

Serving Communities, Changing Lives

# 2010 Report



Washington Commission for National and Community Service



# The Washington Commission for National and Community Service



*State commissions administer national service programs to promote civic engagement and foster the ethic of service while meeting real community needs. Local community-based organizations, school districts, and state agencies apply for AmeriCorps grants through their state commissions.*

The Washington Commission for National and Community Service (WCNCS or the Commission) was created in 1994 to implement national service initiatives, provide training and technical assistance, evaluate programs, and leverage federal dollars with local, state, and private-sector resources. For the past 16 years, the Commission has administered \$164.4 million in largely competitive federal grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

## Our Programs

In 2010, 1,175 AmeriCorps\*State members served in education, environmental, public safety, human needs, and emergency preparedness and response programs funded by the WCNCS. In addition, more than 2,078 AmeriCorps\*National members and 361 AmeriCorps\*VISTA members served throughout the state in programs funded directly by the CNCS.

## 2010 AmeriCorps State Programs

- Community Youth Services – AmeriCorps-Youth in Service
- Life Works – Cowlitz AmeriCorps Network
- Girl Scouts of Western Washington – Leaders in Service
- Solid Ground – JustServe AmeriCorps
- Kitsap Community Resources – KCR/AmeriCorps
- Clallam County Family YMCA – North Olympic AmeriCorps
- Pasco School District – Regional Service Corps
- Western Washington University – Retention Project
- Educational Service District 101 – Spokane Service Team
- Washington Department of Veterans Affairs – Vet Corps
- Department of Ecology – Washington Conservation Corps
- Employment Security Department – Washington Reading Corps
- Employment Security Department – Washington Service Corps

**Cover photo:** Youth Build AmeriCorps members of the Spokane Service Team prepare for a day of service. This project was funded in part by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.



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# Volunteers: A Valuable Resource in Difficult Times



As we reflect upon the contributions of those who served and volunteered this past year, we are gratified by the stories shared in this report that demonstrate the countless ways individuals choose to improve their communities. In spite of huge economic challenges, people continue to volunteer in larger numbers. Just this year, according to a study released by the Corporation for National and Community Service, our state rose to 10th in the country in the number of individuals who volunteer. Volunteers are a valuable resource that we need more than ever as we move forward in these difficult times.

We especially salute those who have made a full-time commitment to serve our state and this nation as AmeriCorps members. Whether you are from our state or elected to move to Washington for your year of national service, we appreciate your sacrifices on behalf of the public you chose to serve. Your hearts and well being are expanded by this commitment to service.

It is clear that additional financial resources, even if we had access to them, would not be the singular solution to the various issues we face today. Rather, we need an expanded number of servant leaders, individuals who toil and identify with the issues of the day and truly work to make a difference. The personal return of the volunteer investment might not be visible on a daily basis, but the rewards last a lifetime.

While the work you do might not make the news headlines, your value to the people of this state lasts forever and changes many lives for the better. Please know that the differences you have made and will continue to make are critical to us as a state and nation. To properly function, our government structures need an active citizenry that helps preserve the values of our democracy. Thank you for living up to this high calling as we continue to commit to building opportunities for individuals to serve the public good.

Sincerely,

Bill Basl  
Executive Director,  
Washington Commission for  
National and Community Service

Christine O. Gregoire  
Governor  
State of Washington

Eleanor Andersen  
Chair, Washington Commission for  
National and Community Service

# Statewide Accomplishments

## AmeriCorps

*AmeriCorps members in Washington State serve at a variety of nonprofit and faith-based organizations, and state and local government agencies. Members serve in five national service priority areas: education, environmental, human needs, public safety, and emergency preparedness and response. In 2010, their statewide accomplishments included the following:*

### Strengthening Families

- Provided services to more than 99,800 disadvantaged children and youth
- Assisted with independent living services, including respite care, to help 1,025 clients live independently in their homes in community-based settings
- Engaged 9,170 “baby boomers” in AmeriCorps-sponsored service

### Building Prosperity

- Generated 62,000 volunteers
- Mentored 21,200 individuals, including children of incarcerated parents
- Engaged 1,400 disadvantaged children and youth in meaningful service opportunities

### Educating for the Future

- Tutored 7,500 K-6 students through the Washington Reading Corps
- Engaged 2,177 peer and cross-age tutors who donated 16,409 hours of service to make connections across grade levels
- Conducted more than 300 family literacy events bringing 30,000 parents and caregivers into their children’s schools and early learning centers

### Protecting the Environment

- Planted more than 500,000 native plants to improve natural habitat
- Constructed or improved 130 campsites in national parks, and built 236 miles of public-access hiking trails
- Involved 4,010 community volunteers as Stream Team members, weed warriors, nursery attendants, or as interpretive trail docents

### Protecting Health and Safety

- Prepared 797 AmeriCorps members for deployment in support of local, state, or other disasters
- Responded to 22 local disasters
- Treated or improved 1,320 acres on public land to benefit citizens across Washington State

### AmeriCorps Education Awards

Over the past 16 years, the Commission has administered \$164.4 million in federal grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Since 1994, more than 28,000 people have served in AmeriCorps programs in Washington. Education awards valued in excess of \$87 million\* earned by these members were used to help cover educational costs primarily in Washington State’s post-secondary institutions during this same time period (as of May 2010).

*\* National Service Trust*



## AmeriCorps Spearheads Varsity Letter Program in Port Angeles

The 2009-2010 school year marked a first successful Varsity Letter Program in Port Angeles. Thirteen students received letters and 12 received “Presidential Volunteer Service Awards.” This cohort met every week for 18 months and their enthusiasm for service was consistently growing. One of these students, Nikki McGoff, received the Clallam County “Volunteer Youth of the Year” award and subsequently received the “Governor’s Volunteer Service Award.” She was asked to throw out the first pitch at the Seattle Mariners’ “Salute to Volunteers Night.” The impact of this program and recognition can be seen first-hand in talking to this young lady. At 17 years old, she is on pace to achieve an Associate of Arts college degree by the time she finishes high school. While holding a 3.9 GPA, she also achieves well over 250 hours of volunteer service every year. She will also be the first in her family to go to college.

The programming, spearheaded by the North Olympic AmeriCorps program, has solidified in Port Angeles and is now expanding in Joyce and Port Townsend. In a rural area that is deficient of resources and opportunity, it is imperative that these sorts of programs not only provide constructive activities for teens, but also provide avenues for them to graduate and serve. The North Olympic AmeriCorps program is working with the United Way of Pierce County to continue to advance this mission of providing avenues of success for high school students through volunteering.



## A Boost to AmeriCorps

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provided \$3.4 million in competitive funds to enroll 284 AmeriCorps members in Washington State. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation provided a \$250,000 grant to ensure the WCNCS could meet the federal match requirement. The grants helped bolster capacity at a time when organizations faced increasing demand for services despite declining local resources. This funding provided WCNCS with the opportunity to work with six local organizations on service projects and supported the first Washington State Service Summit.

Members offered job counseling and placement services; provided foreclosure prevention and financial counseling; weatherized homes; strengthened food banks; supported health care and independent living services; and provided other assistance to people facing unemployment, poverty, or other economic challenges.

Among the ARRA AmeriCorps members, many had been unemployed or laid off workers; veterans, including many with disabilities; recent college grads; and others who made a tremendous difference in their communities during the time that they served.

## Citizen Corps

Since 2003, the Washington Commission for National and Community Service has served as the State Citizen Corps Council, as determined by the Governor. The WCNCS administers the Citizen Corps Program and supports increased statewide preparedness by encouraging local communities to participate in programs under Citizen Corps, and to engage community members in disaster preparedness and response.

The role of citizens and communities has been represented and advocated for through the State Homeland Security Strategic Planning and various committees. Citizen Corps Councils and programs are increasing across the state. More citizens have received Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, are supporting safety and preparedness through safety fairs and National Night Out activities, and are a resource to the first responder and emergency management agencies of Washington.



In addition, the state-sponsored 2010 NW Citizen Corps Expo, included CERT, Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), and amateur radio volunteers working together in a realistic disaster exercise. Nearly 300 people were involved, and included volunteers from Oregon and Alaska.

WCNCS supports these activities through grant management and program assistance. Information is available to interested individuals and program managers through [www.citizen corps.wa.gov](http://www.citizen corps.wa.gov).

# WCNCS Special Initiatives and Events

## Service Summit

On September 9, 2009, the Washington State Service Summit took place at the University of Washington. The summit was the first of its kind in the nation since the passage of bipartisan legislation, the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act. The event was an opportunity to bring leaders from all sectors of our state together to discuss the utilization of service and volunteerism as strategies to address critical community needs, and to collaboratively guide the future of the service movement. Governor Gregoire addressed the summit participants, which included approximately 500 leaders from nonprofit, business, volunteer centers, government, education, philanthropy, and faith-based sectors. Participants engaged with local and national officials and experts in the field of service and volunteerism. Through a series of plenary sessions and interactive breakout groups, participants collaborated with new and existing partners across all sectors to build innovative service strategies.

## Seattle Mariners Salute to Volunteers

To celebrate National Volunteer Week, the Seattle Mariners, Bonneville Seattle Radio, and WCNCS joined together on April 20, 2010 for “Salute to Volunteers Night.” Pre-game ceremonies included a special tribute to 49 distinguished volunteers who represented a cross-section of the estimated 62 million Americans that donated their time last year. The ceremonial first pitch was thrown out by 17-year-old Nikki McGoff of Port Angeles, a recipient of the 2010 “Governor’s Volunteer Service Award.” Earlier in the day, Mariners Chone Figgins and Rob Johnson volunteered at Northwest Harvest food bank along with Governor Gregoire, McGoff and AmeriCorps members. The Mariners also convened a conversation on the importance of service and volunteerism, with Dave Ross, KIRO radio personality, serving as moderator. Panelists included Governor Chris Gregoire; Jon Fine, Executive Director of the United Way of King County; Pierce County Executive Pat McCarthy; and three former AmeriCorps members.



## AmeriCorps Launch

On October 23, 2009, Bill Basl opened the annual kick-off event at the Seattle Center by welcoming nearly a thousand AmeriCorps members and staff. “Through your participation in national service, you understand the power of volunteerism and possess the ideas, innovation, and the energy to help us create a new vision for service in our nation,” he said. “We are grateful that you have chosen to serve in AmeriCorps to help us shape the future of the service movement in Washington State.”

Speakers included current and former members. The keynote address was given by Dr. Edward Taylor, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs at the University of Washington.

The crowd was energized through an engaging musical exercise with MusicianCorps fellows. MusicianCorps is a pilot of Arts Corps, the largest Seattle-area nonprofit arts educator, which fosters creative habits of mind in young people through a passionate corps of teaching artists.





## Northwest Leader Corps

The Washington Leader Corps was held in Olympia on December 8-9, 2009. Leader Corps is a two-day training experience that provides AmeriCorps and VISTA members from Washington State the opportunity to build leadership skills such as self-awareness, effective communication and listening, and conflict management.

## Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

To recognize the countless acts of service performed by one of Washington's most valuable assets – its volunteers – Governor Chris Gregoire proclaimed April 18-24, 2010, as Washington Volunteer Week. Gregoire urged all citizens to join her in recognizing and supporting those who volunteer and serve. To celebrate, Governor Gregoire hosted the “Sixth Annual Governor’s Volunteer Service Awards” on April 19 to recognize the contributions of 49 volunteers for their dedication and commitment to improve their communities through service. The honorees were nominated by local Volunteer Centers; Citizen Corps Councils; Senior Corps; Learn and Serve; and AmeriCorps programs from across the state who they believe represent the best qualities among those who serve their communities.



## Northwest National Service Symposium

On May 3-4, 2010, approximately 200 national service members attended the 15th Annual Northwest National Service Symposium held at Portland State University. Each year, members from across Oregon and Washington transform their service experiences into writing, art, and performances. Genres include service stories (short creative nonfiction pieces inspired by service); poetry and fiction; visual arts (painting, sculpture, and photography); and performing arts (dance, video, and music).

## Leadership Forum for National Service Executives

For the last 10 years, the Washington Commission has partnered with the University of Washington's Evans School of Public Affairs to offer a unique learning opportunity designed specifically for AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and Learn and Serve program staff. This year's course – Building the Sustainable Organization – was held in Seattle from June 14-18, 2010. The innovative curriculum is comprised of three one-week courses that take place over consecutive summers. Classes are purposely kept small so attendees have an opportunity to dialogue with award-winning faculty on issues facing national service programs. Attendees complete masters-level coursework designed to enhance their skills for building a sustainable organization, performance-based budgeting, and program assessment in an environment that values shared experiences and insights from fellow attendees and faculty. Those who complete the course series earn a Certificate in Nonprofit and National Service Management from the University of Washington.

## Northwest Network

On March 8-10, 2010, the Washington Commission and Oregon Volunteers co-sponsored the Northwest Network at Portland State University. This event is designed to meet the training and professional development needs of national service program directors and staff. The three-day event featured cross-stream issue sessions focusing on various aspects of implementing the Serve America Act, such as national service criminal history background checks, developing regional input to CNCS on rule-making related to transferability of the Segal education award, and implementation of a veterans program. The third day of the Network was devoted to state meetings.

## Yakima County Regional Cluster Meeting

On August 24, 2010, WCNCS and the Washington State Office of the CNCS convened a meeting of more than 30 national service and volunteer leaders from throughout Yakima County to begin to build service strategies across national service programs that are intentionally supportive of gang/gun violence prevention efforts. While a portion of the meeting was oriented to becoming more aware of these issues, the majority of the time was focused on increasing attendees' knowledge of who administers and leads various national service initiatives throughout Yakima County. The regional meeting also served as a venue to discuss how anti-violence efforts could be incorporated into national service such as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, AmeriCorps Week, etc.

# Serving Communities, Changing Lives

## Dreams Come True with Help from AmeriCorps Member

“I had the opportunity to work with a student who was born in Afghanistan and grew up in Pakistan and Germany. Being female, she had been denied an education for most of her life. She described to me with tears how heartbroken that made her as a child. When her family moved to Germany, she finally had the opportunity to go to school. Now in the U.S., she is studying English and plans to attend college. Her dream is to be a midwife. This is someone who has had to fight for her right to education and employment at every turn, things I grew up accepting as the norm. Her story has humbled me, and her perspective is something I will carry with me as I continue to work with students in similar situations from all over the world.”

– Rosie Hancock, member of the Retention Project, Campus Compact, Western Washington University



## Veterans' Service to Country, Service to Community

In 2009, the WCNCS partnered with the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs to launch the first CNCS-funded Vet Corps program in the nation to engage veterans in AmeriCorps national service positions. While voluntarily serving as AmeriCorps members in the Vet Corps, veterans continued their mission to their country through their civilian national service experience – and made a positive difference in communities across Washington State.

During the first year of operation, 46 Vet Corps members provided services to more than 3,000 veterans, active duty military members, and military families. Their service outreach included starting 15 Vet Clubs on college campuses to create a safe and

supportive community where veterans could learn how to navigate the higher education system and network with their fellow veterans; conducting in-take procedures to assure connection to critical services; and assisting dozens of homeless veterans with referrals to housing and other social services.

Program Manager Mark Fisher reported that feedback from veterans in colleges has been extremely positive. Vet Club members at the colleges report success in accessing VA benefits, college benefits, and other services that they would not have known about without the help of the Vet Corps member.

– Mark Fischer, Program Director, Vet Corps

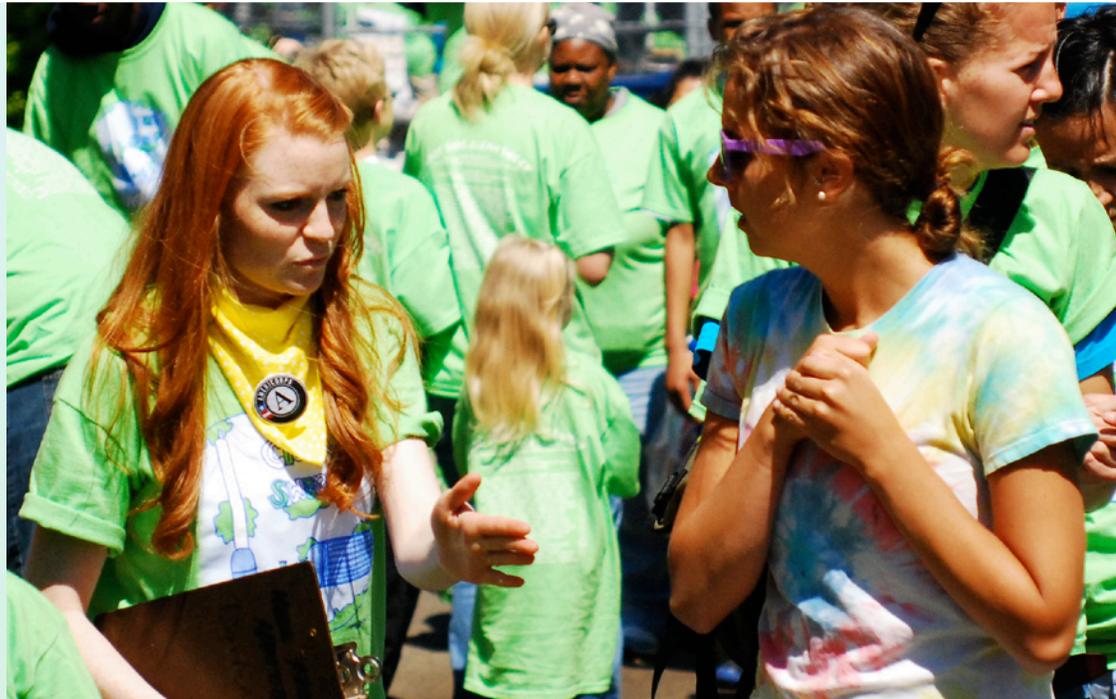
*Frank Gregory, Army veteran, consults about VA benefits and services with Jonathan Phillips, Air Force veteran and Vet Corps member, at Shoreline Community College.*



## Ensuring Brighter Futures for Young Women

Caitlin is one of 20 AmeriCorps members who are helping us expand our youth-serving programs, particularly for young at-risk women in Pierce County. When she was just shy of her ninth birthday, Caitlin landed in foster care. She stayed there until she was 18. Now, at 23 with a new college degree, she wanted to mentor other young women. As a member, she serves girls in foster care with the core messages of Scouting: courage, confidence and character.

– Genell Hennings,  
Program Manager,  
Girl Scouts of Western Washington



## AmeriCorps Member Inspires a Love of Learning

Mid-Columbia Libraries hosts a full-time AmeriCorps member who serves as a Literacy Program Assistant. This member, Pat Hight, runs the after-school Homework Club, manages volunteers, and generally inspires a love of learning for all who enter the various libraries. Efforts to promote literacy through our annual “Warm Up with Cool Books” project brought nearly 400 students and parents together to continue reading through the Winter Break from school. Our “Go Wild for Reading” spring project attracted another 600 participants. To help the Mid-Columbia Libraries gear up for their Summer of Reading programs, AmeriCorps members of the Regional Service Corps assembled nearly 3,000 packets of materials.

– Stephaen Harrell, Program Director,  
Regional Service Corps

## AmeriCorps Member Helps Form First Childcare Collective

“Something has happened that is really special: our first Childcare Collective Orientation. We’ve been working on starting an Olympia Childcare Collective for a while, to provide free and reliable childcare for families who want to get involved in social justice work in their community, and our first orientation had about 20 people come to it. We had a great discussion on why a childcare collective, and how we want it to proceed. I am looking forward to the future of this project in Olympia.”



– Tovah Rudawski,  
Community Youth Services  
Youth in Service Member



## Prepared For Community Emergency Response

Cowlitz AmeriCorps Network members are better prepared than ever before if faced with a local or regional disaster. In addition to CERT training that has been part of our curriculum since 2003, members completed an additional 16 hours of Red Cross training in sheltering and mass care. Two members received specialized training to drive the Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV). This course certified them to respond with other volunteers to local emergencies. House fires were especially problematic in Cowlitz County during December and January, resulting in increased call outs to the ERV. Members also joined with churches and nonprofits to staff an overnight warming shelter. Even when temperatures returned to more typical winter levels, these members continued to provide evening meals. Their willingness to stand watch overnight at our local Salvation Army facility, prompted the Captain to allow the homeless to sleep inside rather than in the adjacent alley in the rain. We were proud of our members' sacrifice to alleviate what was a "personal disaster" for area homeless.

– Carole Eby, Program Director, Cowlitz AmeriCorps Network

## More Than a Space to Work

From a purely technical standpoint, it might not be accurate to say that the Spokane Service Team (SST) has a new home, since the program hasn't moved. The eyes, however, tell a different story. Drive by the site and the structure you see is definitely new. For those who remember the three decrepit buildings that occupied the site a year ago, the new visage is almost breathtaking. Amazingly enough the three old buildings are still there – now expanded, refurbished, and joined into a single office and training complex of 4,000 square feet. The building was remodeled by the Spokane Service Team AmeriCorps members. It belongs to the City of Spokane and the project was funded by the Community Development Division. The building houses multiple AmeriCorps programs including the SST, YouthBuild, Washington Reading Corps, Page Ahead, and Rebuilding Together Spokane. Program Manager Mandy Edwards stated, "This building represents so much more than a space to work. It is part of who we are. It was created by our AmeriCorps members, transforming condemned buildings into a community campus. It is a physical reminder of the power of community service."

– Steve Witter, Spokane Service Team, Educational Service District 101



## Connecting Community to Law Enforcement

Members throughout the JustServe AmeriCorps team recruited and supported hundreds of adults from the community to get involved in local public safety work. For example, as a result of the work of JustServe member Tony Ramsey, the Seattle Police Department (SPD) Community Outreach Program enrolled more people of color into SPD's Community Police Academy this year than ever before. Tony has also worked with SPD to plan a shorter, more accessible six-hour Community Police Academy that SPD can bring out to community settings this fall – enabling the police department to reach hundreds more people, from traditionally marginalized communities, in community-police dialogue.

– Tera Oglesby, Program Supervisor, JustServe AmeriCorps at Solid Ground



## Working Together to Complete Service Projects

Our Kitsap Community Resources/AmeriCorps members selected, planned and participated in 16 service projects within the community and generated 576 volunteers. Over 70 of these volunteers are active duty military service members stationed within our county. Early in the year members split and loaded wood for delivery to Energy Assistance. Our local county donated the downed wood from parks. This project provided over 40 cords of firewood to low-income families.

In the spring KCR/AmeriCorps joined by 15 adult and 6 youth volunteers, cleared weeds, spread donated bark, and pruned vegetation on the grounds of the Retsil Veterans Home.

*– Russell W. Donahue, Program Director,  
Kitsap Community Resources/AmeriCorps*



## Helping Young People Hold True to Their Ambitions

“If one visits Port Angeles for a week or two in the summer, it would be easy to miss/overlook the devastation that has hit the town. The quaint shops downtown and the beautiful Olympic Mountains are enough to mask an outsider’s view of this town’s truth. But the reality is that this town is struggling.”

“Many of the kids I worked with face huge challenges and have lived a lot of life for being so young. I see how it could be easier to just perpetuate the cycles of the community, because trying to break them and graduate and go to college is harder and less instantly gratifying than skipping school. When asked, most of my middle schoolers indicated they wanted to go to college. I hope I’ve helped them hold true to these ambitions.”

“It is hard for me to believe that my time in Port Angeles is ticking to an end. When I came out here, I had no idea I was about to embark on a life changing journey.”

*– Reflections by members of North Olympic AmeriCorps*



## Opening New Doors to Conservation and Restoration

In 2010, Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) crews opened a new door to conservation and restoration projects in backcountry areas throughout our state. For the first time – thanks to an agreement between the National Park Service, the state Department of Ecology, and AmeriCorps – the crews began working in the rugged North Cascades National Park while continuing work through existing agreements with other national parks. In the process, they opened up public recreation areas that had been out of commission for years. The WCC now has completed projects in every national park in Washington State: Mount Rainier National Park, Olympic National Park, and North Cascades National Park. In another first, the WCC began work within the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument and surrounding Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Over the past year, WCC crews statewide constructed or improved 200 miles of recreational trails, improved 1,500 acres of public lands, and planted more than 500,000 native shrubs and trees.

– Nick Mott, Program Director, Washington State Conservation Corps



## Excitement and Growth in East Wenatchee

“Our Wenatchee Wild players and dancers came and read with nominated students twice a month, and returned additional days to interact with students in classrooms and in PE – to have fun on an athletic level. Savannah, the student peer/cross-age tutor from Eastmont High School, came every day for two hours to work one-on-one with second-grade students, and we really see the growth of those students. The Apple Blossom Royalty – the queen and two princesses – volunteered at our third- and fourth-grade family literacy night. They chose the raffle winners, and were a big hit with the students. I’m glad that at Grant we have these community members present at the school and at family events. They are important role models.”

– Kristyna Krull, Washington Reading Corps member at Grant Elementary, Intermountain AmeriCorps





## Reading Corps Brings Community Together

“There were happy attendees at the last View Ridge Elementary Family Reading Night! We hosted our Nature and Science Family Fun Night on May 26, for 30 families and honored guests of the 35th Legislative District. The event would not have been such a major success without the wonderfully dedicated support of 24 community volunteers and six fellow Washington Reading Corps members. Local businesses were eager to support our event, including pizzas from five Bremerton pizzerias, gift certificates, and other raffle prizes from 10 area businesses. Wow, this final family night was a poignant example of the strength, compassion, and unity of the Bremerton community in supporting one of our most valuable assets: children.”

– *Cindy Galyen, Washington Reading Corps member, serving with Community Youth Services*



## Growing in Cultural Competency

“At my service site we serve clients from all over the world, with at least 16 different languages spoken. Prior to my service I had a fair amount of exposure to other cultures. This year greatly expanded my cultural competency and sensitivity. I think my biggest success has been reaching and engaging the middle school and school aged boys at my service site. This is a group that has been unengaged for years and I am very proud of the fact that I have been able to make inroads and form

strong relationships with them. It seems that this has helped to lessen the stigma among the male youth that the Homework Factory is “un-cool.” A number of high school students have ended up serving as volunteers for us. We

have seen great progress in them serving as positive role models for their younger siblings and friends, and overall, their ability to interact in a positive and responsible manner has noticeably improved.”

– *Peter McCuskey, member with King County Housing Authority, a program of the Washington Service Corps*



## Helping Students and Families Succeed in School and in Life

“My service activities had a great impact on my community. I have served many students and families. I have helped my clients and their families receive basic need services by connecting them to other community agencies. The great thing about serving in Readiness to Learn is that we are able to serve not only the child, but also the family. We do not just stop when school is over or the counseling session is over. We are there to help with whatever the families need to survive. Whenever we serve a family or a student, I feel that we have served the entire community because when one person in a community is suffering, the whole community suffers, and one person succeeds, the community succeeds as well.”

– *Alexis Scott, member of Intermountain AmeriCorps a program of the Washington Service Corps*



# WCNCS 2010 Funding

*A wide range of financial contributions are necessary to meet the critical needs of the state, coordinate thousands of AmeriCorps members and volunteers, and promote national service in Washington. Local cities, counties, and school districts have made commitments to identify needs in their communities and address them. For service programs to provide solutions to serious needs in the community, there must be ongoing support from local and state organizations, which will ensure national service is part of a long-term strategy to address those needs.*

Local communities have been very supportive in providing funding and training, as well as books for students; building materials and technical support for low-income housing construction; safety equipment for environmental restoration and disaster response activities; and space for after-school youth activities.

During the federal fiscal year ending September 30, 2010 (FFY 10), the Washington Commission for National and Community Service received \$12,819,984 in federal funding to provide support for AmeriCorps\*State programs across Washington. These programs included six State Competitive and seven State Formula.

AmeriCorps programs also leveraged a total of \$10,275,573 in state, local, private, and in-kind match support – a total of 44 percent of the total program costs. Federal support is utilized primarily toward member living support and operational costs

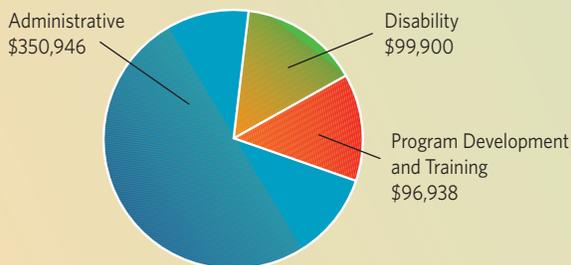
needed in maintaining an AmeriCorps program. The inputs are relatively small compared to the positive outcomes seen in communities.

The Washington Commission for National and Community Service also receives federal support to ensure the strong administrative oversight of the many AmeriCorps grant programs that it oversees, to ensure AmeriCorps members with disabilities have access to reasonable accommodation, and AmeriCorps program staff have program development and training opportunities and resources.

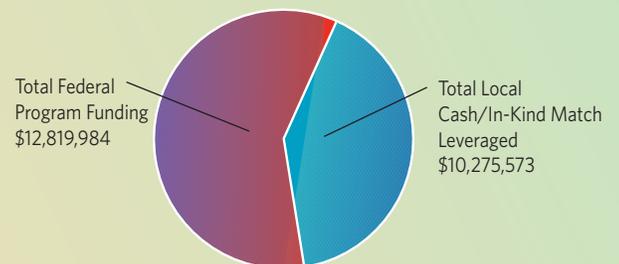
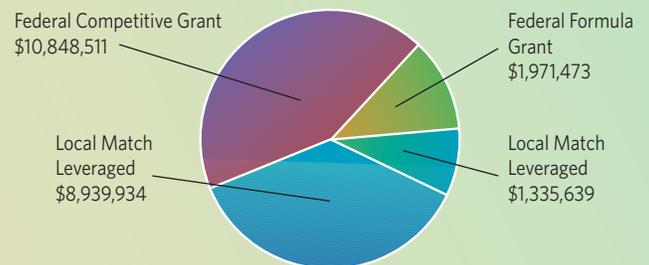
Total federal funding for Commission-related functions is 4 percent of the total federal funding that the state receives for both the AmeriCorps program and all Commission costs combined. The Commission also leverages approximately \$449,698 in state and private cash and in-kind support for primarily administrative costs. Of the total federal funding received for Commission costs, 64 percent was available for administrative support, 18 percent was earmarked for disability outreach and reasonable accommodation of grantees, and 18 percent was utilized for program development and training.

Since 2005, the Washington Commission for National and Community Service has coordinated Citizen Corp efforts to help promote personal responsibility in developing preparedness plans; training in emergency preparedness; and working with disaster relief, law enforcement, fire, medical, public health, and community service organizations in promoting volunteer service in times of emergency. Funding obtained by the Commission through the Department of Homeland Security totaled \$336,578 for 2010.

## Commission Funding



## AmeriCorps Program Funding



## Commission Vision Statement

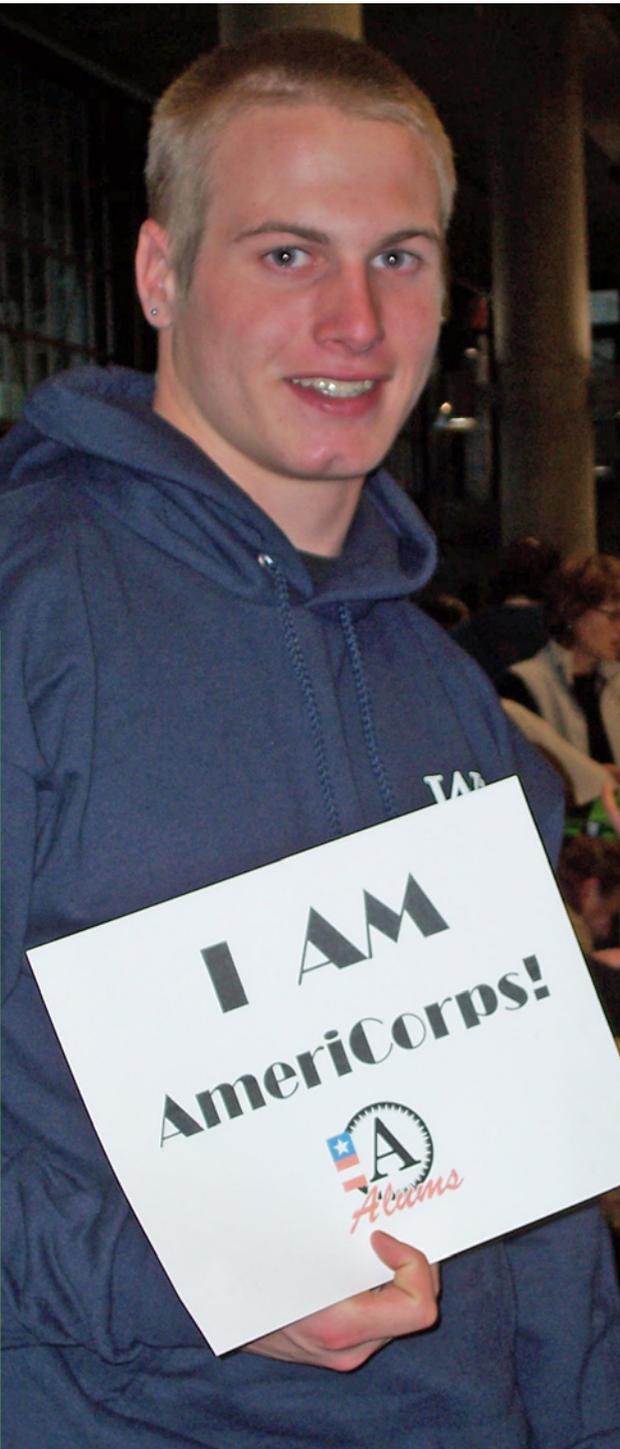
Our vision for Washington State is vibrant and caring neighborhoods and communities strengthened and sustained through service and volunteerism.

## Commission Mission Statement

We seek to expand the ethic of service throughout Washington State by inviting citizens of all ages and backgrounds to contribute their time and talents to strengthen and promote service and volunteerism as strategies for building healthy communities.

## About the Commission

In February 1994, Governor Mike Lowry established the independent, bipartisan Washington State Commission for National and Community Service. The WCNCS is made up of Commissioners appointed by the Governor. The Commission implements AmeriCorps programs in Washington; sets priorities for results-oriented community service programs; provides training and technical assistance; evaluates programs; and leverages federal program dollars with additional local, state and private sector resources.



## WCNCS Commissioners Serving in 2009-2010

**Eleanor Andersen**, Chair, Junior Achievement of the Inland Northwest (retired)  
**Alison Carl White**, Vice Chair, NPower  
**Debbie Aoki**, Washington State Employment Security Department  
**Thomas Bates**, Rock the Vote  
**Grace Chien**, Girl Scouts of Western Washington  
**Adam Cornell**, U.S. Attorney's Office-Western District of Washington  
**Federico Diaz**, Blue Mountain Action Council  
**Carol Findley**, RSVP of Kittitas County  
**Kirsten Franklin-Temple**, Corporation for National & Community Service - Washington State Office  
**Brian Heinrich**, Washington Campus Compact, Western Washington University  
**Beth Kelly**, Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction  
**Timm Lovitt**, Youth Representative  
**Nick Mott**, Washington State Department of Ecology  
**Denise Nichols**, Selah City Council  
**John/Juan Ramirez**, Ph.D., Washington State University  
**The Honorable Axel Swanson**, Cowlitz County Commissioner  
**Patrick M. Towner**, Washington State Labor Council  
**Liz Vivian**, The Boeing Company  
**Susan Weiss**, Casey Family Programs

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**Tony Mace**, Paine Field Fire Department

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*Back cover photo: 2009-2010 AmeriCorps members of the King County Housing Authority finish a service project at Maury Island Marine Park on Vashon Island where they removed invasive species and replanted native plants.*



Washington Commission for National and Community Service

For additional information, call 360.902.0656 or visit our website at [www.ofm.wa.gov/serveva](http://www.ofm.wa.gov/serveva)

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