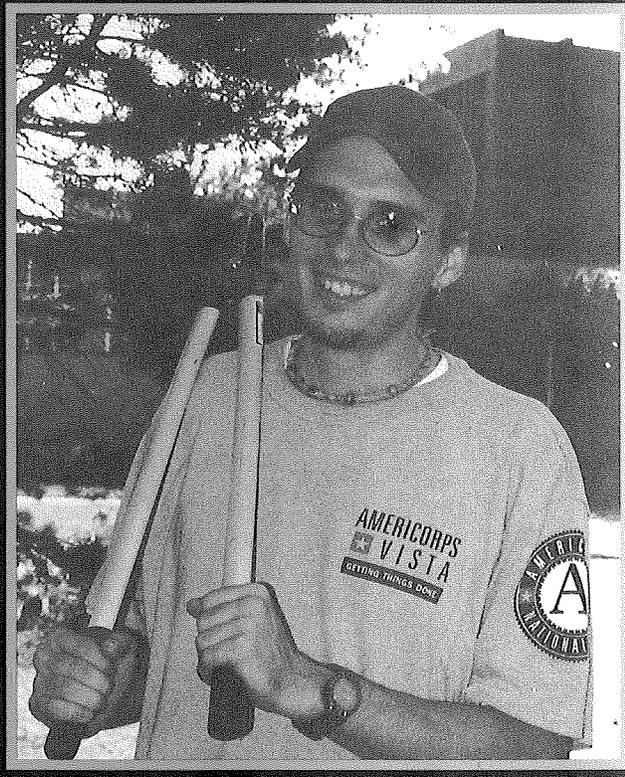
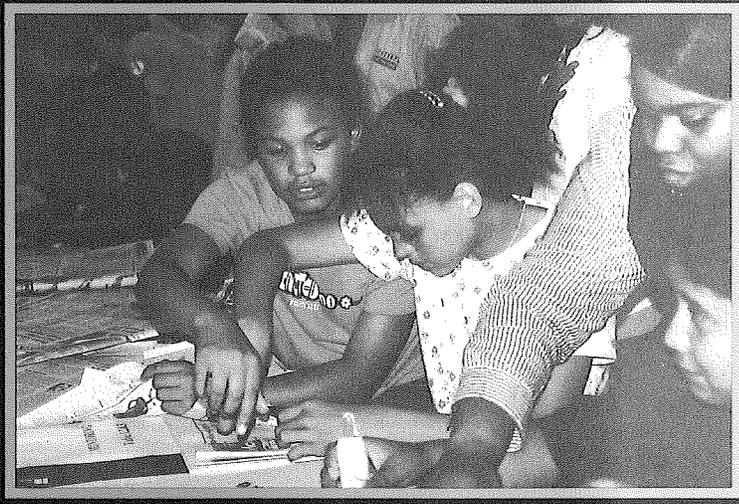
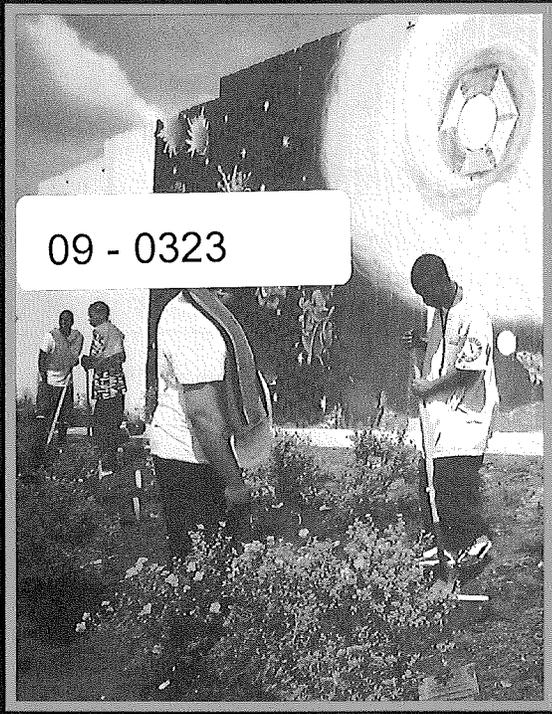


Report 1998

09 - 0323



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF
*Children
Families &
Learning*

Minnesota Streams of Service

Collaboration

MINNESOTA COMMISSION ON NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Minnesota
Streams of Service

Learn & Serve America Youth Works* AmeriCorps AmeriCorps* VISTA National Directs Challenge Awards National Senior Service

Minnesota Commission on
National & Community Service

January 1999,

Some people look at the work to be done, seeing only current or impending disaster, chaos and threat, and withdraw into their own little corners of presumed safety, comfort and peace. Convinced that there are simply too many challenges, too much to do, they have left the struggle.

Other persons find joy in the arena. They are convinced that life finds meaning—not in withdrawal—but in engagement. They believe that one person of good will and energy can make a difference. As the chairperson of the Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service, I am surrounded and lifted up by people who are making difference and getting things done!

Some highlights of the Minnesota Commission during this past year include:

Establishment of a comprehensive statewide network of service and successful development of the Unified State Plan;

Collaboration with the six Unified State Plan partners to develop cross-stream training activities throughout the state;

Selection of a new Executive Director, Mr. Larry Fonnest;

Support and furtherance of America Reads activities to promote literacy for young children with all streams of service; and

Strengthening, expansion and support for AmeriCorps, including state Youth Works* AmeriCorps, Challenge, VISTA, and national direct programs.

These are challenging and productive times. In only four years 100,000 individuals have volunteered for service in AmeriCorps. It took the Peace Corps 20 years to reach the same number of volunteers. In Minnesota, Streams of Service has involved thousands of young and old individuals as volunteers. These volunteers, in turn, have recruited hundreds of other community members.

We thank all of you for your commitment to the ethic of service and your volunteer contributions in 1998, and invite your renewed and continued support in 1999.

Sincerely,

Charles Anderson

Dr. Charles Anderson, Chairperson
Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service

Department of Children, Families & Learning, 1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, Minnesota 55113-4266
Phone (651) 582-8444 FAX (651) 582-8492 TTY (651) 582-8201

PROMOTING MINNESOTAN STREAMS OF SERVICE

1998

SCHOOL AGE

Minnesota Youth Development/Youth Service Program • Learn and Serve America • Community-Based Youth Service • Minnesota Conservation Corps Summer Youth Program • Service-Learning through School-to-Work Partnerships • Individual and/or Family Volunteerism

COLLEGE AGE

Learn and Serve America • Minnesota Campus Compact • Campus and Community-Based Service • Individual and/or Family Volunteerism

YOUNG ADULTS

AmeriCorps Network • Youth Works • AmeriCorps • America Reads • AmeriCorps • AmeriCorps • VISTA • National Direct AmeriCorps • Challenge AmeriCorps • Individual and/or Family Volunteerism

ADULTS

Volunteer Centers • Individual, Family, Community, and Corporate Service • Twin Cities One-to-One Mentor Network • Minnesota Mentor Network • Minnesota Office of Citizenship and Volunteer Services • Individual and/or Family Volunteerism

SENIORS

Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP) • Foster Grandparents • Senior Companions • Corporate Retiree Programs • Individual and/or Family Volunteerism

Minnesota Commission Representatives

Appointed by the Governor, the Minnesota Commission is a non-partisan board comprised of youth, educators, labor, business, community groups and government agencies.

1997–1998 Representatives include:

1997–1998 Representatives

Dr. Charles
Anderson,
Chairperson

Mary Noble,
*Vice-
Chairperson*

Erin Bowley

Susan Callahan

Cy Carpenter

John Hustad

Ann Jaede

Marlys Johnson

Terri Keacher

Andre Lewis

Tony Looking Elk

Jim Kielsmeier

Jennifer

Merriman

Harry Melander

Elise Nelson

Gene Piccolo

Ex-Officio Members

Tracy Beckman

Andy Dawkins

Larry Fonnest

Robert Jackson

Dean Larson

Charles Williams

Alternate Members

Chuck Coskran

Mark Langseth

Jennifer

O'Rourke

Nancy Walters

Highlights

MINNESOTA COMMISSION ON NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Getting Things Done:

During the past year the Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service (MCNCS) has been successful in establishing a comprehensive statewide network of service.

Some of the major highlights of the year included:

- Development of the Unified State Plan (see following page) which provides a vision for service in the state of Minnesota and a foundation for collaboration with six key partners:

Corporation for National Service-Minnesota office,

Department of Children, Families & Learning (Office of LifeWork Development, Learn and Serve, K-12 and Community Education),

Minnesota Campus Compact,

Minnesota Office of Citizenship and Volunteer Services,

Minnesota Alliance with Youth,
and

National Youth Leadership Council.

- Selection of a new Executive Director, Mr. Larry Fonnest, for the Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service. Mr. Fonnest has a broad background in youth development, service-learning and policy development.

- Collaboration with Unified State Plan partners to develop cross-stream training activities including:

Acted as a primary partner for the National Service-Learning Conference which was held in the Twin Cities and drew more than 3,000 youth and adult delegates. MCNCS was involved in planning and presenting sessions at the conference and sponsored a special evening event during the conference at the Minnesota Historical Society called "Minnesota Night".

Active participation in Minnesota Summit, which drew participation from Vice President Gore, Retired General Powell and 1,500 youth and adults.

Collaboration to support the Higher Education Teacher Training Initiative, K-12 Learn and Serve activities, Community Education legislative reform and Senior Service Corps events.

- Partnered with the Minnesota Alliance with Youth, Minnesota Office of Citizenship and Volunteer Services and local communities in an effort to fulfill America's Promise: *Mentor, Protect, Nurture, Teach/Learn and Serve.*
- Supported and furthered America Reads activities to promote literacy for young children within all streams of service.

- Responsibly administered \$225,000 MCNCS Administrative budget and \$144,000 Program Development Assistance and Training budget.

- Strengthened, expanded and supported Youth Works•AmeriCorps, engaging more than 440 young adults in full time service.

Coordinated statewide training events for AmeriCorps participants including the Youth Works•AmeriCorps Launch and "AmeriFest" Mid-Year Training.

Coordinated evaluation system with the University of Minnesota to strengthen Youth Works•AmeriCorps programs
... to focus on outcomes,
... to link state and federal requirements, and
... to integrate service-learning.

Efficiently administered \$3.1 million federal funds, \$1.8 million state funds and \$40,000 private funds to Youth Works•AmeriCorps programs.

Improved internal systems, including administration of AmeriCorps education awards, fiscal processes and central program files thereby improving MCNCS's ability to efficiently and effectively support AmeriCorps programs.

MOVING FORWARD...GETTING THINGS DONE

1998

Vision

All Minnesotans will engage in service that strengthens the well-being of both self and community.

Mission Statement

The Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service promotes and supports community service and service-learning for Minnesotans engaged in all Streams of Service through resource development, public relations and outreach, training and evaluation and continuous improvement of programs.

Unified State Plan

- GOAL 1** By year 2001, increase the number of Minnesota residents engaged in service by 20% .
- GOAL 2** Plan, deliver and promote programs that offer varied opportunities for service within areas of education, environment, human needs and public safety.
- GOAL 3** Focus cross-stream collaboration to create healthy learning environments for and with children, youth and young adults. Emphasize achievement of the Minnesota Alliance with Youth's five goals and the achievement of early literacy through the America Reads initiative.
- GOAL 4** Expand public awareness and support for national and community service and volunteerism.
- GOAL 5** Strengthen the Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service infrastructure to better support cross-stream collaboration across the state and to meet federal and state responsibilities.
- GOAL 6** Sustain the growth of service in Minnesota through collaboration and resource development.
- GOAL 7** Strengthen training opportunities and address areas for cross-stream training activities.

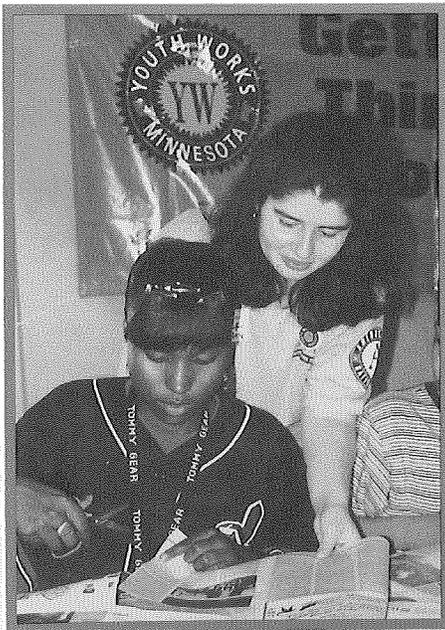
Partnership

MINNESOTA STREAMS OF SERVICE...

1998 REPORT

Minnesota Streams of Service

*Streams of service,
flowing through each
lifetime, tributaries to a
deep and mighty river
that will continue to swell
as our nation enters the
21st century...*



The Corporation for National Service

The Corporation for National Service was created as a result of the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. The Act combined the operations of the White House Office of National Service, the Commission on National and Community Service, ACTION and the National Civilian Community Corps. The Corporation for National Service supports a wide range of national and community service programs that provide opportunities to Americans of all ages.

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE

Minnesota School-to-Work

The Minnesota School-to-Work Initiative is based on the conviction that true success can come only through active, creative partnerships that reflect the involvement of all citizens and employers.

MINNESOTA
SCHOOL
TO
WORK

Preparing all Minnesotans
for Tomorrow's Careers

As young people move toward adulthood they are expected to become contributing members of the community, helping and respecting their fellow citizens. Experiences gained through School-to-Work activities will underline the importance of this role and prepare learners to assume their civic and community responsibilities.

In short, learners will come to know and appreciate the way volunteerism contributes to creating the qualities we seek in our communities and that giving back is a primary obligation of all community members.

Minnesota School-to-Work is a joint initiative of the Minnesota Department of Children, Families & Learning, Minnesota Workforce Center System and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

"I have been rewarded by seeing University students make a real difference in the lives of Middle School children by tutoring them, becoming mentors, and, in one case, actually turning the child from a D-F student to an A-B student, just by being there for him, allowing him to call them when he needed to, and talking him through a number of crises."

Youth Works•AmeriCorps
Jiona Hansen, member

STRONGER... FLOWING TOGETHER

Minnesota Community Education Youth Development/Youth Service

Accelerated Growth in Youth Service

In 1998, 82% of Minnesota's districts chose to participate in Youth Development/Youth Service. 293 school districts applied for and received the \$1.00 per capita authorized by the Minnesota State Legislature to "implement a Youth Development Plan approved by the local school board and to provide a youth service program.

Five major program components are part of Community Education Youth Development:

1. Youth Service and Service-Learning
2. Youth Involvement and Leadership
3. Youth Enrichment Activities
4. Youth Community Career Connections
5. Youth Support Network or Services

A major element of every youth development plan is Youth Service. Through service to their peers, to their schools and to the wider community, young people learn about themselves and their world while providing needed services to the school and community. The types of programs vary widely from complete integration into the curriculum to co-curricular activities.

Community Service is included in the Minnesota Graduation High Standards. During the past year, teachers and youth development coordinators were encouraged to work together in providing school based and community-based learning and service opportunities for youth in Minnesota.

Community Education and Youth Development Coordinators work closely with Learn and Serve America programs and community based organizations such as the YMCA/YWCA, Minnesota Extension, 4H, Camp Fire Boys & Girls, Service Clubs, Faith Communities, Park and Recreation, Health Agencies, Business Groups, Social Service, Justice Departments, Families, and others. Parental involvement was most heavily concentrated in school activities.



Facts and Figures

- More than 190,000 youth were involved in service, with an average of 715 participants in each grade level, per district.
- 61% schools offer course credit at the senior high level for service-learning.
- 49% of Minnesota school districts offer a separate class for service-learning experiences, a significant increase from years past. Multiple opportunities for service-learning are offered through independent study and other class formats.
- 86% of Minnesota school districts offer other service and volunteerism through committee and leadership development activities.
- Peer tutoring, peer helpers, peer mediation, and environmental projects remained strong in the schools and among the 9-18 year old age groups.

Contact:

George Hanson
Minnesota Department of Children,
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1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55113-4266
Phone: (651) 582-8365
Fax: (651) 582-8498
Email: george.hanson@state.mn.us

Partnership

WORKING TOGETHER...

1998 REPORT

Minnesota Office of Citizenship and Volunteer Service

The Minnesota Office of Citizenship and Volunteer Service (MOCVS) strengthens Minnesota communities through leadership, service and promotion of volunteerism. It is a statewide resource center and information clearinghouse for anyone managing volunteers or working with citizen's initiatives.



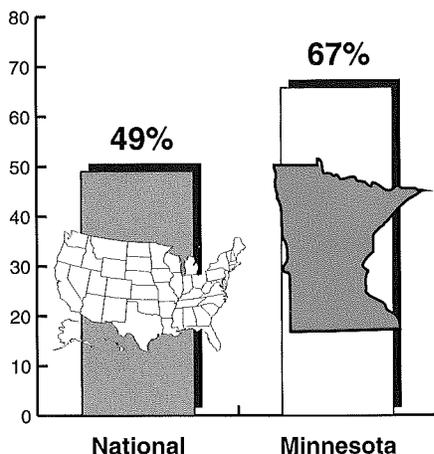
This resource organization sponsors the Governor's Acts of Kindness Volunteer Award Program, provides technical assistance and distributes publications, including an annual volunteer recognition promotion packet.

Mission

The mission of the Minnesota Office of Citizenship and Volunteer Service is to promote citizen participation efforts, increase the impact of volunteer programs, and stimulate public-private partnerships in Minnesota.

More than 2,000,000 Minnesotans volunteer—representing a dollar value of \$5.3 billion each year. Approximately 67% of citizens in Minnesota volunteer compared with 49% nationally.

Percentage of Citizens Who Volunteer



MOCVS Getting Things Done:

- Successfully developed a grant proposal for 10 AmeriCorps America's Promise Fellow in partnership with seven public-private organizations including three of the Unified State Plan partners.
- Produced and distributed the Statewide Calendar of Events and Training to over 4,600 organizations and volunteer leaders across Minnesota. The Statewide Calendar of Events and Training includes over 160 events and trainings.
- Developed the 1999 Minnesota Volunteer Recognition Theme with a statewide task force of volunteer leaders.



National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC)



The National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) was formed in 1983 in response to increasing numbers of young people alienated and disconnected from society. NYLC was developed to create service and learning opportunities that develop capable youth leaders, improve schools, and create thriving communities. Since then, NYLC programs have grown and extended to all 50 states and around the world.

NYLC's mission is to engage young people in schools and communities through innovation in learning, service, leadership, and public policy. Three principles guide NYLC's work:

- 1) All people are respected, capable, and authentically useful partners in community service;
- 2) Experiential learning with a dimension of giving provides powerful and essential lifelong learning for young people;
- 3) NYLC programs and services are multicultural in content and seek to engage individuals from many backgrounds and perspectives.

...TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Minnesota Alliance with Youth

The Minnesota Alliance with Youth is a network of inter-generational, multi-sector stakeholders working to create active citizen leaders among the state's youth by equipping them with critical resources, such as caring adult mentors, safe and structured activities, a healthy start, effective education for marketable skills, and opportunities for community service.



Minnesota's Response

Responding to a call by General Powell and the President's Summit, the Minnesota Alliance with Youth was first formed in the summer of 1997 to equip our children and youth with the five basic resources.

Fulfilling America's Promise:

Mentor, Protect, Nurture, Teach/Learn and Serve.

Vision

Minnesota children and youth will be supported by their families and communities in their personal, social, and educational development. As active citizen leaders, they will help create integrated, safe, and healthy communities.

Mission

Develop the capacity of Minnesota communities to engage children and youth in reaching their full potential as citizens.

Communities of Promise

All communities who partner with the Minnesota Alliance with Youth will be designated as "communities of promise." Using the framework of the Alliance, each will develop its own goals related to the five basic resources.

1-888-234-5119 or 651-296-4738
www.mnyouth.org

The Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service is a partner organization of the Minnesota Alliance with Youth.

Minnesota Summit

Inspired by the President's Summit for America's Future which was held in April of 1997, Minnesota representatives left that conference with a challenge to make life better for kids by the year 2000, focused around five basic resources:



Mentor Protect Nurture Teach/Learn Serve

Minnesota Alliance with Youth Getting Things Done:

- Sponsored an exciting first annual Statewide Summit, held May 28, 1998 with Vice President Al Gore, Retired General Colin Powell and over 1,500 people in attendance.
- Held a statewide kick-off event and eight regional trainings for community teams, attended by over 2,300 adult and youth leaders from across Minnesota.
- Leveraged funding and volunteers through over 200 commitments of contributions by all segments of the community—business, non-profits, faith communities, government, schools, and individuals.
- Recruited and trained over 80 Communities of Promise to develop strategies to bring the five critical resources to their youth. Another 150 communities are in the introduction stage.
- Offered hundreds of presentations on meaningful youth/adult partnerships at national, state, regional and community conferences.
- Developed an interactive website, *Promise Press* and *Youth Voice* publications to connect communities across Minnesota, and assisted in building their capacity around the five goals.
- Produced a *Commitments Book* with 165 commitments to the five goals from all segments of the community—business, non-profit, faith communities, government, schools, and individuals.

Profile

YOUTH WORKS • AMERICORPS

A PARTNERSHIP OF STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS 1998

MINNESOTA YOUTH WORKS

Purposes

- *Renew the ethic of civic responsibility in Minnesota;*
- *Empower youth to improve their life opportunities through literacy, job placement and other essential skills;*
- *Help meet human, educational, environmental, and public safety needs, especially those related to poverty;*
- *Empower government to meet its responsibilities to prepare young people to be contributing members of society;*
- *Prepare a citizenry that is academically competent, ready to work and socially responsible.*

AMERICORPS

Priorities

- **Getting Things Done**
- **Strengthening Communities**
- **Encouraging Responsibility**
- **Expanding Opportunity**

YOUTH WORKS • AMERICORPS

Major Cost Savings and Impacts:

- Reduced criminal activity by youth
- Enhanced neighborhood property values
- Improved employability of young people who completed their High School Diplomas
- Average cost-benefit ratio of Youth Works •AmeriCorps programs studied over three year period is \$2.53 in benefits to Minnesota communities for every \$1.00 spent.

*Reported by University of Minnesota
Cost-Benefit Analysis, January, 1998*

1997-98 MEMBER EXIT SURVEY RESULTS

60% indicated that their likelihood of continuing their education had been affected by their AmeriCorps experience

75% or more members indicated that

- they would encourage a friend to join AmeriCorps
- they were likely to volunteer to serve their community in the future
- their AmeriCorps experience somewhat or very much influenced their feelings about serving their community in the future
- they were likely to continue their education
- they benefitted from participating in AmeriCorps

The top four benefits that members reported that they received from serving in AmeriCorps were

- they explored future jobs or educational interests
- they learned about or worked with different ethnic/cultural groups
- they learned about human needs issues
- they learned about educational issues

YOUTH WORKS • AMERICORPS MEMBERS

CONTRIBUTE 782,600 SERVICE HOURS IN 1998

Youth Works • AmeriCorps Members recruited 29,504 volunteers who donated an additional 303,082 hours of service to their communities.

48 members completed their GED or High School Diploma while engaged in Youth Works • AmeriCorps service.

355 individuals completed full time service and 199 individuals completed part time service and earned an Educational Award for Post Secondary Education in 1997.

Contributions to the community and impacts on individuals, organizations and neighborhoods:

Tutored or taught 34,521 K-12 youth

School readiness
Math
Reading
Language arts
ESL
Community art
Environmental education
Health and safety
Conflict resolution and
Completion of High School diploma
Homebound instruction
Books and library related activities

Improved the environment of communities, impacting 31,687 individuals

Neighborhood clean-ups
Recycling programs
Planted 11,701 trees
Established 84 community gardens
Lead abatement programs
Developing playgrounds

Presented health education and support services to 42,234 individuals

HIV/AIDS awareness programs
Prenatal health services
Immunization programs
Health care education and support
Independent living assistance
Chemical abuse counseling

Served 9,263 through community-building activities

Public safety
Communication between diverse community groups
Violence awareness programs and
Cross-cultural awareness programs

Addressed environmental conservation

Planted 131,738 wildland trees
Removed environmental risks from 1,568 miles
Cleaned over 36 acres of park trail
Restored 6,348.45 acres and 15.54 miles of rivers and beaches

Completed Housing related services for more than 13,888 individuals

Housing assessments
Weatherization
Construction and rehabilitation of low-income, senior citizen homes and community buildings

Addressed Homelessness and Hunger, serving 63,758 families and children

Distribution of food, clothing and toys
Hot meals
Shelter support
Homeless housing placement

Organized Out of School Enrichment and Leadership Activities for more than 18,741 youth

Sponsored service-learning activities for 2,467 youth
In-class and out-class enrichment activities
Mentored 4,037 youth

Provided child-care to 2,268 children through programs for early childhood development

Non-English speaking children
School-aged children in women's shelters
Children of teenage parents

Assisted 1,297 adults in job-skill and business development programs and taught 860 adults through GED instruction, parenting and citizenship classes

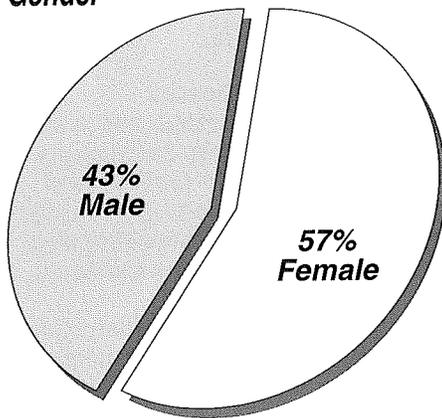
- Reported in the University of Minnesota Youth Works•AmeriCorps Evaluation Report, January 1999
- Aggregated Data based on Reports of Individuals directly benefiting from Minnesota Youth Works•AmeriCorps service

Profile

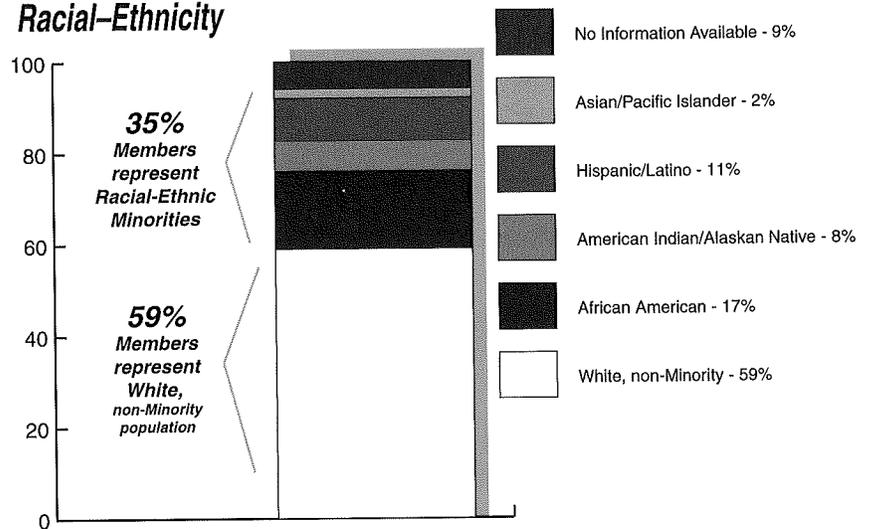
YOUTH WORKS • AMERICORPS

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF MEMBERS

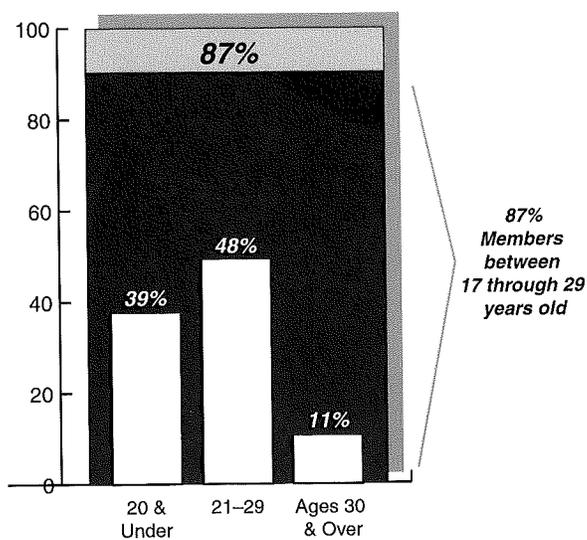
Gender



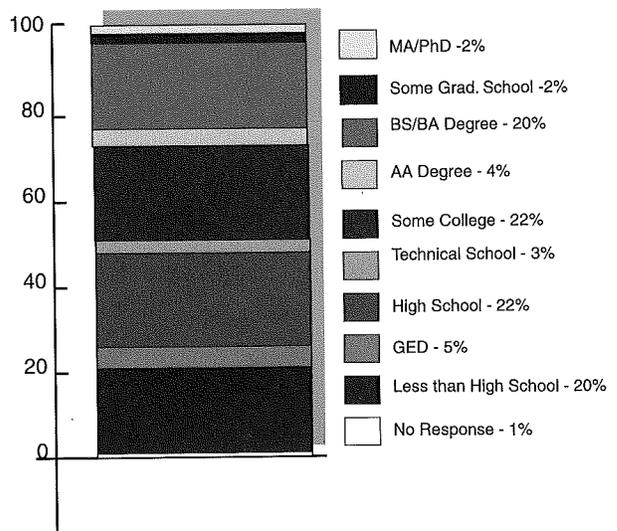
Racial-Ethnicity



Age



Educational Attainment



Programs

CITY OF LAKES

MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS / COMMUNITY EDUCATION • 1998 REPORT

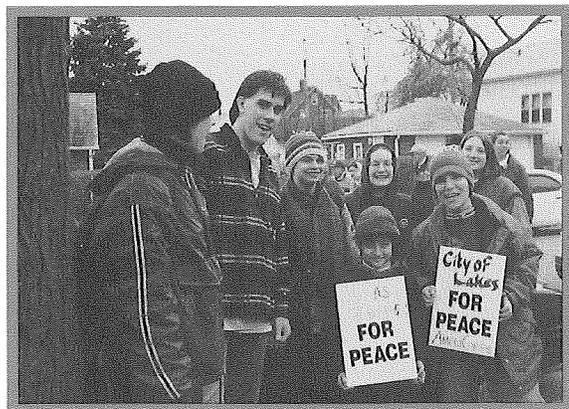
Getting Things Done:

Tutored more than 225 K-8 youth and assisted 1,200 youth in the classroom resulting in improved test scores and fewer reported behavior incidents.

Tutored and prepared 280 adult learners for the GED and Citizenship exams. 75% obtained their GED, passed U.S. Citizenship exams and improved their reading skills by one grade level.

2,300 youth participated in citizenship, public achievement, friendship groups, Chicas Poderosas, YMCA Girls Discovery, Y's Start and other elective enrichment activities sponsored by City of Lakes Youth Works•AmeriCorps members.

Over 800 adults volunteered to act as mentors and coaches and contributed 7,000 youth contact hours.



"The YW•AC Andersen survey suggests we're reaching youth who have not been regularly involved before. Super Saturdays seem to be a great alternative to Saturday morning television"

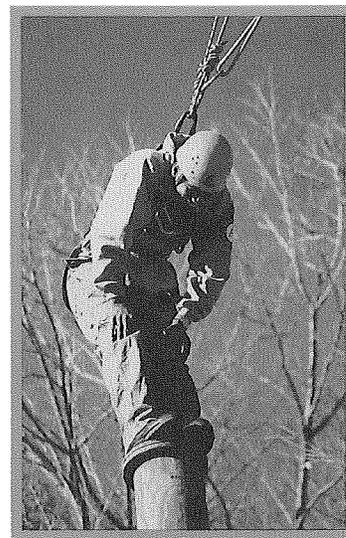
Leon Oman
Community Education Director
Andersen Community School

Members: 23 Full Time
8 Part Time

Area Served:
Minneapolis Communities including North, Northeast, and Phillips

Description:
City of Lakes Corps exists to improve the school success of Minneapolis youth through educational support, leadership opportunities and community collaboration. Close to 20,000 service hours were devoted toward academic support for youth and adults in Minneapolis during 1998.

Corps members tutor, organize after-school activities and sponsor citizenship and English programs for children and youth. City of Lakes provides leadership and promotes active citizen participation in Minneapolis neighborhoods.



Partner Agencies:

- Courage Center
- Franklin Learning Center
- Humphrey Institute of Public Achievement
- Minneapolis Kids
- Minneapolis Public Schools/Community Education
 - Andersen School/Community Education
 - Hale Elementary School
 - Jenny Lind Elementary School
 - Lehmann Center Volunteer Program
 - North Star School/Community Education
 - Northeast Middle School
- Southside Family School
- YMCA of Metropolitan Minneapolis
 - Emma B. Northeast YMCA
 - Hiawatha YMCA
 - North Community YMCA
 - University YMCA
- YWCA of Minneapolis
 - Downtown
 - Ruth Hawkins
 - Pratt Community Center





CITY OF SAINT PAUL • FUTURE FORCE

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

Tutored 74 children in an after-school program who after the 8-week session demonstrated a 25% improvement in their spelling, vocabulary, and math competency.

Formed study groups in Math, Science, Reading, Spelling, and Social Studies for 375 school children. Attendance in member-supported study groups increased by 57%.

Reduced incidents of disruptive behavior that result in children being removed from the classroom by up to 41% in classrooms where Future Force members worked.

With the help of members, children transformed an old, dusty weight room of a neighborhood recreation center into a kid-friendly Learning Center replete with computers, educational software, and books.

Taught safety camps to 415 children. Organized read-a-thon in which 64 children read 2,896 books.

Worked with two neighborhood group members to package over 12,000 pounds of food for 500 families.

Stenciled 124 storm sewer drains with pollution prevention messages in collaborative neighborhood clean-up.

Members:

42 Full-Time
6 Part-Time

Areas Served:

St. Paul Neighborhoods

Program Description:

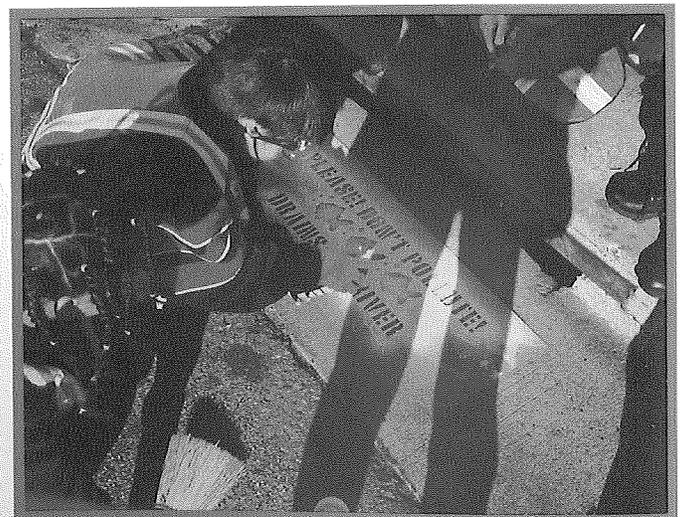
Future Force members serve at 21 school and community sites throughout St. Paul. Members offer direct services to children, teens, and adults. Working with our community partners, Future Force provides: early childhood education instruction, one-on-one and small group tutorial services, after-school enrichment and educational programming, and safety training for school-aged children. Members take lead roles in community initiatives and large service projects.

Community Partners:

Campfire Boys and Girls
Capital Community Services
City of St. Paul
Concordia University
Educational Talent Search
Hallie Q. Brown Community Center
Inner City Youth League
Union Gospel Mission Child Care Center
Saint Paul Public Schools
Thomas-Dale Block Clubs
Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
Youth Express
Youth Services Community Institute

"It has been amazing to watch our AmeriCorps member work with the children. He is always getting the students to work together for a common goal. The students love when he sits down with them and makes flash cards or plays quizzing games. I think the students enjoy studying when they work in their small groups which are overseen by our member."

St. Paul School District
Classroom Teacher





CROOKSTON IMPACT

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

Provided tutorial assistance to 503 youth grades K–12 including:

- 134 students passed due to member assistance
- 71 increased their grade levels
- 13 increased their attendance
- 189 increased their interaction in the classroom
- 199 decreased negative behaviors
- 155 increased on-task behavior
- 215 increased their participation

Provided service to students, including:

- 54 ESL students
- 57 with learning disabilities
- 22 with behavioral problems
- 1 physically challenged
- 85 at-risk of failure

Promoted messages of success on developing positive interracial relationships and youth leadership for our Crookston community.

Engaged 60 youth from Crookston and surrounding communities in teambuilding activities and learning opportunities that broadened their perspectives to include success in their educational goals and beyond.

Facilitated weekly “open-gym” recreational program during the school year, cook-out with family and friends, dance for the youth at community park, and summer evening recreational programs designed to encourage youth to be involved in structured activities.

During summer recreational program, entitled *ExploraCorps*, youth participated in lessons such as guitar, Spanish dancing, piano and cake decorating, a weekly chemical usage prevention curriculum, access to computers and board games. Sponsored weekly field trips including ventures to the community swimming pool and bowling alley, waterslide in Grand Forks, airplane rides made available by the Crookston Municipal Airport and a camping trip that included tubing on the Red River.

Community Partners:

Crookston High School
 Central Junior High School
 Lincoln Elementary School
 Highland Elementary School
 Washington Elementary School
 Area Learning Center
 Tri-Valley Head Start
 UMC Childrens Center
 UMC Service Learning
 Cathdral Elementary School

Members: 20 Full Time

Description:

Inclusivity Makes People Act (IMPACT)/YouthWorks•AmeriCorps is a Crookston community program whose priority focus is on education and human needs. IMPACT/ AmeriCorp has been very beneficial to the Crookston community. IMPACT has 29 service members and 10 partnership sites. Most sites are based within the Crookston School District's K–12th grade settings. Members also provide service at University of MN-Crookston Children Center and the U of M Service Learning Program as well as at the Cathedral Elementary School and Tri-Valley Opportunity HeadStart Program.

Members complete their service terms through various capacities such as providing classroom assistance and tutoring to students K–12; helping with and facilitating educational and recreational programming and providing direct service to individuals who are elderly, physically challenged and low-income. Several have been trained as mentors and mentor individual youth on an ongoing basis. Members also provide service to non-profit agencies such as the Care and Share Homeless Shelter, Lutheran Social Service Respite Care and the North Country Food Bank.

IMPACT has partnered with various community agencies to support several projects including Child Abuse Prevention Month, Take Back the Night and Community Service Day.



FAMILY HOUSING IMPACT

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

Family Housing Impact AmeriCorps members performed service in approximately 18 neighborhoods across the Twin Cities metro area. Worked on the construction or rehab of 83 homes, resulting in the completion of 29 homes. Performed over 1,200 housing repair projects and over 200 inspections to assess repair needs for elderly and low-income homeowners.

Provided homeowner education classes, including Money Management, Being a Good Neighbor, Repair & Maintenance, to 245 individuals. Provided a Homebuyer Workshop to 177 prospective buyers. Provided pre- and post-purchase counseling to

277 families. Assisted 156 homeowners in acquiring neighborhood loans for home repair.

Facilitated the formation of and strengthened one block club and 5 homeowner associations. Organized and facilitated meetings of 15 youth groups, each representing a different neighborhood. Served with community volunteers to improve Twin Cities neighborhoods by coordinating block clean-ups, landscaping projects, block parties, and block revitalization design projects.

Twin Cities Youth and Housing Members: 24 Full Time
21 Part Time

Description:

Family Housing Impact is a collaboration between four distinct organizations:

- Summit Academy OIC,
- Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity,
- Project for Pride in Living,
- and
- Southside Neighborhood Services.

Together, the organizations address community development and coordinate construction services for family housing in the Minneapolis and St. Paul area.

Summit Academy, OIC

is a program made up of inner-city youth who serve in lead roles in the completion of construction activities, while working toward their high school diploma and job related skills.

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity

provides home ownership opportunities for low-income families and strives to make decent, affordable housing a matter of conscience for all.

Project for Pride in Living

assists low and moderate income people to move toward self-sufficiency by addressing their housing, job and neighborhood needs.

Southside Neighborhood Services

assists neighborhoods in south Minneapolis by providing housing inspections, repairs, and workshops for residents and by addressing the needs of the community as a whole.





MINNESOTA CONSERVATION CORPS (MCC)

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

Provided direct assistance and organized volunteers to address disaster areas in southern Minnesota hardest hit by the 1998 spring storms.

Worked with 50 schools throughout the state to provide environmental education and service learning opportunities to more than 5,320 K-12 students.

Recruited 6,495 non-AmeriCorps volunteers who contributed 49,635 hours of volunteer service.

MCC teamed with over 150 schools, government agencies and non-profit organizations statewide to complete conservation projects throughout Minnesota.

Planted 136,387 trees, improving state forests and public parks.

Constructed outdoor environmental education classrooms for 30 schools, benefiting thousands of rural students.

Partnered with 30 different agencies to provide emergency response assistance.



Members: 87 Full Time
36 Part Time

Description: The Minnesota Conservation Corps (MCC) has a long-standing tradition of working hard to protect natural resources related to forests, fisheries, trails, parks and waterways. MCC has linked with Youth Works • AmeriCorps to better address the environmental quality of low-income communities and to strengthen support for Corps members. Crews are located at many sites; five regional centers are located in Grand Rapids, Bemidji, Brainerd, Rochester and the Twin Cities.

"The only thing stronger than the tornado was your response."

Spokesperson for the City of St. Peter

"Environmental education's impact on our natural resources is just as great as grabbing a shovel and doing the work."

Tim Grass
Youth Works/AmeriCorps Member
and Metro Crew Supervisor

"The service and work our crews did in Northwestern Minnesota during the floods, gave us a different outlook on life."

Tim Rath
Youth Works/AmeriCorps Member
and Forestville Crew Supervisor



MN DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY • MN SERVE

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

Tutored and assisted more than 1,408 school children, resulting in improved reading and math skills, better task completion and an improved willingness to learn.

Assisted 330 low-income families and 1,300 individuals to improve their awareness of housing, job and community resources.

Identified support needs for more than 742 clients, benefiting children and families in domestic abuse situations.

Delivered child care and support services to 484 pre-school children.

Completed a variety of improvement projects for Doyle Nature Center and community parks including placement of timber edgers around playgrounds, construction of tiered timber staircases, and developed bike and hiking trails which benefit more than 8,000 persons annually.

Improved living conditions for more than 1,000 people in subsidized housing: weatherized nine homes, located housing for 189 homeless persons, renovated three transitional homes and a safe house for victims of sexual assault, and built four Habitat for Humanity homes.

Members: 42 Full Time
80 Part Time

Area Served: Statewide

Description:

The Minnesota Department of Economic Security (MDES) Youth Works•AmeriCorps program represents the activities of 10 sites including Service Delivery Areas, Private Industry Councils and Community Action Programs.

The MDES program targets, as members, economically disadvantaged and "at-risk" youth. A majority of members are high school dropouts and have basic skills deficiencies, while many members also have learning disabilities. Many of the youth are at-risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system, have struggled with substance abuse issues, and are pregnant or parenting. This year, while serving in their communities, 44 members obtained their General Education Diplomas.

Members serve as school tutors and mentors and after-school program supervisors. Others assist with housing construction and renovation and participate in environmental projects.

Community Partners:

- Anoka County Job Training Center
- Bi-County Community Action Program
- Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Service
- Consortium/Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative
- Dakota County Employment and Economic Assistance
- Hennepin/Scott Carver Counties Employment and Training
- Inter-County Community Council
- Minneapolis Employment and Training/Loring-Nicollet-Bethlehem Community Centers
- Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training
- Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council
- Stearns-Benton Employment and Training Council
- Tri-Valley Opportunity Council
- Twin Cities Tree Trust
- Washington County Job Training
- Western Community Council





MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES IN ACTION (MCA) NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

1,735 children improved their school performance through assisted teaching, service-learning, tutoring, mentoring and increased parent participation in teachers conferences.

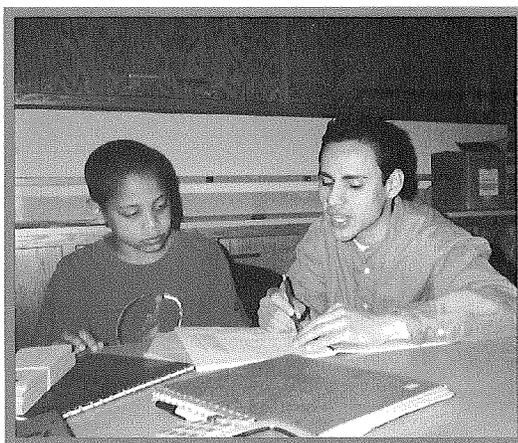
3,082 school-aged children in two communities improved their resiliency to inappropriate behaviors through participation in diversionary, intervention and awareness activities as evidenced by improved post experience assessment scores.

2,535 traditionally under-served residents increased their ability to function bi-culturally by assessing information and enrichment resources and introduction to service.

619 volunteers were recruited and supported to assist and continue the work started by AmeriCorps members in this community.

44 AmeriCorps participants:

- increased their skills in addressing community needs through committee work, journaling, reflection and service-learning.
- increased their job procurement and employability skills through training, mentoring, and practical experiences.
- developed positive civic values as an essential element of their personal life by planning and implementing service projects and participating in decision making.



"Joining AmeriCorps was the best decision of my life. I especially enjoy the relationships and the trainings have allowed me to make bigger contributions to my site."

Regina George
Youth Works • AmeriCorps member
MCA, Neighborhood House

Members: 30 Full Time
12 Part Time

Area Served: West Side of St. Paul

Description:

MCA strengthens the capacity of West side organizations and assists the community to meet its own needs through Youth Works • AmeriCorps. Members create and teach multicultural curriculum for students preschool to high school, sponsor activities to reduce gang interaction, tutor and mentor and provide leadership in neighborhood projects, assist in the bi-culturalization of immigrant families by teaching English and citizenship and providing services in other languages..

Community Partners:

Baker Community Center
Boys & Girls Club
Casa de Esperanza
Chicanos, Latinos Unidos en Servicio (CLUES)
Common Bond Communities
El Rio Vista Recreational Center
Guadalupe Area Project
Jane Addam School for Democracy
Minnesota Hispanic Education Project
Neighborhood House
Riverview School
Safe Neighborhood Council
St. Matthew's School
St. Matthew's School Child Care
Teatro del Pueblo
Teens Networking Together
University of St. Thomas – Hispanic PreCollege Project
West Side Citizens Organization
West Side Family Center



PILLSBURY NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

2,489 inner-city youth gained assets via involvement in a variety of AmeriCorps•Pillsbury Neighborhood Services (A•PNS) member run youth service initiatives.

1,570 youth participated in AmeriCorps, facilitating activities such as: after school tutoring, computer labs, sports, arts, support groups and leadership activities.

258 Elementary school students improved their English speaking skills and received individual tutoring from A•PNS members.

666 Elementary, Junior and Senior High school students received safety, disaster, leadership and citizenship education. Many of these students performed service projects facilitated by members.

1,919 low-income inner-city adults gained access to a continuum of A•PNS members sponsored services that fostered greater self-sufficiency.

400 adult immigrants improved their conversational and written English speaking skills in A•PNS sponsored classes.

264 adults participated in AmeriCorps sponsored AA meetings and chemical dependency training provided in Spanish.

186 adults were trained via AmeriCorps sponsored job training workshops including practice interviewing, resume writing and help with job search via the Internet. Adults also received help with tribal enrollment.

936 adults gained access to food via AmeriCorps run foodshelves.



Members: 31 Full-Time
8 Part-Time

Area Served:
Inner-city Minneapolis

Description:
AmeriCorps•Pillsbury Neighborhood Services (A•PNS) members reflect the diversity of the communities they serve. A•PNS members serve at one of 13 agency or school sites, many of which are serving specific cultural communities. A•PNS members engage 2,000+ inner-city youth in a myriad of academic, sports arts and leadership enrichment programming that helps young people develop their assets. Members also serve over 2,000 adults, helping them to become more economically self-sufficient via food programs, tax and job assistance, ESL and citizenship classes. A•PNS members have excellent opportunities to develop their leadership skills, learn about the many cultural communities which exist in Minneapolis, and interface with many established leaders.

Sites
Brian Coyle Community Center
Chicanos Latinos Unidos en Servicio (CLUES)
"District 202" Youth Center
Heart of the Beast Theater
Holland Elementary School (LEP)
Jefferson Elementary School (LEP)
Little Earth Housing Association
PYC Alternative School
American Red Cross
The Bridge for Runaway Youth
Waite House Neighborhood Center
Oak Park Neighborhood Center
Unity Neighborhood Employment Training Center



PARTNERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA RED LAKE TRIBAL COUNCIL

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

Planted 5,452 trees and two community gardens. Harvested the vegetables and distributed to elderly and handicapped residents in the community.

Served 6,760 meals (an average of 310 meals served daily). Sponsored free lunch program for the community during the summer.

Delivered 290 meals daily to home bound elders and handicapped residents in the community.

Painted the Ponemah Community Center inside and out with the help of the Multicultural Communities In Action from St. Paul.

Assisted with a week-long emersion camp held in the ceded lands of Red Lake.

Assisted the public at the Red Lake Tribal Archives/Library and started a reading program with the local daycare center.

Weatherized 50 homes for the elderly and/or disabled community members.

Sponsored a toy drive for Christmas, with other community members, and distributed gifts to 518 families with a total of 1,543 children. (See photo).

Members:

Red Lake	24 Full Time
Bois Forte	10 Full Time

Description:

Partners in Service to America consists of two Reservations: Red Lake and Bois Forte. The members provide direct service through tutoring K-6 grade students in three elementary schools. In addition, they also assist in two headstart programs, E.C.F.E programs, after school activities, programs for the elderly such as delivering daily meals and helping with activities for the nursing home residents. Members act as mentors and leaders to children and youth in their community, and assist with community events and projects.

Community Partners:

Red Lake and Bois Forte
School Districts
Red Lake and Bois Forte
Department of Natural Resources
Red Lake Substance Abuse Program
Red Lake Housing Authority
Bois Forte Elderly Nutrition Program





SOUTHERN MINNESOTA YOUTH WORKS•AMERICORPS

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

Assisted over 5,700 adults in developing or maintaining independent living skills, including:

- Adults with limited English and employment skills
- Senior citizens
- Adults with disabilities
- Victims of domestic violence
- Individuals in need of family shelter and nutrition services

Engaged over 1,200 students aged 10–22 in service learning activities.

Tutored or mentored over 5,800 children who demonstrated improvements in academic progress and behavior.

Recruited 5,750 community volunteers who contributed over 32,500 hours of service.

Deployed and organized over 5,000 Minnesota State University, Mankato students and community members during relief efforts following tornadoes in St. Peter and surrounding rural areas.

Members: 70 FTE

Description:

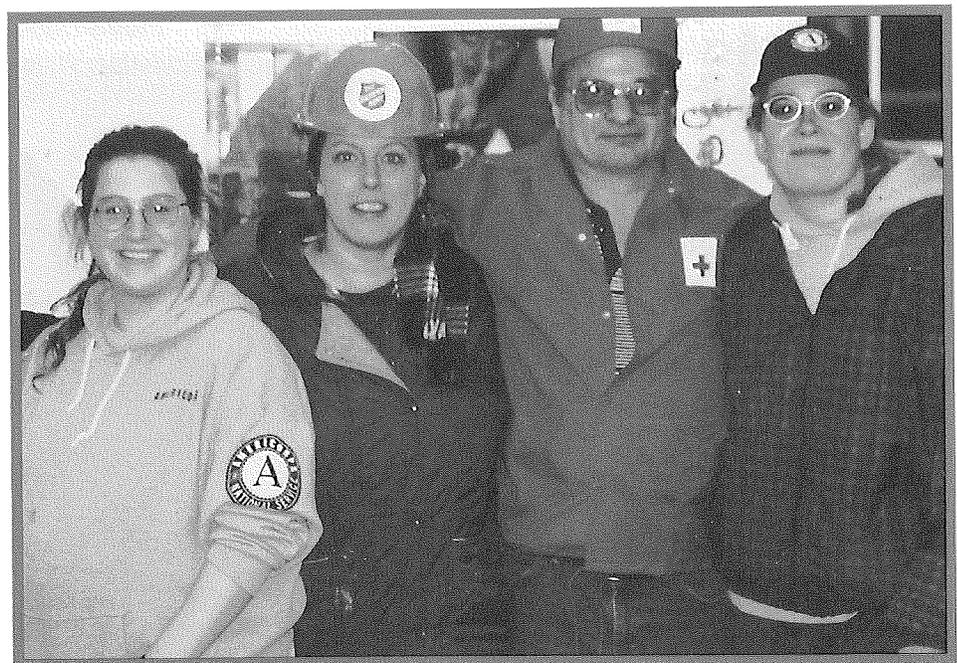
Southern Minnesota Youth Works•AmeriCorps focuses the energy and idealism of members to address unmet education, public safety and human needs in and around the communities of Mankato, Rochester and Winona. Members serve in over 45 community partner sites including schools, public housing agencies, youth centers, senior centers, domestic abuse and homeless shelters, food shelves and volunteer centers. Members lead community service efforts and special service events throughout the year including Disaster Relief in St. Peter, Rake the Town, Project Shore Restore, Day of Caring, Mississippi River Revival clean up and the Caring Tree events.

Community Partners:

The Initiative Fund of southeastern and south central Minnesota
Minnesota State University, Mankato
Winona State University
Over 45 community partner sites

“There is no doubt in the minds of the educators working with these students that the (Youth Works•AmeriCorps) members made a significant impact on their achievement.”

Les Koppendrayner
Franklin Elementary School





YOUTH QUAKE

1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

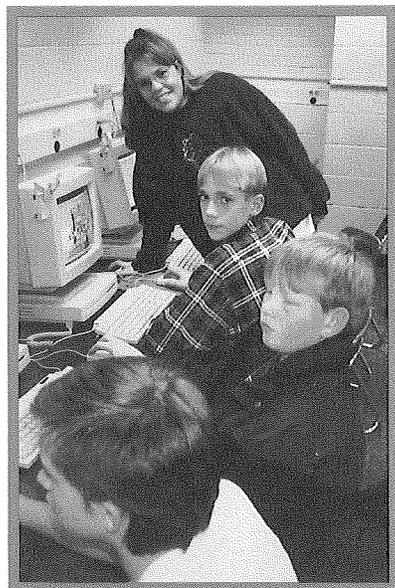
Offered safe, positive programming for youth in all five cities including after-school programs to involve youth and summertime activities.

Involved 2,554 youth in our program activities.

Tutored 192 students during school days and after school.

Offered service opportunities for members and youth throughout communities. 100% of the members and 50% of the youth were involved in service projects.

Volunteered 2,632 hours of service by 454 community members to our program activities.

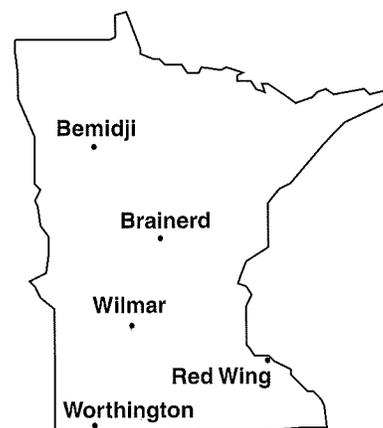


Members:
20 Part-Time

Area Served:
Five cities statewide:
Bemidji, Brainerd,
Red Wing, Willmar,
Worthington

Description:
The YouthQuake program began its first full year of programming in 97/98. The mission of the program is to support school age youth by building development assets, increasing academic achievement and involving them in the community through quality, structured activities led by positive, trained AmeriCorps members.

All five cities provide safe, organized after-school and summertime activities that fill a need in their communities. Youth are being tutored and involved in service projects by members, to build better communities. Members collaborate with other youth-oriented organizations to meet common goals. Community volunteers enhance local programming. Members were able to gain valuable life skills and explore career options while giving service that builds a lifetime of caring.



Community Partners:
Bemidji Area Schools/Bemidji Community Education
Brainerd Area Schools/Brainerd Community Education
Red Wing School/Red Wing YMCA
Willmar Schools/Willmar Community Education
Worthington Schools/Worthington Community Education



Challenge

CATHOLIC CHARITIES VOLUNTEER CORPS

A CHALLENGE AMERICORPS PROGRAM • 1998 REPORT

Americorps Challenge

The AmeriCorps Challenge Program is designed to:

- expand opportunities for individuals to become AmeriCorps members, perform substantial community service, and earn educational benefits
- increase the number of communities across the country joining with AmeriCorps to help meet their education, public safety, environmental and other human needs
- broaden the network of national service program sponsors and strategies
- encourage new non-federal resources to partner with AmeriCorps projects

The Corporation for National Service approved more than 140 new educational awards programs in 1997 and 1998, creating positions for 25,000 new AmeriCorps members.

Getting Things Done:

60 elderly persons had their lawns raked, spring clean-up.

200 meals were delivered daily to home bound people who were HIV+ or living with AIDS.

3,000 gifts were collected and distributed during the Christmas Holidays.

Foodshelf located in a low-income neighborhood was repainted and shelves were built.

Woman served by AmeriCorps member participated in 28-day treatment program and has remained sober.

500 people served monthly at two foodshelves in Minneapolis.

12 inner-city youth visited a farm in rural Wisconsin.

14 inner-city youth went camping in rural Wisconsin.

Members: 17 Full-time

Description:

Catholic Charities Volunteer Corps is an ecumenical full-time volunteer program which serves the St. Paul and Minneapolis area. The full-time volunteers live together in community while performing their year of service. Populations served range from young children to youth of all ages to homeless men and women to the elderly. There is a strong educational and reflection component.

Community Partners:

Open Arms of Minnesota
Frogtown Foodshelf



TWIN CITIES URBAN CORPS

A CHALLENGE AMERICORPS PROGRAM • 1998 REPORT

Getting Things Done:

Assisted in the construction of a prototype straw bale-insulated house for a low-income family.

Renovated a large exhibit space and constructed an interactive environmental exhibit for a public museum of natural history; immediately experienced by 9,000 school-aged students.

Cleaned up 3.5 tons of trash and debris from 6 inner-city neighborhoods.

Rebuilt 12 cabins for use by low-income youth and families.

Categorized 4,500 clothing and furniture items for a community-based reuse/recycling agency.

Prepared 50 meals for an eldercare program.

Collected and distributed 400 winter coats for low-income grade-school children.

Note: Program year is incomplete at time of Report and therefore successful transitions to work are not reported.

Members: 25 Full-time

Description:

The Twin Cities Urban Corps is a pilot national service, welfare-to-work program hosted by Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources and Minnesota Conservation Corps. The Urban Corps exists to assist 18–25 year old single parent MFIP recipients, and non-custodial parents, in their transition from public assistance to gainful, long-term employment through a corps-based program of community service activities and a concurrent personal development plan of life-and-work readiness skills training.





VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA (VISTA)

1998 REPORT

Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) is the national service program that supports individuals in communities to help residents become more self-sufficient. Rather than providing direct service, VISTAs strengthen communities by increasing the capability of people to improve their own lives through employment training, literacy programs, housing assistance and neighborhood revitalization. Simply put, VISTAs build capacity not dependency.

VISTA began in 1964. It was connected with the AmeriCorps network of programs through the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993.

VISTA Services include:

Recruiting and training college students and community volunteers to tutor children.

Providing employment training for refugees and individuals receiving public assistance.

Writing curriculum for job based training providing non-English speakers the essential communication tools to gain and maintain employment.

Recruiting mentors for low income children and youth.

Increasing access and availability of affordable housing.

Recruiting tutors and enrolling students in adult literacy programs.

Highlights of 1997-1998

Twenty VISTA volunteers had over 20,000 literacy contacts with Minneapolis children during an eight week summer program in 1998. Volunteers tutored and taught reading to children in Minneapolis in schools, libraries, YMCAs, Boys' & Girls' Clubs and in many other community facilities throughout the summer. Second grade students showed tremendous progress as a result of working with VISTAs. A sample group of second graders read (on average) 21 words per minute at the beginning of the summer. After seven weeks of working with the VISTAs, the same students were reading nearly 37 words per minute, an increase of 77 %.

An AmeriCorps*VISTA in southern Minnesota raised \$193,000 in 1998 for a housing rehabilitation program in Rochester. The grant money, from the Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, was used to buy and renovate homes in the city's oldest housing tracts. This VISTA provided national service two years and raised a total of \$450,000 for housing programs.

A VISTA with the Minnesota Justice Foundation recruited 136 law school students in 1998 to perform pro bono legal services for low income Minnesotans. The VISTA trained and placed the students with 15 community agencies that attempt to serve many of the 300,000 low-income Minnesotans who go without legal services each year.

Program Locations (Statewide):

Big Brothers/Big Sisters
East Side Neighborhood
Habitat for Humanity
Hmong American Partnership
Housing Coalition of St. Cloud
Metro North ABE
Minnesota Housing Partnership
Minnesota Campus Compact
Minnesota Justice Foundation
Minnesota Literacy Council
Minneapolis Public Schools
Minneapolis Public Libraries
Minneapolis Public Housing Authority
North Hennepin Community College
Second Harvest St. Paul Food Bank
SE MN Recycles Exchange
St. Paul PHA
Amherst H. Wilder Foundation

Contact:

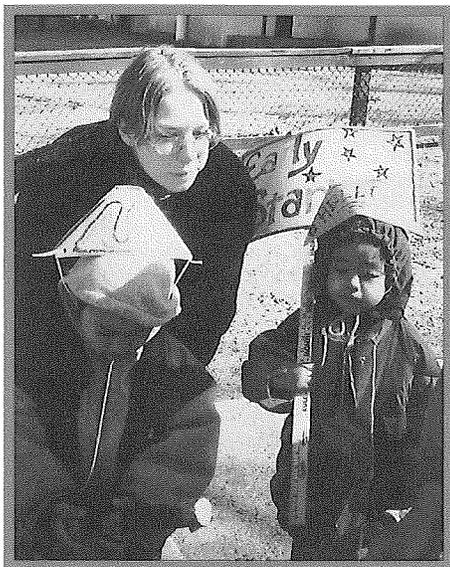
Robert Jackson
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612-334-4084 fax



Minnesota

NATIONAL AMERICORPS NETWORK

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE 1998 REPORT



National AmeriCorps programs include interstate service programs. These programs are sponsored through a national organization and are located at sites across the country. Programs are funded on a competitive basis directly through the Corporation for National and Community Service.

CLEAR CORPS-COALITION FOR LEAD SAFE COMMUNITIES

Designed to reduce lead poisoning levels in family and community dwellings and to increase awareness and involvement regarding this health issue. Clear Corps is working in St. Paul and Minneapolis neighborhoods.

SUCCESS BY SIX-UNITED WAY OF MINNEAPOLIS

AmeriCorps members provide service through community outreach efforts that support families and children in Minneapolis. The Success by Six model brings together business, government, education, health and human services to foster healthy development of children before they are born and until the age of six.

"This is a wonderful program! Whatever you do, never stop offering it! [My child] has been more enthusiastic and it has definitely helped him get through these last weeks of school by having something to look forward to. [He] has bi-polar disorder and every year is a struggle and this really helped."

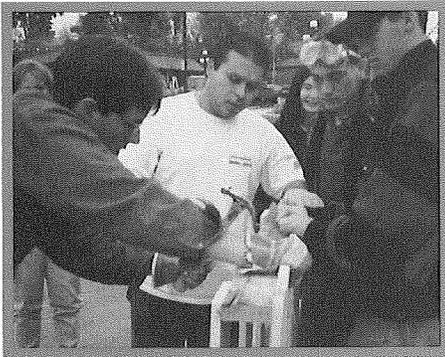
Parent of a 5th grader in Morris, whose child was part of the YouthWorks mentoring project through Higher Education Service with the University of Minnesota.



School Age

LEARN AND SERVE • K-12 PROGRAMS

1998 REPORT



Accomplishments of Learn and Serve America, K-12 programs:

Increased number of school-age youth engaged in service, particularly those from low-income and high need areas. More than 11,000 youth were involved in community service Learn and Serve programs in 1998, increasing participation from the year before.

Trained teachers on service-learning and fostered the integration of service-learning in existing school curriculum.

Expanded the role of youth in service, providing opportunities for youth to act as teachers, trainers and resources to their peers and others in the community.

Linked Graduation Standards to service-learning.

Co-hosted the National Service-Learning Conference.

Learn and Serve America, K-12 is a national program that encourages learning by school-age youth through service in their communities.

Learn and Serve America grants are available through the Corporation for National Service for both school and community-based programs.

Service-learning programs engage youth in community challenges, applying principles learned in the classroom in solving real-life problems. Service activities help young people understand the meaning of citizenship and their ability to contribute to the improvement of their communities. Local businesses, non-profits, social service organizations and schools form partnerships to support youth development youth service.

In addition to federal Learn and Serve America programs, state Youth Development/Youth Service programs are located in 290 school districts in Minnesota. In the last eight years the number of youth involved in service has increased to more than 190,000 participants. (See page 5)

In Minnesota Learn and Serve America, K-12 currently provides grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for twenty-five school-based programs.

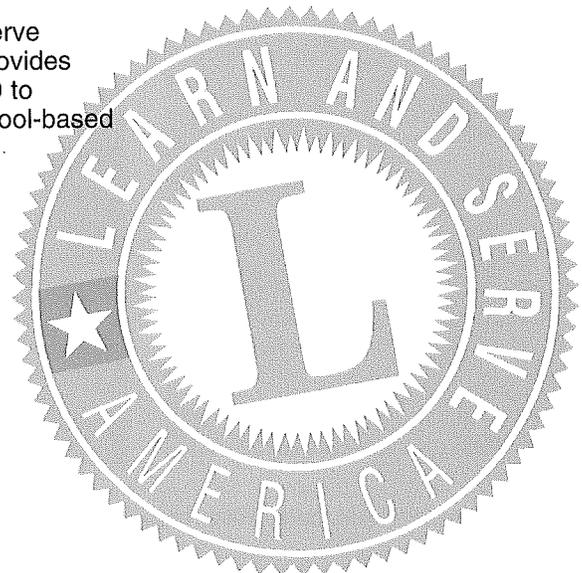
Grantees:

Benilde-St. Margaret
Cambridge-Isanti Schools
Child & Youth Council
Duluth Public Schools
First Opportunity
Forest Lake Public Schools
Humphrey Institute
ISD 361-Peer Helpers
Kellogg Middle School
KIDS, Inc.
Lakes Country Service Coop
Minnesota Transitions
Moorhead Public Schools
National Youth Leadership Council
Nerstrand Elementary School
Phillips Community Television
ReubenLindh Family
Riverview Elementary School
Rothsay Schools
Rush City Schools
Saint Peter Public Schools
Sentence to Serve Plus
Seward Neighborhood
Watershed Resources

Learn and Serve, K-12

Contact:

Minnesota Department of Children,
Families & Learning
1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55113-4266
(651) 582-8444



Higher Ed.

LEARN AND SERVE AMERICA

1998 REPORT

Year after year, what continues to be accomplished both on campus and within the local community in the name of volunteerism, community service, and service-learning is nothing short of magical.

Hank Toutain, Dean of Students
Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter

The higher education program of Learn and Serve America aims to create collaborations that powerfully impact both college students and communities.

Minnesota Campus Compact and the Minnesota Higher Education Services Office work together to coordinate the grant proposal process and administer Learn and Serve programs. Campus Compact staff provide training and technical assistance to higher education service learning programs in Minnesota.

An estimated 18,000 college students are involved in community service throughout the state; work with children and youth continues to be the most popular form of involvement. Over 35 colleges and universities in Minnesota have established community service-learning programs with full or part-time staff. This is approximately a 30% increase in the past two years.

An additional 15 campuses have at least some service programming and/or faculty who integrate service with academic study. Over 400 faculty in Minnesota now include a service-learning component in their courses. Campuses across the state collaborate with community-based organizations to improve life in Minnesota through volunteerism, community mobilization, community-based research, public policy and economic development activities.

In 1998, 20 campus programs received funding from the state of Minnesota and the Corporation for National Service through the Learn and Serve America program. These programs are at public and private, two- and four-year colleges and universities across the state. Each of the funded initiatives is a collaboration between at least one campus and one community-based organization. In some cases, the community organization is managing the program. This type of shared coordination of service-learning is a unique strength of the higher education programs in Minnesota.

Model Campus-Community Collaborations

(funded by the Corporation for National Service)

Grants to develop intensive campus-community collaborations designed to address a community issue over the long-term through multi-faceted strategies such as community mobilization, volunteerism, and community and economic development.

Concordia College – Healthy Community Initiative – Moorhead schools
Gustavus Adolphus College – ISD 508 – St. Peter
Metropolitan State University – Dayton's Bluff School – local organizations
University of Minnesota-Morris – local schools – area organizations

Community Service Work-Study

(funded by the Corporation for National Service)

Grants to create or enhance an accessible, user-friendly system for use of off-campus work-study funds with non-profits and other community-based organizations. Includes several America Reads initiatives.

Central Lakes College – Brainerd neighborhoods and schools
College of St. Catherine – University of Minnesota – St. Paul Neighborhood House
Hamline University – Neighborhood organizations and schools
Macalester College – East Side Neighborhood Development Company
University of Minnesota, Morris – Morris Elementary School
University of St. Thomas – Community organizations and schools
University YMCA – University of Minnesota – Twin Cities

Program Improvement

(funded by Minnesota Higher Education Services Office, State of Minnesota)

Grants to improve the quality, impact and sustainability of existing service-learning or campus-community collaboration initiatives.

Lexington-Hamline Community Council – Concordia University
Senior Resources – Normandale Community College
People Serving People – University of Minnesota Twin Cities
Salvation Army – Bethel College

Integrating Service with Academic Study

(funded by Minnesota Higher Education Services Office, State of Minnesota)

Grants to improve the quality, impact and sustainability of curricular-based service-learning initiatives involving faculty.

Century College – Family Violence Network
St. Cloud State University – Community organizations

Start-Up Programs

(funded by Minnesota Higher Education Services Office, State of Minnesota)

Grants to help begin new service-learning and campus-community collaboration initiatives.

College of St. Scholastica – Lincoln Park School – Community organizations
Itasca Community College – Local non-profit organizations – ISD 318
Lake Superior College – Duluth Central High School

Contact

Erin Bowley, Minnesota Campus Compact (651) 962-4952
Suite 25 H-425, 1000 LaSalle Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403-2005

Nancy Walters, Higher Education Services Office (651) 642-0533
1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55108-5227 1-800-657-3866
Fax: (651) 642-0675 Email: info@heso.state.mn.us

Seniors

NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS

1998 REPORT



The National Senior Service Corps (NSSC) is a network of nearly 20,000 Minnesota seniors (half a million nationwide) who are making a difference through Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions and the Retired and Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP). These programs tap the experience, skills and talents of seniors 55 and older.

Both the Corporation for National Service and the state of Minnesota, through the Minnesota Board of Aging, provide funding for these programs. Important public and private sector support contributes to NSSC projects as well.

To demonstrate the impact older volunteers have on Minnesota communities, the 26 Senior Service Corp projects in the state have launched an initiative called "Programming for Impact." Their goal is to describe just how senior volunteers have not only a qualitative impact but a measurable one as well. With increased funding from both the state of Minnesota and federal government through the Corporation for National Service and with increasing local public and private support, the Senior Service Corps is reaching more and more Minnesota communities by engaging senior in service. The Corporation funded a fourth Foster Grandparent program in the state in 1997.

Program	Volunteer Participants	Hours Served
<i>Minnesota Foster Grandparents</i>	637	662,224
<i>Senior Companions</i>	370	268,300
<i>Retired and Senior Volunteers Program</i>	17,349	2,227,036
TOTAL:	18,356	3,117,560

PROFILES OF SENIOR VOLUNTEERS

Senior Companions

Senior Companions provide assistance and friendship mostly to the elderly population who are homebound and often, living alone. By taking care of simple chores, Senior Companions often provide the services that frail elderly need to continue living independently, an important role, as nursing home and other costs for institutionalized care continues to increase. One example:

A Senior Companion in Southern Minnesota knows she is improving the life of the clients she serves, "My work as a Senior Companion is like nothing I have ever done before. In my previous work experience, I worked with people day in and day out, and never had the sense of accomplishment that I do as a Senior Companion. My clients need me and they make me feel needed. At the end of the day, I know that I have helped someone have a better life. One particular client comes to mind. She has a very small family and the ones that do keep in touch with her do not treat her very well. She does not know who to trust anymore. But, she said to me the other day, 'I am so glad that I have you, you're the only one that I can truly count on'. That made me feel so good, that she has opened herself up to me. I feel that I really do make a difference in her life."

Minnesota Foster Grandparents

Minnesota Foster Grandparents (FGP) offers seniors, ages 60 and older opportunities to serve as mentors, tutors and caregivers for children and youth with special needs. They commonly serve in schools, alternative learning centers, correctional facilities and group homes often reaching and positively influencing youth that no others can. One example:

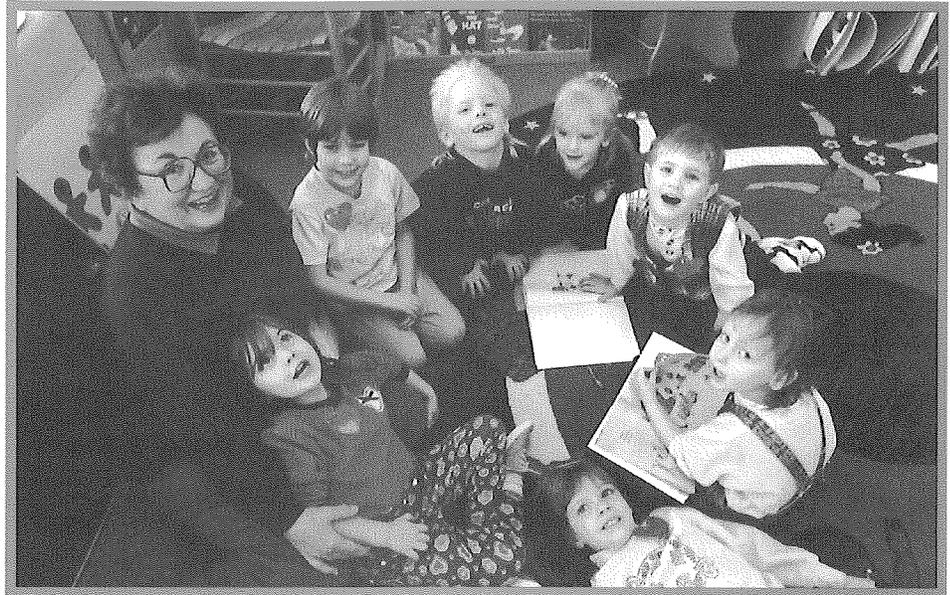
Four Foster Grandparents provide security to children who stay at the Rochester Women's Shelter. The Grandparents read to the children, color pictures with them, tell them stories, help with their meals and most importantly, listen to them. According to one of the Grandparents, "There is a difference in their behaviors after we work with them. They learn more appropriate ways to deal with their feelings. One little girl, not even two years old, handled her problems by saying, 'You shut up', because that is what she had been told all her life. I told her not to say that, and for a while she didn't listen. Days later, I told her not to do something, and she responded, 'OK Grandma'. It may not seem like much, but for this little girl, it was a breakthrough."

Retired and Senior Volunteers Program

Retired and Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP) helps people age 55 and older find volunteer opportunities in their home communities. RSVP matches community needs with seniors' personal interests and makes use of their skills and lifelong experiences. RSVP often teams seniors and youth together through intergenerational service projects. Both individuals

named "Outstanding Minnesota Seniors for 1998" are RSVP volunteers (both are from St. Louis County!). Two of KARE-TV's 1998 "Eleven Who Care" are Senior Corps volunteers (FGP/Red Wing and RSVP/St. Paul). One example:

A major fire occurred in an apartment complex in St. Cloud, leaving 150 people homeless. When the Red Cross called RSVP for help, 21 Senior Corps volunteers responded. The Executive Director of the area Red Cross expressed her gratitude, saying "My very first call for help was to RSVP. The volunteers served food, answered telephones, filed records and reports, registered people, drove the Red Cross van and were agreeable to do whatever it took to get the job done. We could not have served the survivors of the Pointe West fire nearly so well without them. We sincerely thank them and their fine organization. Bravo RSVP!"



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SENIORS ADVANCE LITERACY

Senior Corps volunteers have joined participants of other Streams of Service in responding to the America Reads Challenge, the challenge to make sure every child can read well and independently by the time they finish third grade. Foster Grandparents and RSVP volunteers are among those providing literacy services to children and the parents. The following chart demonstrates some of their accomplishments.

	Volunteer Providing Literacy Services			Children Receiving Literacy Services			Parents Receiving Literacy Services		
	FGP	RSVP	Total	FGP	RSVP	Total	FGP	RSVP	Total
Volunteer Tutors	463	778	1,241	4,027	8,214	12,241	20	258	278
Volunteer Mentors	238	814	1,052	1,801	4,969	6,770	71	194	265

Collaboration

Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service

*For information on Minnesota AmeriCorps,
Learn and Serve, K-12, and Streams of Service
programs, call*

(651) 582-8444
(651) 582-8327 (in Twin Cities and Out of State)
1-888-234-1270 (Toll Free for use in Minnesota)

*Office of Life Work Development, Department of
Children, Families & Learning*
1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55113-4266

Corporation for National Service: Minnesota Office

*For information on VISTA, Minnesota Senior
Service Corps, call*

431 South 7th Street, Room 2480
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1854
(612) 334-4083

Minnesota Office of Citizenship and Volunteer Services (MOCVS)

For information on Volunteerism, call

Department of Administration
117 University Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55155-2200
(651) 296-4731
1-800-234-6687

Minnesota Alliance with Youth

Department of Administration
117 University Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55155-2200
(651) 296-4738

Minnesota Campus Compact

*For information on Learn and Serve
Higher Education*

1000 LaSalle Avenue, Suite 25 H-425
Minneapolis, MN 55403-2005
(612) 962-4952

Higher Education Services Office

1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55108-5227
(651) 642-0533
1-800-657-3866
Fax: (651) 642-0675

Community Education Youth Service/Youth Development

*Minnesota Department of Children,
Families & Learning*

Office of Life Work Development
1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55113-4266
(651) 582-8365

Minnesota School-to-Work Initiative

*Minnesota Department of Children,
Families & Learning*

Office of LifeWork Development
1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55113-4266
(651) 582-8201
1-888-234-5120

Corporation for National Service

*For information on the AmeriCorps National
Network and National Service programs, call*

1-800-942-2677
1-800-833-3722

National Youth Leadership Council

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MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF

*Children,
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