



What is AmeriCorps?

AmeriCorps (pronounced “Ameri-Core”) is a network of national service programs that uses more than 50,000 Americans annually to meet educational, public safety, environmental and human service needs. Participants, called “members,” are placed in non-profits, public agencies and faith-based organizations throughout the United States. More than 250,000 individuals have served as AmeriCorps members since the program’s inception in 1993.

The Corporation for National and Community Service, based in Washington, D.C., administers AmeriCorps and many other federally funded service initiatives, including Senior Corps, which utilizes older Americans as volunteers, and Learn and Service America, which utilizes Americans under the age of 18 as volunteers. Together these programs engage more than two million Americans of all ages and backgrounds in service each year.

More than three-quarters of AmeriCorps funding flows from the Corporation to the state commissions. State commissions then distribute grants to local agencies and monitor grantees to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements.

The N.C. Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service was created in 1994 by an executive order signed by then-Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. A bipartisan group of 25 individuals, all appointed by the governor, serve as commissioners. The Commission’s administrative staff is housed within the Office of the Governor.

The Commission administers an average of 15 AmeriCorps programs each year. In the past, AmeriCorps members in North Carolina have tutored and mentored school-aged youth, served preschool children in child care centers, built houses for low-income homeowners, protected the environment, provided immigrants and refugees with interpretation and translation services, and assisted individuals with disabilities.

For more information please visit: www.americorps.org or www.volunteernc.org