# Welcome

Please Sign-In

•Please ask Questions!

•Do you have an idea for a service project?

# Georgia Commission for Service and Volunteerism (GCSV)



# History of Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)

- In 1993, President Bill Clinton signed the National and Community Service Trust Act, which established the Corporation for National and Community Service and brought the full range of domestic community service programs under the umbrella of one central organization.
- This legislation built on the first National Service Act signed by President H.W. Bush in 1990. It also formally launched AmeriCorps, a network of national service programs that engage Americans in intensive service to meet the nation's critical needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment.
- The newly created AmeriCorps incorporated two existing national service programs: the longstanding VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) program, created by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964 and the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC).

### Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)

- Began with Peace Corps
- VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America)
- AmeriCorps National AmeriCorps Programs
   Individual State AmeriCorps Programs
- NCCC National Civilian Conservation Corps and now additionally FEMA Corps
- Senior Corps, RSVP, Foster Grandparents

## AmeriCorps VISTA

AmeriCorps VISTA is the national service program designed specifically to fight poverty. Founded as Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) in 1965 and incorporated into the AmeriCorps network of programs in 1993, VISTA has been on the front lines in the fight against poverty in America for more than 45 years.



## AmeriCorps VISTA...

- engages more than 7,000 members per year in helping more than 1,000 local organizations build sustainable anti-poverty programs.
- generated more than \$100 million in resources and mobilized more than one million volunteers for their projects.
- provides full-time members to community organizations and public agencies to create and expand programs that build capacity and ultimately bring low-income individuals and communities out of poverty.

## **Examples of VISTA Programs**

- 23 VISTA programs in Georgia, including Step Up Savannah (affordable housing)
- Numerous National VISTA Programs are also in Georgia including:

Habitat for Humanity and Habitat for Humanity Home Repair (VISTA members assist with fundraising and building volunteer base)

YouthBuild East Coast and South (VISTA members assist with recruiting volunteers and secure funding

### Benefits for VISTA members Capacity Building

- One Year (12 month) commitment
- Education Award = Pell Grant \$5,550
- Modest Monthly Living Allowance
- AmeriCorps Member Health Care
- Life Insurance
- Child Care (if income eligible)
- Relocation Allowance (if applicable)
- Loan Forbearance or Deferment
- One Year Non-Compete Status for Federal Employment
- Service to Your Country, State and Community with compliments your professional growth, training, and resume building experience.

## VISTA members and New VISTA Programs

- VISTA member are recruited throughout the year and applications are expected online through www.AmeriCorps.gov Please included two (2) completed references. Start dates are quarterly.
- New potential VISTA Programs are asked to contact Bob O'Harra, (404) 965-2104 <a href="mailto:roharra@cns.gov">roharra@cns.gov</a> for information.

### AmeriCorps State and National

- Largest branch of AmeriCorps
- About 67,000 members serve each year
- Members serve with more than 2,900 organizations
- Members address needs in education, environment, health, housing, disaster response and more
- Sponsors include Habitat for Humanity, Teach for America, City Year, American Red Cross, Boys and Girls Clubs and thousands of other nonprofits
- Full-time and part-time opportunities

### AmeriCorps State and National

AmeriCorps members address critical needs in communities all across America. As an AmeriCorps member, you can:

- Tutor and mentor disadvantaged youth
- Fight illiteracy
- Improve health services
- Build affordable housing
- Teach computer skills
- Clean parks and streams
- Manage or operate after-school programs
- Help communities respond to disasters
- Build organizational capacity



# State AmeriCorps Programs in Georgia

- Youth Villages at Inner Harbor, AmeriCorps members provide individual and group sessions in the areas of career planning/work life, communication, daily living/self-care, home life, housing/money management, social relationships and work/study skills. This AmeriCorps team provides unique afterschool programs, meaningful service learning projects and summer programming to the students on the Inner Harbour campus.
- **Hands on Atlanta AmeriCorps Silver Corps** members support programming for senior citizens within residential and recreational facilities. In any given day, Silver Corps members hold workshops or social activities on health/nutrition, walking clubs, garden clubs, healthy cooking classes or even Meals on Wheels meal delivery. Trainings provide members with new skills and knowledge that enhance their effectiveness and value to Silver Corps, community service and their own professional growth.
- **Georgia Sea Turtle Center,** AmeriCorps members provide environmental education and environmental service projects to visitors and residents of Jekyll Island, Georgia.
- **Communities in Schools**, provide solutions to the high school dropout rate. Prevention and intervention programming for at risk youth at schools and at after school programs.

# Benefits for AmeriCorps members DIRECT SERVICE

- One Year (12 month) commitment
- Education Award = Pell Grant \$5,550 if serving 1,700 hours
   Adjustable education depending on half time or part time position
- AmeriCorps members are allowed to supplement their income with a part time job, VISTA members are not allowed outside employment during their year of service.
- Modest Monthly Living Allowance
- AmeriCorps Member Health Care
- Life Insurance
- Child Care (if income eligible)
- Relocation Allowance (if applicable)
- Loan Forbearance or Deferment
- One Year Non-Compete Status for Federal Employment
- Service to Your Country, State and Community with compliments your professional growth, training, and resume building experience.

2012-2013 State of Georgia AmeriCorps Programs will be announced in the upcoming weeks. Programs are actively recruiting for AmeriCorps members.

Visit www.AmeriCorpsGA.org or www.ServeGA.org

For listing of programs, websites, phone numbers and program directors' contact information.

You may link your application to five programs through the AmeriCorps.gov Portal.

# AmeriCorps members and New AmeriCorps Programs

- AmeriCorps members are recruited throughout the year and applications are accepted online through www.AmeriCorps.gov Please included two (2) completed references. Start dates are usually September and January.
- New potential AmeriCorps Programs are asked to contact Amieko Watson, (404) 327-6860
   Amieko.Watson@dca.ga.gov for information. Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) begins in January. It is an opportunity to engage individuals in service and a matching monetary investment by the Sponsor organization is required.

### **NCCC** and **FEMA** Corps

- AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) is a full-time, team-based residential program for men and women age 18–24. Members are assigned to one of five campuses, located in Denver, Colorado; Sacramento, California; Perry Point, Maryland; Vicksburg, Mississippi; and Vinton, Iowa.
- Each year, AmeriCorps NCCC engages teams of members in meaningful projects in communities across the United States. Service projects, which typically last from six to eight weeks, address critical needs related to natural and other disasters, infrastructure improvement, environmental stewardship and conservation, energy conservation, and urban and rural development. Members construct and rehabilitate low-income housing, respond to natural disasters, clean up streams, help communities develop emergency plans, and address countless other local needs. What would it be like if your organization had the resources of 8-12 enthusiastic, talented, and dedicated young adults working on a short-term, intensive project? Think of the impact!
- AmeriCorps NCCC requires an intensive, 10-month commitment. Members serve in teams of eight to twelve and are assigned to projects throughout the region served by their campus. They are trained in CPR, first aid, public safety, and other skills before beginning their first service project.
- To strengthen the nation's disaster response capacity, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) have established a <u>FEMA-devoted unit of 1,600 service corps members within AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC)</u> solely devoted to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.
- AmeriCorps NCCC members receive a living allowance of approximately \$4,000 for the 10 months of service (about \$200 every two weeks before taxes), housing, meals, limited medical benefits, up to \$400 a month for childcare, if necessary, member uniforms, and a <u>Segal AmeriCorps Education Award</u> upon successful completion of the program.

NCCC Teams Who Can Apply? Nonprofit and faith-based organizations, government entities (federal, state, and local), public schools and universities, and Native American Tribal Councils.

#### COMMUNITY PROVIDES:

THERE IS NO CHARGE OR MATCH FOR A TEAM'S SERVICES, BUT SPONSORS MUST PROVIDE (AND PAY FOR, IF NECESSARY):

LODGING FOR THE TEAM (IF FARTHER THAN ONE HOUR FROM VICKSBURG, MS) TO INCLUDE: ACCESS TO A FULL KITCHEN FOR MEAL PREPARATION, BATHROOM AND SHOWER FACILITIES APPROPRIATE FOR THE TEAM'S SIZE, AT LEAST TWO SLEEPING AREAS FOR MEN AND WOMEN, AND PARKING FOR ONE 15-PASSENGER VAN. SEE LODGING OPTIONS BELOW FOR IDEAS.

ALL PROJECT MATERIALS AND SPECIAL TOOLS/EQUIPMENT.

DAILY TECHNICAL SUPERVISION TO ENSURE THE SMOOTH ARRIVAL OF SUPPLIES, PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SKILLS TRAINING, AND OVERSEE THE TEAM'S ACTIVITIES (AMOUNT OF SUPERVISION DEPENDS ON THE PROJECT). EXAMPLES INCLUDE TOOL SAFETY TRAINING, PROPER CARPENTRY TECHNIQUES, EXPECTATIONS WHEN WORKING WITH VOLUNTEERS, ETC.

ORIENTATION TO YOUR ORGANIZATION AND COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS "SERVICE LEARNING" EDUCATION ON THE SOCIAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE PROJECT (TO SHOW WHY THE WORK IS IMPORTANT TO YOUR COMMUNITY AND TO THE TEAM'S LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT).

FOOD (NOT REQUIRED BUT STRONGLY ENCOURAGED). THIS COULD INCLUDE MEALS PROVIDED BY CAFETERIAS, RESTAURANTS OR CHURCH GROUPS, GIFT CARDS TO GROCERY STORES, OR ACCESS TO FOOD BANKS.

## What type of NCCC Service Projects?

- Disaster Services (preparation, mitigation, response, recovery)
- Environmental Stewardship & Conservation
- Urban and Rural Development
- Energy Conservation
- Infrastructure Improvement

## **Upcoming NCCC Due Dates for Teams**

- Round 3: August 9 September 27
- CONCEPT Form Due: April 1, 2013
- Application Due: April 29, 2013
- Round 4: October 1 7 December 4
- Concept Form Due: June 17, 2013
- Application Due: July 15, 2013

### **NCCC** Provides

- Team Leader to coordinate and reside with each team. Team Leaders are not technical project supervisors, but they can assist sponsors with managing the team. Each Team Leader receives specialized training in supervisory skills, issue resolution and a variety of other projectmanagement skills. All Team Leaders report to a designated NCCC staff Unit Leader.
- One 15-passenger van per team; fuel covered by NCCC.
- Limited funds specifically designated for the team to purchase groceries, if the sponsor cannot provide food.
- All AmeriCorps members are fully insured by the Federal Tort Claims Act and Federal Employees Coverage Act.
- Limited hand tools.

### Award Limitations

Currently, the maximum numbers of terms that you can serve in each AmeriCorps program are:

four for AmeriCorps State and National;

five for VISTAs

two for NCCC or FEMA Corps

## What is Senior Corps?

- connects today's 55+ with the people and organizations that need them most.
- help them become mentors, coaches or companions to people in need, or contribute their job skills and expertise to community projects and organizations.
- links more than 500,000 Americans to service opportunities.

### Senior Corps Programs

• The Foster Grandparent Program connects volunteers age 55 and over with children and young people with exceptional needs. Volunteers mentor, support, and help some of the most vulnerable children in the United States.



### Senior Corps Programs

 RSVP connects volunteers age 55 and over with service opportunities in their communities that match their skills and availability.



## Georgia Student Service Awards

- 2013 Graduating Seniors must complete an average of 75 Service Hours this year 2012-2013 or 300 hours by graduation is required.
- Graduating seniors who reach the milestone will receive a certificate and a red, white and blue service cord to be worn at graduation ceremonies.
- A member of the school staff must act as sponsor/administrator and register their school on this website and then submit student information and service hours. The sponsor/administrator is responsible for certifying student hours. This record of service may only include direct contact hours/ hours on task, although students may count participation hours from all 5 stages (IPARC/D) of a service-learning project.
- Service can be performed through school sponsored activities and/or through outside organizations such as churches, Boy Scouts and other clubs. Both public and private schools are eligible to participate in the Georgia Student Service Award program. Home schooled students may also participate if hours can be certified by an adult. After registering, service hours for students can be entered as they are completed or per year by the sponsor/administrator. Please note that court -ordered service does not qualify a student for this award.
- Graduating seniors must have ALL eligible hours submitted by April 1st to qualify for the award. No exceptions will be made. The school sponsor/administrator must submit all eligible hours in the GCSV system by April 1 for their graduating seniors to qualify for the award. GCSV cannot make exceptions to the deadline of April 1 or certify student service hours.
- www.dca.ga.gov/ServiceAwards/FAQ.aspx
- (404) 679-1738 e-mail: Kiana.Sullivan@dca.ga.gov

# Any Questions?



### Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)

Bob O'Harra, State Program Specialist Corporation for National and Community Service

Georgia State Office

Peachtree Summit Building 401 West Peachtree Street NW, Suite 1600 Atlanta, Georgia 30308-3519

Phone (404) 965-2104

E-mail: <u>roharra@cns.gov</u>

www.AmeriCorps.gov

### **NCCC** Teams

- April Bazzi
- Assistant Program Director
- Southern Region Campus
- AmeriCorps NCCC
- 2715 Confederate Ave
- Vicksburg, MS 39180
- Work: 601-630-4045
- Cell: 202-534-7066
- Fax: 601-630-4071

Learn more about AmeriCorps NCCC

• www.americorps.gov/nccc

## State of Georgia AmeriCorps Programs

Candice Gunn, Grants Specialist

Georgia Commission for Service and Volunteerism

Georgia Department of Community Affairs

60 Executive Park South, N.E.

Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

404-327-6843

FAX 404-327-6848

E-mail address: Candice.Gunn@dca.ga.gov

Getting Things Done for Georgia

Visit our web site at <u>www.servega.org</u>



### Thank You!

Amieko Watson, Executive Director

Georgia Commission for Service and Volunteerism

**Georgia Department of Community Affairs** 

60 Executive Park South, N.E.

Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

404-327-6860

FAX 404-327-6848

Please note my new email address: <u>Amieko.Watson@dca.ga.gov</u>

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