



ServeMN

The Power of AmeriCorps.
The Power of You.



Annual Report & Stories of Service

2024

Vision

We ignite hope and inspire action for a better future.

Mission

To strengthen Minnesota through high-impact service.

Values

Community, Partnership, Innovation, Accountability



ServeMinnesota.org

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YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CORPS

Finding the Way as a Promise Fellow

In 2023, Nicky found himself at a turning point. After leaving college in Minneapolis, moving home to Northfield, and getting a firm hold on recovery from substance use, he was pondering his future plans. "I knew that I wanted to do something that wasn't a fast-food job or retail — something that would feel like I was making a difference," he says.

A friend connected Nicky with Faribault High School's RISE (Realizing Individual Student Excellence) program, which provides academic and mentoring support for students. Nicky became one of the first two Minnesota Alliance With Youth Promise Fellows at RISE. Fellows are AmeriCorps members funded through the Youth Mental Health Corps, a collaborative initiative led by the Schultz Family Foundation and Pinterest to support young people's mental health in schools and communities.

Nicky quickly knew that he had found the meaningful opportunity he was looking for — and that he had found his future career in education, too.

Listening, connecting, encouraging

As a Promise Fellow, Nicky met with 8–10 students each day to talk about school and life. "Some kids come to chat for 10 minutes, some stay a whole hour," he says. "We do a lot of listening. We also connect students to community resources if they need them," for help with housing, food insecurity, transportation, and other

issues.



Nicky

"I had a student who had a pretty difficult home life and was failing all her classes," he says. "I was able to connect her with the opportunity to switch to an alternative learning center. At first she didn't want to, but we talked through it and she decided to try. Later, she sent me a message saying, 'Thank you, this has helped me so much ... I'm passing everything now.'"

One of Nicky's proudest moments at RISE: "We got 90 percent of our students to graduation. Two years ago, the number was 67 percent."

During his year at Faribault High School, Nicky had a revelation. "I realized that I really like this setting and helping people," he says. A plan took shape: With a view toward becoming a high school social studies teacher, he enrolled in Minnesota State University Mankato to pursue a degree in education (and was awarded both a Minnesota Aspiring Teachers of Color scholarship and a Grow Your Own grant). He also signed on for another term as a Promise Fellow, this time at Mankato West High School.

When asked his advice for anyone considering becoming an AmeriCorps member, Nicky was emphatic: "What I would say is: DO IT!

AmeriCorps is such an important program, and you can serve in any area you want. You can do so many things — it really helps you discover what you might want to do as a career someday."

"AmeriCorps is such an important program. You can do so many things — it really helps you discover what you might want to do as a career someday."

– Nicky

READING CORPS + MINNESOTA GROW YOUR OWN TEACHER

A Tutor Grows Into a Teacher

Giving back has always been part of Crystal's DNA. She was a Hennepin County foster parent for more than a decade and is a longtime volunteer with people experiencing homelessness. Becoming a Reading Corps tutor in 2020 was a natural fit for her — and it led her to a career she loves.

As a tutor at Monroe Elementary in Brooklyn Park, Crystal connected quickly with her students and knew that she wanted to continue working with children that age. "I got hooked in with reading, but then there were other parts of teaching that started to make sense to me," she says.

"I realized I'm the type of person who, if somebody doesn't have confidence or needs the right tools, I can stand by you and support you. That's what a teacher does," she says.

At the start of Crystal's second service term, "I was wondering what I'd be doing after Reading Corps, and somebody said, 'hey, there's this MNGOT thing.'"

"A fabulous first step to being a teacher"

MNGOT, or Minnesota Grow Your Own Teacher, is a unique pathway to a

University of Minnesota master's degree in education and a teaching license. While serving as Reading Corps tutors, MNGOT candidates complete their coursework, student teach, and conduct fieldwork.

The program was demanding, but Crystal had a lot of support. "People in the university, people in the school district, and my Reading Corps supervisors were all very supportive," she says. And, she adds, what she learned was invaluable.

MNGOT and Reading Corps taught her how to harness the power of data in teaching — "great preparation for the tracking, goal-setting, and observations I need to do as a full-time teacher" — in addition to practical skills like lesson plans and classroom management. She calls MNGOT "a really fabulous first step to being a teacher."

Crystal completed her master's degree in 2024 and joined the staff of Robbinsdale Area Schools that fall. "Being a second-grade teacher is funny, quirky, exhausting, and wonderfully different every day," she says.



Crystal



Bridge2Read Delivers Extra Literacy Support in the Classroom

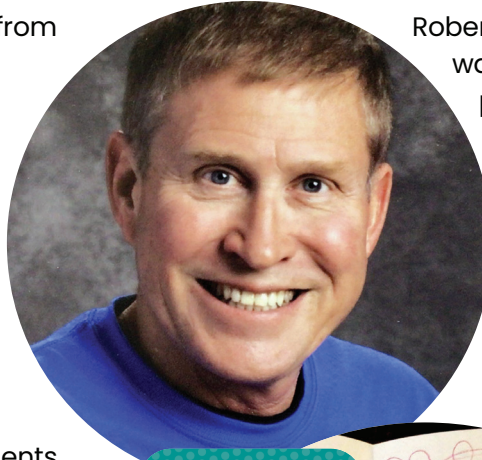
Bridge2Read (B2R) is a science-based classroom literacy tool developed by ServeMinnesota for use in K-3 classrooms. Combining a fully developed curriculum with coaching support, it is the only free program of its kind. To date, more than 1,000 Minnesota teachers have been trained in this simple and effective program.

MATH CORPS

Retirement + Math Corps = A Second Career

After Robert retired at age 52 from an investment brokerage in Iowa, he and his wife moved to Slayton, Minnesota, to be near family and the lake where he'd spent time as a child. A desire to give back led Robert to Math Corps tutoring ... and Math Corps led him to an entirely new workplace.

In 2016-17, Robert tutored students in grades 4, 5, and 6, and loved helping his students succeed with math. Seeing them finally grasp a concept after working to understand it was "like seeing the sun break through cloudy skies," he says.

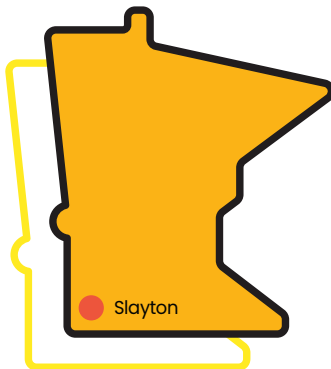
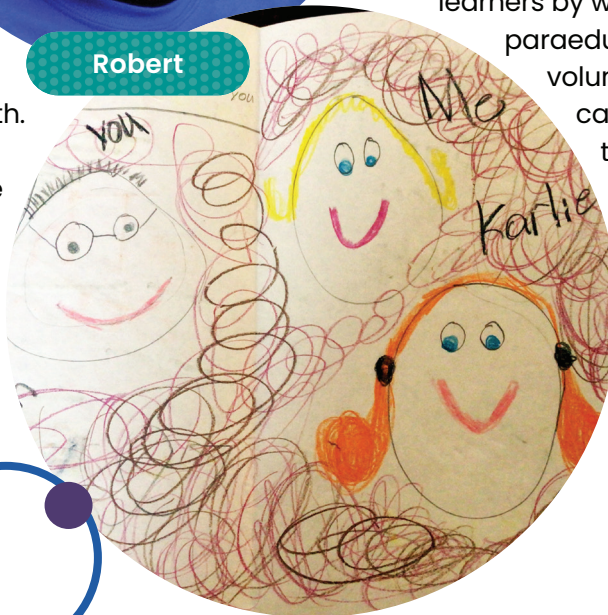


Robert

Robert volunteered in his community in other ways, too, including setting up a tennis program for elementary and middle school students and being a story time reader in a first-grade classroom (he reports that he can do pretty good character voices). "It's neat to learn and do things that were so out of the ordinary for my career," he says.

Today, Robert continues to support learners by working part time as a paraeducator in Slayton and volunteering in a program called "Reality Check" that teaches high school seniors the basics of personal finance.

Robert still treasures the handwritten thank-you notes and drawings he received from students.



Did you know AmeriCorps service can launch your career?

Service is a paid, hands-on learning experience that allows you to test or jump-start a career. Some programs even offer certifications to help you take the next step. More than 90 percent of employers agree that AmeriCorps prepares people for the workforce.

Thank You to Our Donors

This report reflects contributions received between September 1, 2023 and August 31, 2024.



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B

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Gifts received in honor of Dr. Jennifer Yang and in memory of Nina Engen

We also extend gratitude to those who have given anonymously.

Our donors help fuel our mission to strengthen Minnesota through high-impact service.

Financials

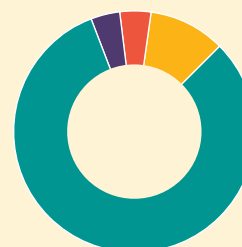
Statement of Financial Position

August 31, 2024 & 2023

	2024	2023
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 5,108,148	\$ 5,703,999
Grants Receivable	5,683,924	5,268,351
Pledges Receivable	1,246,251	995,961
Other Receivable	481,040	309,901
Prepaid Expense	74,289	96,991
Total Current Assets	\$ 12,593,652	\$ 12,375,203
Non-Current Assets		
Contributions Receivable	\$ 200,000	\$ 400,000
Furniture, Equipment, & Leasehold Improvements – Net	1,179	2,357
Right-of-Use Asset	1,020,985	1,091,503
Security Deposit	9,092	9,092
Total Assets	\$ 13,824,908	\$ 13,878,155
Liabilities & Net Assets		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 164,867	\$ 180,377
Grants Payable	4,755,014	5,372,397
Operating Lease Liability – Current	86,287	73,487
Accrued Expenses	15,628	2,860
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 5,021,796	\$ 5,629,121
Operating Lease Liability – Long Term	957,910	1,018,016
Total Liabilities	\$ 5,979,706	\$ 6,647,137
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restrictions		
Designated	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Undesignated	877,957	790,433
Total Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 1,027,957	\$ 940,433
With Donor Restrictions	6,817,245	6,290,585
Total Net Assets	\$ 7,845,202	\$ 7,231,018
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 13,824,908	\$ 13,878,155

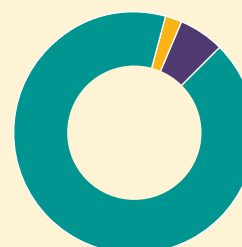


Revenue



Interest	.01%	\$55,032
Private	3.9%	\$2,855,057
Fees	4.0%	\$2,941,442
State	10.2%	\$7,463,800
Federal	81.7%	\$59,564,572
Total		\$72,879,903

Expenses



Support Services	2.4%	\$1,768,462
Program Support	5.9%	\$4,283,918
Grants	91.6%	\$66,213,339
Total		\$72,265,719

Major Program Expenses

Minnesota Reading Corps
\$33,854,585

Minnesota Math Corps
\$10,105,876

Other AmeriCorps Programs
\$23,860,814

AmeriCorps Programs

2023-2024 Program Grants

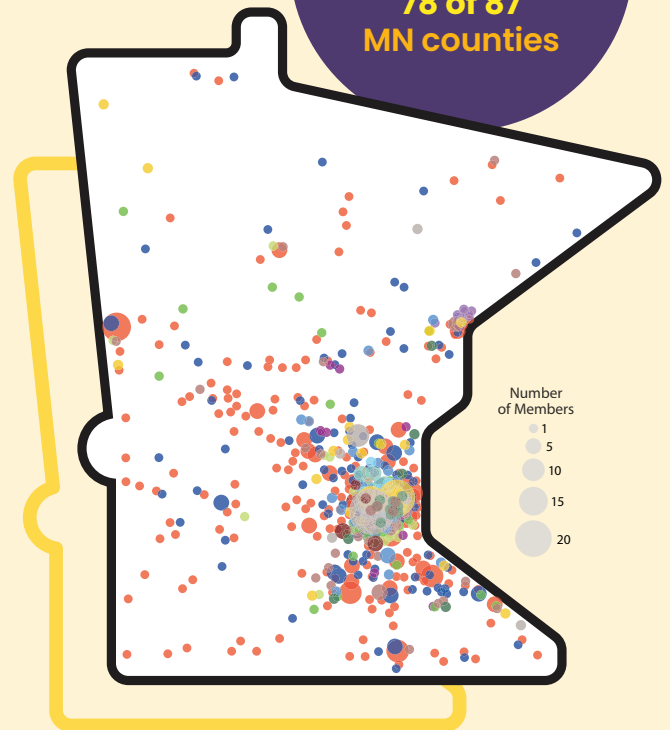
	Members Awarded	Grant Amount
Breakthrough Twin Cities	14	\$340,751
Climate Impact Corps	100	\$3,445,000
College Possible	75	\$1,797,628
Community Technology Empowerment Project (CTEP)	34	\$669,801
Conservation Corps Minnesota	60	\$1,440,000
Conservation Corps Energy Corps	20	\$1,354,083
Early Learning Corps	267	\$7,430,265
Heading Home Corps	100	\$3,903,000
Language Corps	20	\$596,000
Math Corps	253	\$7,040,663
Minnesota Alliance With Youth – Promise Fellows	126	\$3,023,280
Minnesota GreenCorps	48	\$1,046,859
Minnesota Public Health Corps	150	\$4,618,530
Opportunity Corps	35	\$1,263,000
Reading Corps	835	\$23,236,972
Recovery Corps	125	\$3,725,000
Total Learning Classroom	91	\$2,143,000
True North AmeriCorps	35	\$612,110
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity	36	\$867,120
Total	2,424	\$68,553,062
Improve Your Tomorrow Planning Grant		\$240,000
Total Grants		\$69,793,062

36,166
people
supported by
AmeriCorps

5,712
volunteers
engaged

975
organizations
hosted
AmeriCorps
members

AmeriCorps
members
served in
78 of 87
MN counties



AmeriCorps Pledge

I will get things done for America – to make our people safer, smarter, and healthier.

I will bring Americans together to strengthen our communities.

Faced with apathy, I will take action.

Faced with conflict,
I will seek common ground.

Faced with adversity, I will persevere.

I will carry this commitment with me this year and beyond.

I am an AmeriCorps member, and I will get things done.