



AmeriCorps and National Service

A History of Cooperation and Results

For more than 21 years, Habitat for Humanity and the Corporation for National and Community Service have partnered together to build Habitat's capacity to serve more families across the country.



AmeriCorps is the Future of Habitat

AmeriCorps members serve a critical role for Habitat affiliates by mobilizing volunteers, helping communities recover after a disaster, and engaging families and veterans. As we see in our growing network of AmeriCorps alumni, service members are the future leaders in the affordable housing movement and beyond.

21 YEARS OF IMPACT
24,200
 Families served by AmeriCorps members.
9,025
 Habitat AmeriCorps members.
3.3 million
 Volunteers engaged.
15 million
 Hours of service

Facts about AmeriCorps

• Cost effective

Habitat annually hosts more than 500 AmeriCorps members in communities throughout the US. AmeriCorps is a cost-effective solution to meeting community needs and is crucial to our work.

• Numerous Programs

Habitat affiliates engage service members from other CNCS programs as well, including AmeriCorps National Community Civilian Corps and Senior Corps to help meet the needs of local communities and families.

• Wide Reach and Impact

Habitat currently hosts more than **500 AmeriCorps members** in **37 states** and the District of Columbia, encompassing **more than 150 communities**. These members are expected to serve more than **1,500 families**, provide more than one million hours of service, engage more than **200,000** volunteers and raise more than **\$1.1 million** in cash and in-kind resources.

• In the 2014-2015 Service Year alone...

515 AmeriCorps members served in **37** states and the District of Columbia.

AmeriCorps members served more **1,661** families, which is more than one-quarter of the Habitat partner families in the United States for 2015.

Service members provided nearly **900,000** service hours, mobilized, trained and managed more than **225,000** volunteers and raised more than **\$2.5 million** cash and in-kind resources

For additional information, visit habitat.org/ameriCorps



AmeriCorps positively impacts not only the communities that Habitat for Humanity serves, but also the service members themselves



NEAL POINTER: 'THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE MY COUNTRY AGAIN'

Vietnam veteran Neal Pointer became an AmeriCorps VISTA member with Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity (Texas) to help serve fellow veterans and

their families. "AmeriCorps has given me the opportunity to serve my country again," he said. "I feel blessed to be the person at Dallas Area Habitat who gets to reach out and help veterans in need." Over the course of two years in Habitat's VetCorps, Pointer created a sustainable program to recruit veterans as homeowners and volunteers. He also built partnerships with other organizations to ensure a continuum of care for veterans, helping boost Habitat services to the local veterans community by more than 600 percent. "And it's not just veterans who benefit," Pointer said. "Talk to any of my fellow AmeriCorps members in Dallas, and they'll tell you how much they get out of helping others."

COLLEEN AMES: 'LOSING A HOME LEADS TO A LIFE OF SERVICE'

When Colleen Ames was a teenager, her family's home in Michigan burned to the ground.

"Looking back on it, in a weird sort of way, I'm almost thankful for that experience," she said. "It's what led me to AmeriCorps and to Habitat."



Ames served as an AmeriCorps construction volunteer leader with Habitat for Humanity Seattle/King County (Washington). She has a degree in political science and nonprofit leadership from Western Michigan University and wants to remain in the nonprofit sector in some way.

"What I really love about AmeriCorps is that it's given me the chance to do a lot of outside, hands-on work, and it's made me think about what kind of career I want to have," she said.

WAYNE RUCKER: "SERVICE IS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT KEEPS ME ALIVE"

Wayne Rucker, 28, served with for Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia. Rucker overcame many obstacles to get there. He was raised mostly by his grandmother, and spent time in foster care and juvenile institutions. As a teenager, he ran away and began living on the streets.



"I always was a problem child," he said. "I was suspended from school about 180 times."

Between the ages of 18 and 21, Rucker was arrested several times on drug charges and other offenses. At 22, he was sentenced to five years in prison on weapons charges. When he got out of prison in 2013, he vowed not to fall back into his old ways.

"I knew I wanted to be something better," he said.

AmeriCorps, in partnership with EducationWorks and the Philadelphia Youth Network, had just launched a new initiative in Philadelphia called PowerCorpsPHL, combining environmental stewardship with intensive job placement support for young adults in need of direction. Rucker was in the first PowerCorps class, which planted trees, revitalized green spaces and worked on watershed preservation. He said he connected with nature in a way he never had before.

"It helps me get a greater perspective on life," he said. When Rucker finished his PowerCorps class, he went straight into the AmeriCorps program with Habitat for Humanity.

"When I came home from prison, I did a lot of reconstruction on myself, to get rid of the old me," he said. "It takes a whole lot of energy and drive and determination to reconstruct yourself as new person. But that's what I did."

Through serving others, he found himself.