

## National Service in Wyoming



#### MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS IN WYOMING

More than 780 people of all ages and backgrounds are helping to meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement through national service in Wyoming. Serving at more than 170 locations throughout the state, these citizens tutor and mentor children, support veterans and military families, provide health services, restore the environment, respond to disasters, increase economic opportunity, and recruit and manage volunteers.

This year, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) will commit more than \$2,980,000 to support Wyoming communities through national service initiatives. CNCS invests in cost-effective community solutions--working hand in hand with local partners to improve lives, expand economic opportunity, and engage citizens in solving problems in their communities. Serving in many of the state's most impoverished communities, CNCS provides vital support to schools, food banks, homeless shelters, community health clinics, youth centers, veterans service facilities, and other nonprofit and faith-based organizations at a time of growing demand for services. Through a unique public-private partnership, this federal investment will leverage an additional \$1,330,000 in other resources to strengthen community impact, build local support, and increase return on taxpayer dollars.

AmeriCorps: This year AmeriCorps will provide more than 200 individuals the opportunity to provide intensive, results-driven service to meet education, environmental, health, economic, and other pressing needs in communities across Wyoming. Most AmeriCorps grant funding goes to the ServeWyoming, which in turn awards grants to nonprofit groups to respond to local needs. Most of the remainder of the grant funding is distributed by CNCS directly to multi-state and national organizations through a competitive grants process. Other individuals serve through AmeriCorps VISTA, whose members help bring individuals and communities out of poverty by serving full-time to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, and increase housing opportunities, and AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a 10-month, full time residential program for men and women between the ages of 18 and 24. In exchange for their service. AmeriCorps members earn an education award that can be used to pay for college or to pay back qualified student loans. Since 1994, more than 2,500 Wyoming residents have served more than 2.7 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$5,850,000.

Senior Corps: More than 580 seniors in Wyoming contribute their time and talents in one of three Senior Corps programs. Foster Grandparents serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to more than 1,400 young people who have special needs. Senior Companions help more than 780 homebound seniors and other adults maintain independence in their own homes. RSVP volunteers conduct safety patrols, renovate homes, protect the environment, tutor and mentor youth, respond to natural disasters, and provide other services through more than 54 groups across Wyoming.

Social Innovation Fund: The Social Innovation Fund transforms lives and communities using limited federal investment as a catalyst to grow the impact of nonprofits with evidence of strong results. It harnesses the expertise of grantmaking intermediaries to identify, evaluate and expand effective nonprofits and engages funding partners to contribute nearly three dollars to every one federal dollar invested. As the Social Innovation Fund network grows programs that work in Wyoming, more people are able to overcome their most pressing challenges in the areas of economic opportunity, health, and youth development. The Social Innovation Fund is investing more than \$120,000 in expanding the impact of 1 nonprofit in Wyoming.

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. CNCS annually engages more than five million Americans in service to meet local needs through Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and national days of service; improves communities through the Social Innovation Fund, and leads President Obama's national call to service initiative, United We Serve. To learn more visit NationalService.gov or Serve.gov or call 202-606-5000 or TTY 1-800-833-3722.

## Wyoming At a Glance



AmeriCorps	Projects	Service Locations	Participants 1	Education Scholarships 2	Program Funding
Americorps AmeriCorps National	7 10,000	9	20	\$150,474	\$16,170 <sup>3</sup>
AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects	2	2	20	φ130,4/4	φ10,170 ÷ _ 4
AmeriCorps State Formula	5	17	151	\$318,241	\$702,999
AmeriCorps VISTA	J 7	17	111	\$516,241 \$62,690	\$702,999 \$178,970
	17				
AMERICORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	17	35	202	\$531,404	\$898,139
Senior Corps	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Foster Grandparent Program	3	68	242	-	\$791,383
RSVP	1	54	230	-	\$68,917
Senior Companion Program	1	21	114	-	\$310,049
SENIOR CORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	5	143	586	-	\$1,170,349
Social Innovation Fund	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Nonprofit Subgrantees	1	-		-	\$121,548
SOCIAL INNOVATION FUND TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	1	-	-	-	\$121,548
Other Funding	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
State Commission Operations Support	1	-	_	-	\$265,592
OTHER FUNDING TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	1	-	-	-	\$265,592
PROGRAM TOTALS	24	<b>178</b> 5	788	\$531,404	\$2,455,628
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING (including Segal AmeriCorps Education Awa	\$2,987,032				
TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT (Non-CNCS Resources)					<b>\$1,338,659</b> 6
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING + TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT					\$4,325,691

Notes: The data shown represents a snapshot in time. CNCS project sites, participants, and funding change throughout the year, so the data may not reflect current conditions.

- This figure represents the number of awarded positions available to be filled in the 2014 2015 program year. For AmeriCorps VISTA, this represents the actual number of VISTA members in active service.
- This figure represents the maximum potential value of Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards that can be earned by AmeriCorps members serving in Wyoming. The award can be used in any state to pay for college, graduate school, vocational training, or to pay back student loans. The education award total is included in total CNCS funding.
- AmeriCorps National figures may include national programs headquartered in the state and/or operating sites of national programs that are headquartered in other states. Funding reflects the estimated proportionate share of the national grant associated with operating sites in this report. Some national organizations do not report operating site data, or it was not available at time of publishing, so figures may not reflect current conditions.
- Wyoming is served by the AmeriCorps NCCC campus located in McClellan, California. In the past year, AmeriCorps NCCC teams have served on projects in Casper, Sheridan.
- 5 The service location total may contain multiple counts of unique locations where multiple CNCS programs are operating.
- As part of its public-private partnership approach, CNCS requires grantees to leverage additional resources to strengthen community impact and increase the return on the federal investment. This figure reflects non-CNCS cash and in-kind resources that CNCS grantees and project sponsors have committed to raise to support their programming activities across the state.



Since 1994, more than 2,500 Wyoming residents have served more than 2.7 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$5,850,000.

## **National Service Impact in Wyoming**



#### **AmeriCorps State**

Last year, 15 Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence AmeriCorps members impacted the lives of thousands of Wyoming people living in fear and violence, provided response to victims, changed societal attitudes about interpersonal violence and related issues. In addition to working one-on-one, some members facilitate peer education support groups, provide quality prevention education and awareness, work extensively with community partners including law enforcement, schools, social service agencies, and civil and criminal legal systems to address victim blaming issues and to promote victim-friendly response systems. AmeriCorps members inspired community volunteers to give more than 5,000 hours of their time and resources to victims of violence, which in turn increases the capacity of the local programs to meet the overwhelming community need. In addition to meeting or exceeding their goals, WCADVSA members served more than 700 victims and provided financial literacy to more than 200 victims of domestic violence, enabling them to further secure their futures.

Big Brothers Big Sisters' Mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring professionally supported one-on-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. Big Brothers Big Sisters' vision is that all children achieve success in life. The AmeriCorps program helped achieve this mission by providing outreach and support to new mentors as well as recruited additional AmeriCorps mentors to improve the lives of youth in Wyoming. Last year, the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters' AmeriCorps program created nearly 250 matches and of those matches, 100 percent have been in place for six months to one yea. These mentoring relationships create opportunities for Littles to increase positive youth outcomes in educational expectations, scholastic competency, improvement in risk attitudes and academic engagement. Members recruited more than 800 volunteers who donated almost 20,000 hours of their time.

#### **AmeriCorps VISTA**

As an AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associate serving with Sheridan Senior Citizens, Inc., Tabitha Logan helped 113 low-income individuals apply for the Wyoming Department of Health Tax Refund for the Elderly and Disabled. She also was the primary organizers of the Sheridan Senior Center Garage Sale, which raised more than \$2,600 to support Senior Center services. Through a partnership with the local Habitat for Humanities and AARP chapters, Logan assisted several individuals with yard work and house cleaning, and continued research on a thrift store that has now opened as a continuous revenue stream to support Senior Center programs in Sheridan. To inspire other young people to serve, Logan also penned an article, "Why I Chose to be a VISTA Volunteer," for The Sheridan Press.

Lovell, Inc. Big Horn Basin Food Hub in Lovell was awarded a \$25,000 USDA grant written by AmeriCorps VISTA member Remy Cline. The grant supports a regional food assessment focusing on evaluating the potential for a Regional Food Hub within a four-county region of rural Wyoming. The primary expected outcome is the Big Horn Basin Food Hub Feasibility Study which will guide regional food strategies and examine a variety of regional food issues including a number of sub-reports identifying storage, packaging, and distribution needs; along with a marketing report and a value add opportunities report. Priority for awards was given to project proposals that were located in and/or serve populations in at least one area of concentrated poverty with limited food access.

#### AmeriCorps NCCC

Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Bighorns sponsored an AmeriCorps NCCC team during the spring of 2014. Habitat for Humanity's mission is to eliminate poverty housing from Sheridan County and make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Since 1995, HFHEB has partnered with homeowners, volunteers and community organizations to build affordable homes in northeastern Wyoming. During their time in Wyoming, the team spent time constructing four different homes. The team installed window sills, trim, and bathroom fixtures. Members also weatherized homes, sealed the concrete floors, painted exterior and interiors, applied wainscoting to the front porch, and added shingles to the roof. Corps members had the opportunity to help construct one house by building, raising, and securing walls, trusses, sheeting and siding during a Habitat for Humanity Blitz Build. The team also completed general worksite cleanup by removing debris and landscaping homes. In addition, the team coordinated 26 volunteers during their service in Wyoming. Corps members worked at the Habitat for Humanity Re-Store, where the team cleaned and organized product shelves and helped retrieve donations.

The Wyoming Free Tax Service, a program of the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, which is a major federal anti-poverty program supporting the Earned Income Tax Credit Program. This program offers direct financial support to low to moderate wage earners and is one of the most successful anti-poverty programs in the nation. AmeriCorps NCCC members prepared tax returns and increase the number of income taxes filed. Prior to the team's arrival the Wyoming Tax Service, the program had reached its capacity as was not able to meet the current demand from local residents. The team prepared 767 tax returns for many of who earned little to no income and 317 of whom were senior citizens, saving taxpayers \$115,050 in tax preparation fees and facilitating \$886,800 in refunds. The team also organized a Community Day at the Natrona County Public Library in downtown Casper to attract new volunteers and clients to the Wyoming Free Tax Service. The event allowed the team to inform local residents about the AmeriCorps NCCC program and their work in the community. They also participated in a cleanup at the Izaak Walton League campgrounds, where they collected trash and cleared brush.

## **National Service Impact in Wyoming**



#### **Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program**

A Foster Grandparent serving with Cathedral Home for Children in Laramie Wyoming was assigned to a 6th grade student to help him with spelling, an area he had struggled his entire school experience. The Foster Grandparent and the student worked daily on his goal to be able to spell at grade level and by the end of the year he won the spelling bee. A 4th grade teacher told the Foster Grandparent, "Your persistence and calm 'high' expectations are helping to change these boys' attitudes towards school. You are brightening the lives of many". The three Foster Grandparent programs in Wyoming cover 17 of the 23 counties and the Wind River Indian Reservation. Last year 150 Foster Grandparents served 193,140 hours one-on-one with 3,063 youth in 80 schools and nonprofit youth organizations.

#### **Senior Corps RSVP**

Last year, 76 Cheyenne Housing Authority RSVP volunteers served with four hospitals in Laramie, Albany, and Carbon Counties, and the VA Hospital in Cheyenne by providing information, patient assistance, and access to care for 63,000 individuals. Thirteen RSVP volunteers assisted 3,067 economically disadvantaged families, including homeless individuals, to obtain affordable housing and other resources through four nonprofit organizations; and 12 RSVP CERT-trained volunteers assisted local Sheriff, Police and the State Highway Department as trainers serving 120 hours in training for rescue efforts and other disaster preparedness. Cheyenne Housing Authority RSVP is currently the only RSVP in Wyoming, with 232 volunteers serving a total of 29,551 hours in eight rural Wyoming Counties: Lincoln, Uinta, Sweetwater, Carbon, Albany, Laramie, Platte and Goshen.

#### **Senior Corps Senior Companion Program**

A homeless veteran started serving this last year as a Senior Companion in Cheyenne and is now self-sufficient and in his own apartment. Throughout Wyoming, 91 Senior Companions served 74,409 hours last year with 789 at-risk seniors through the Wyoming Senior Citizens, Inc. Senior Companion Program. Of those, 40 of the 91 Senior Companions were veterans serving 200 veteran clients, helping to retain their independence and delay use of Medicaid funds for nursing home placement. The average daily cost of care in a nursing home is \$72,635 per year. For those 789 seniors the cost would have been \$57,309,015. The annual cost to operate Senior Companion programs in Wyoming is \$498,926.

#### **Social Innovation Fund**

The Social Innovation Fund transforms lives and communities using limited federal investment as a catalyst to grow the impact of nonprofits with evidence of strong results. It harnesses the expertise of grantmaking intermediaries to identify, evaluate and expand effective nonprofits and engages funding partners to contribute nearly three dollars to every one federal dollar invested. As the Social Innovation Fund network grows programs that work in Oklahoma, more people are able to overcome their most pressing challenges in the areas of economic opportunity, health, and youth development. The Social Innovation Fund is investing \$121,548 in expanding the impact of one nonprofit in Wyoming.

# AmeriCorps in Wyoming

**PARTICIPANTS** 



PROGRAMS/PROJECTS

CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)		202	17
COMPLETED (within	last 12 months)	12	2
Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Casper	Wyoming Free Tax Service (January 15 - March 21, 2014) Wyoming Free Tax Service	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Gillette	Campbell County Community Development (Current) Campbell County CARE Board	1	AmeriCorps VISTA
Green River	Southwest Wyoming Recovery Access Programs (Current) Southwest Wyoming Recovery Access Programs	3	AmeriCorps VISTA
Jackson	Jackson County Affordable Housing Construction Support (January 14, 2015 - Current) Habitat for Humanity - The Greater Teton Area	11	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Jackson	Latino Resource Center AmeriCorps (Current) Latino Resource Center	1	AmeriCorps VISTA
Jackson	Teton Area, HFH of the Greater (Current) Habitat for Humanity International, Inc.	1	AmeriCorps National
Jackson	Teton Science Schools AmeriCorps Program (Current) Teton Science Schools	46	AmeriCorps State Formula
Laramie	BBBS Mentoring (Current) Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters	48	AmeriCorps State Formula
Laramie	WY - University of Wyoming (Completed) University of Denver (Colorado Seminary)	3	AmeriCorps National
Laramie	Wyoming Advocate Corps (Current) Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	15	AmeriCorps State Formula
Laramie	Wyoming Conservation Corps (Current) University of Wyoming **	24	AmeriCorps State Formula
Lovell	Food Hub (Current) Lovell Inc	1	AmeriCorps VISTA
Moose	SCA Wyoming (Current) Student Conservation Association, Inc.	19	AmeriCorps National
Rock Springs	Rock Springs Young At Heart (Current) Rock Springs Young At Heart	2	AmeriCorps VISTA
Sheridan	Affordable Housing Construction Support (January 14, 2015 - Current) Habitat for Humanity - Eastern Bighorns	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Sheridan	Sheridan LINCS VISTA Project (Current) Senior Citizens Council	2	AmeriCorps VISTA
Sundance	SCA Veterans Fire Corps Wyoming (Current) Student Conservation Association, Inc.	-	AmeriCorps National
Worland	Absaroka Head Start (Current) Absaroka, Inc.	1	AmeriCorps VISTA
Worland	Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring (Current) Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Northwest Wyoming	18	AmeriCorps State Formula

AMERICORPS TOTALS

Notes: If there are programs with identical names in separate entries, they are different grants to the same organization. If no members are shown, either the grant is for planning or technical assistance, or enrollment data was not available at the time of printing.

The city column refers to the location of the sponsor organization. AmeriCorps members may be serving in other locations than the city listed.

# Senior Corps in Wyoming



SENIOR CORPS TOTAL	.s	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)		586	5
COMPLETED (within I	ast 12 months)	97	1
Primary City	Program Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Cheyenne	Cheyenne/ Southeast Wyoming FGP (Current) Peak Wellness Center, Inc.	88	Foster Grandparent Program
Cheyenne	Southern Wyoming Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (Current) Cheyenne Housing Authority	230	RSVP
Cheyenne	Wyoming State SCP (Current) Wyoming Senior Citizens, Inc.	114	Senior Companion Program
Laramie	Cathedral Home For Children FGP (Current) Cathedral Home For Children	57	Foster Grandparent Program
Riverton	Wyoming Senior Citizens, Inc. (Current)	97	Foster Grandparent Program
Thermopolls	Northern Wyoming Foster Grandparent Program (Completed) Northwestern Community Action Program, Inc.	97	Foster Grandparent Program

Note: The city column refers to the location of sponsor organization. Volunteers may be serving in other locations than the city listed.

## **Social Innovation Fund in Wyoming**



## **Nonprofit Subgrantees in Wyoming**

**Program HQ Location** 

Casper, WY

**Nonprofit Subgrantee Name** 

Intermediary

Community Health Center of Central Wyoming

The John A. Hartford Foundation

#### **Description**

The John A. Hartford Foundation plans to disseminate the IMPACT model of depression treatment through community health clinics as subgrantees to serve low-income, rural communities in Wyoming, Washington, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho. The IMPACT model is a collaborative care approach in which a primary care provider (PCP) and care manager team, along with a psychiatric consultant, provide treatment for depression. The care managers and PCPs retain primary responsibility for treatment and receive advice from the psychiatric consultant when patients are not improving. The key anticipated outcomes for the SIF IMPACT evaluation include the following: 1) Increased access to effective depression treatment for low-income patients in rural areas; 2) Decreased depression and improved social and occupational functioning among these patients; and3) Improved economic well-being of individuals and families served including:

a) Reduction of costs related to health care expenditures;

b) Improvements in employment and related income; and

c) Reduction in care-related costs for depression that are borne by family members.