact. During the past 24 years, AmeriCorps members have earned more than $131 million in education awards to pay for college. For every dollar invested by the federal government, Illinois communities receive $3.50 in service. For every dollar the state and local parties invest, AmeriCorps brings in $5.29 worth of service. AmeriCorps gets things done!

Conferences

Southern Illinois Volunteerism Conference
April 6, 2017
Mount Vernon

Central Illinois Volunteerism Conference
June 7, 2017
Springfield

Illinois Conference of Volunteer Administration
August 16, 2017
Chicago

Each year, Serve Illinois sponsors four volunteerism conferences across the state. In 2017, over 500 volunteer administrators and volunteers from more than 200 organizations benefited from an array of training and networking opportunities! Be sure to sign up for our email list to stay up to date on conference opportunities!

An Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs program
SERVING ★ THOSE WHO ★ SERVED

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MAKE IT A DAY ON NOT A DAY OFF DAY OF SERVICE

AMERICORPS A WEEK

Days of Service

Serve Illinois spearheads efforts each year to encourage Illinoisans to volunteer in their communities. We provide tools and resources for organizations and individuals to engage in service activities and promote volunteerism. We promote 10 days of service and focus on three specific Days of Service:

MLK Day of Service - January 16, 2017

AmeriCorps Week - March 4-11, 2017

Veterans Day of Service - November 5-11, 2017

Volunteer of the Week

The Illinois Volunteer of the Week is a program that spotlights volunteers across the state that are making a difference in their communities. Each week we highlight a new volunteer by sharing their picture and story on our website and social media forums. It has been our privilege to hear their stories and share them. To learn more about our Volunteer of the Week program or to nominate a volunteer visit Serve.illinois.gov/#VOTW

Volunteer of the Week

2017 Volunteers of the Week:

- Michael May
- Jamila Trimuel
- Mark Floerke
- Imani Lewis
- Victoria Kuzlik
- Robin Brown
- Amy Stearns
- Alfred Hampton
- Clare VanSpeybroeck
- Nate Boss
- Ann Hopkins
- Amudha (Mudha) Venugopalan
- Morris Anyah
- Keith Ellis
- Liz Schuster
- Sharan Subramanian
- Kate Beaumont
- Paula Thornton
- Curtis Rocke
- Gloria Parker
- Susan Gawura
- Jeremy Dukes
- Darcy O'Connor
- Chandler Horrel
- Casandra Caldwell
- Jan Mecha
- Levi Horvath
- Bria Karin
- Karen Cassidy
- Lee Lindsay
- Ron Pearson
- Marcus Butler
- Larry Durfee
- James Liu
- Julia McAleer-Forte
- Gail Staples
- Michael Morrow
- Maralene Tate
- Stephen Eddington
- Lawrence Bussard
- Jordan R. Matulevich
- Tramaine Lewis
- Christian Cook
- Alayna Stalter
- Damon Hofstrand
- Bob Vogelbaugh
- Jim Campbell
- Lori Acree
- Harli Rhoads

If you know a volunteer that you would like to recognize as a volunteer of the week, or if you would like to give them a Certificate of Appreciation from the Office of the Governor and Serve Illinois please email us at DPH.ServeIllinois@illinois.gov.

Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

Serve Illinois presents "The Governor's Volunteer Service Awards" each year. These awards recognize individual volunteers through a statewide award program to highlight the importance of volunteerism and community service in the State of Illinois.

To learn more, visit https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/serve/Pages/Recognition.aspx.

HELP PEOPLE EVEN WHEN YOU KNOW THEY CAN'T HELP YOU BACK.

Governor's Volunteer Service Award Recipients

Adult Award Recipients: Martina Mustroph, David Cheeks, Vicki Cover, Jonathan H.N. Long, Stephen Born

AmeriCorps Member Recipients: Sarah Koeller, Genesis Rios, Melissa Calhoun, Zorina "Ann" Brown, Jamie Burns

Business Recipients: Martin's IGA Plus, Motorola Mobility, Zimdars Air Conditioning and Heating, Hy-Vee

Senior Recipients: Larry Altenbaumer, Richard Erickson, Mark Lawrence, Ernest J. Collins, Roger Crawford

Senior Corps Member: Genevieve Sutton, Sarah Marsh, Beryl Hutson, Sharon Kossman, Joseph Sutcliffe

Youth Award Recipients: Lily Alter, Victoria Kuzlik, Jha'Shaira Farmer, Riley Moran

Governor's Hometown Awards

Presented continuously from 1983 to 2014, and then 2017 to now, the Governor's Hometown Awards (GHTA) program gives formal recognition to those who contributed to projects that improved their community. These projects are sponsored by local units of government that used strong volunteer support to generate a positive outcome in the community and by extension, the state. The program is administered by the Serve Illinois Commission, the Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service.

Serve Illinois is excited to be able to tie GHTA to its mission to improve Illinois communities by enhancing volunteerism and instilling an ethic of service throughout the State. Learn more at https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/serve/Pages/Recognition.aspx.

2017 Winners

Governor's Cup Winner:

- Macon County - "WSOY Community Food Drive"

Finalists:

- East St. Louis - "Join Hands Advocacy Project"
- Kewanee - "Step Ladder Tutoring Program"
- Macon County - "WSOY Community Food Drive"
- Waterloo - "Monroe County House of Neighborly Service"

Project Winners:

- Charleston - "Lake Charleston Trail System"
- Collinsville - "Hometown Heroes"
- Fairfield - "FNB Field"
- Fulton County - "Canton Gas Explosion"
- Galesburg - "Galesburg Heart & Soul"
- Godfrey - "Beverly Farm Foundation"
- Lanark - "Workation 2016"
- LaSalle County - "LaSalle County Naloxone Program"

National Service Recognition Day

Every year in October, AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members gather in Springfield to commemorate their upcoming year of service. This past October we welcomed more than 900 National Service members and staff for service projects, activities, and training sessions.

Responding to Disasters

Illinois Disaster Corps is a statewide initiative designed to provide disaster assistance to Illinois communities.

Each of our 38 AmeriCorps programs has committed members to participate in Disaster Corps. We have more than 50 members trained, serving across the state and ready to respond when called to action.

When disaster strikes, many areas see an influx in volunteers coming to help clean up in the aftermath. Although this is wonderful, volunteers need to be managed properly in order to be helpful to the community. By continuing to strengthen the presence of Illinois Disaster Corps with support from National Service members, we have set a strong foundation to help communities get back on their feet.

Keeping Up With Us Online

Serve.Illinois.Gov

In 2017 we saw some of our highest web traffic yet, with nearly 60,000 individual visitors and provided volunteer opportunity seekers with thousands of opportunities through our partnership with VolunteerMatch.

Through recurring posts like our Volunteer of the Week and Nonprofit Spotlight we've been able to keep Serve.Illinois.gov responsive and up-to-date. Be sure to check it out regularly so you never miss a beat!

facebook.com/ServeIllinois

Our Facebook page reached 1,033 followers and had 241,126 views.

twitter.com/ServeIllinois

@Serve.Illinois reached 1,760 followers and had 286,500 views.

instagram.com/Serve.Illinois

@Serve.Illinois continued to grow throughout 2017.

Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service

www.Serve.Illinois.gov

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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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