



The Power of AmeriCorps.
The Power of You.

2021

**Annual Report
& Stories of Service**

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Staff list current as of May 15, 2022



AmeriCorps



ServeMN

Welcome

Vision

Demonstrating the power of national service to solve complex social problems.

Mission

ServeMinnesota is a catalyst to address critical needs in Minnesota by working with AmeriCorps and community partners. We share our proven practices nationally.

We get measurable results through:

Innovation

Researching and applying the best data-driven methods to create powerful local solutions.

Investment

Raising and allocating funds for AmeriCorps program development, and people serving in those programs, to maximize return.

Alignment

Aligning with local community and government priorities and setting consistent program standards to ensure measurable results.

Carrying out our Mission

As a catalyst for positive social change, ServeMinnesota is uniquely positioned at the nexus of research and service. We are able to quickly move research to practice by deploying the people power of AmeriCorps to meet critical needs in Minnesota. Each year, we recruit and support more than 2,000 individuals to improve the lives of Minnesotans by offering transformative service opportunities that focus on education, affordable housing, substance use recovery, employment, and the environment. AmeriCorps members serve in 82 of Minnesota's 87 counties.

By leveraging federal dollars, building strong community partnerships, and continually improving programs, ServeMinnesota ensures national service is positioned to make meaningful contributions to our state.



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*Board list current as of
May 15, 2022*

Stories of Service

Mentoring Matters

In its second summer, ServeMinnesota's Emergency Response Initiative doubled in size to nearly 600 members across Minnesota.

While the Emergency Response Initiative's work in 2020 focused largely on food and housing, community needs shifted in 2021. Many members served in schools to help students catch up after a year of interrupted instruction.

Anna Lahr served at Second Harvest Heartland in the summer of 2020 and was eager for a new challenge. In 2021, she served in the Robbinsdale school district at the American Indian Freedom School, created to connect students with the past and present of North American Indigenous peoples. The school teaches against westernized narratives and brings Indigenous community leaders into classrooms to share their experiences.

It's a project to which Anna is fully committed. As someone of Chinese descent who was adopted as a young child, she remembers how important it was for her to learn about the history of China and to learn from people of Chinese and Asian descent.



Anna Lahr

It's about learning what their backgrounds are, listening, and trying to get them the help that they need.

"If I could have had a mentor before college to help me understand my background, I think I would've loved that," she said. "I think it's very important for these kids to have that." Each day, she made a point of checking in with every student: "It's about learning what their backgrounds are, listening, and trying to get them the help that they need."

Anna's AmeriCorps experiences helped her find her career path. She's currently enrolled in the Master of Social Work program at Minnesota State University, Mankato. ●

Changing the Narrative

As a college student, Johnny Sanasinh loved working as a teaching assistant in physics classes. He realized then that he had a mission: "I wanted to help kids break out of the 'I'm bad at math' narratives that had been placed on them."

After graduating from Saint Olaf College, Johnny found his way to Math Corps, tutoring students in grades 4 through 8 at Spring Grove Public School — and working to change those narratives even earlier. "The 4th graders are just at that cusp where they might be starting to think they're bad at math, but they'll believe you when you say, 'YOU GOT THIS!'"



Johnny Sanasinh

"Fifth graders have this determination and resolve to get better. The 8th graders have been telling themselves they're bad at math for so long that it's second nature. I focus on trying to change that story and lead them in the right direction."

With training from Math Corps, Johnny demonstrated multiple strategies and used 3D models to help students visualize math problems. They worked through math problems together until students could confidently use their new skills.

Johnny is grateful for his tutoring experience, which he says has taught him how to model behavior, set boundaries, focus and adapt lessons to meet each student's pace. He'll take these critical skills forward as he works toward licensure to teach high school physics. ●

More than
2.8 Million
minutes of Math Corps tutoring in Minnesota



Stories of Service

Inspiring a New Way to Help

Grace Elmudesi graduated from college into a pandemic. “It was frustrating to sit there and want to help and not know how,” she remembers. When she heard about ServeMinnesota’s Emergency Response Initiative, “I thought, ‘this is how I get to do something about what’s going on.’”

Grace served at a hotel in downtown Minneapolis, one of many sites that offered temporary housing during the pandemic. At the time, nearly 8,000 people in Minnesota were experiencing homelessness, while many others worried about losing their homes.

Sometimes, Grace focused on COVID-19 safety protocols — keeping people six feet apart, with masks on and hands clean. More often, she was there to offer a friendly face and a little human interaction: playing a game of cribbage, helping someone find clothes and toiletries, organizing a trivia or movie night.

“The most important thing was just supporting people and letting those relationships develop naturally,” said Grace. “The connections I made with people were really, really meaningful to me.”

As Grace learned more about the resources available to residents at the hotel, she was able to provide more concrete help. For example, she helped one resident get a needed medical device.



Grace Elmudesi

When other residents asked for help with housing or employment resources, she connected them with the right social worker or contact person.

Grace was one of many Emergency Response Initiative members who saw an urgent need among unhoused people for referral to resources. After hearing similar stories from a number of members and site managers, the ServeMinnesota team determined that the need was great enough to inspire a new program: Heading Home Corps.

Heading Home Corps launched in 2021, placing housing resource navigators in nonprofits across the state. Navigators help people identify housing programs for which they can qualify, and provide the resources and support they need to secure safe, stable housing.

After her service ended, Grace continued to work with unhoused people as a shelter wellness assistant with Ramsey County’s Emergency Homeless Assistance program. She’s glad to have served with the Emergency Response Initiative, an experience she characterizes as “so out of my comfort zone.” But, she says, “after I did it, I had no regrets.” ●

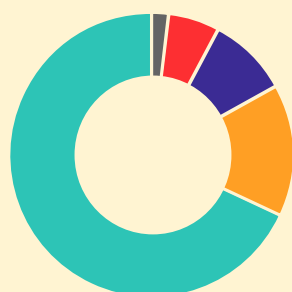
During the summer of 2021, nearly

8,000 Minnesotans

were experiencing homelessness



Emergency Response Initiative Focus Areas



Care & Support for Older Adults	2%
Capacity Building	6%
Housing Security	9%
Food Security	15%
Education & Childcare	68%

Read more stories of service at
ServeMinnesota.org/blog



112
communities
were served by
Emergency Response Initiative
across the state

Financials

Statement of Financial Position

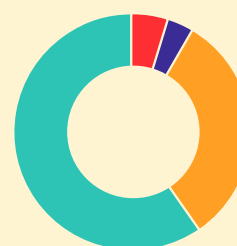
August 31, 2021 & 2020

	2021	2020
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 5,108,782	\$ 4,452,712
Grants Receivable	3,183,426	3,270,199
Pledges Receivable	232,750	466,359
Other Receivable	579,462	362,893
Prepaid Expense	70,794	77,773
Total Current Assets	\$ 9,175,214	\$ 8,629,936
Non-Current Assets		
Furniture, Equipment, & Leasehold Improvements - Net	\$ 11,374	\$ 16,759
Security Deposit	9,092	9,092
Total Assets	\$ 9,195,680	\$ 8,655,787

Liabilities & Net Assets

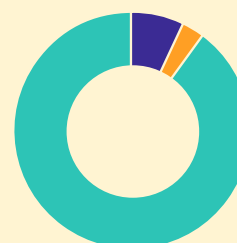
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 257,997	\$ 185,300
Grants Payable	3,070,467	2,944,858
Accrued Expenses	48,233	45,715
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 3,376,697	\$ 3,175,873
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restrictions		
Designated	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Undesignated	447,364	507,157
Total Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 597,364	\$ 657,157
With Donor Restrictions	5,221,619	4,822,757
Total Net Assets	\$ 5,818,983	\$ 5,479,914
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 9,195,680	\$ 8,655,787

Revenue



Interest	0%	\$3,716
Private	3.6%	\$1,521,014
Fees	4.9%	\$2,095,218
State	31.8%	\$13,552,082
Federal	59.7%	\$25,401,461
Total		\$42,573,491

Expenses



Support Services	3%	\$1,273,858
Program Support	7%	\$2,943,798
Grants	90%	\$38,016,766
Total		\$42,234,422

Major Program Expenses

Minnesota Reading Corps
\$24,731,438

Minnesota Math Corps
\$5,367,147

AmeriCorps Programs
\$9,269,568

Thank You to Our Donors

This report reflects contributions received during the period September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021.

Individual

Anonymous

Gift received in honor of Mrs. Mary Kennedy

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Saint Louis County Community Assistance Program

Saint Paul Children's Collaborative

Target Foundation

The Children's Trust of Miami-Dade County

Think Bank

United Way of Bemidji Area

United Way of Central Minnesota

United Way of Goodhue, Wabasha & Pierce Counties

United Way of Mower County

United Way of Northeastern Minnesota

United Way of Southwest Minnesota

United Way of Washington County East

Western Digital Foundation

Xcel Energy Foundation

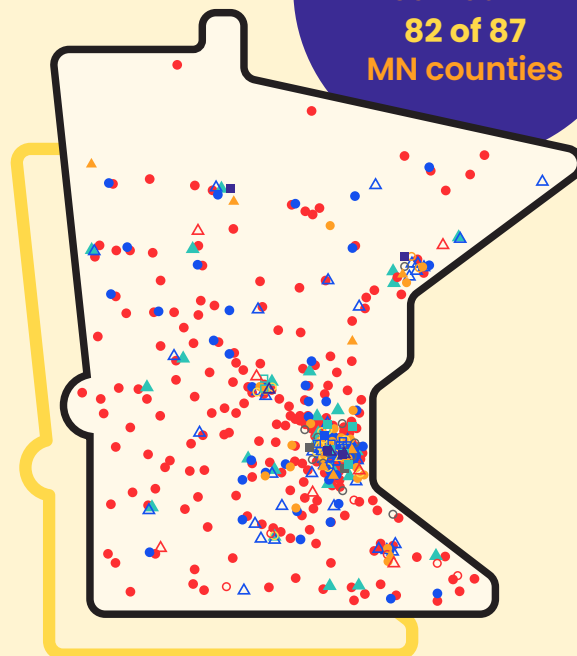


2020-2021 AmeriCorps Programs

2020-2021 Program Grants

Education	Members	Grant Amount
City of Lakes AmeriCorps	29	\$ 410,266
College Possible	77	831,600
Learning Early Achieves Potential (LEAP)	20	295,586
Minnesota Alliance With Youth Promise Fellows	200	2,802,213
Math Corps	260	4,690,162
Reading Corps	974	22,349,763
Reading Corps - Bright Beginnings LFCC	13	917,670
Total Learning Classroom	91	2,141,070
True North AmeriCorps	35	432,449
Environment		
Climate Impact Corps	28	574,207
Conservation Corps Minnesota	44	521,206
Minnesota GreenCorps	42	482,726
Community Building		
City of St. Paul Law Enforcement Career Path Academy	30	263,940
Community Technology Empowerment Project (CTEP)	35	434,461
Emergency Response Initiative	595	
Lead For Minnesota	20	319,579
Minnesota Opportunity Corps	30	469,401
Recovery Corps	58	1,329,778
Senior Independent Living Corps	15	338,254
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity	30	430,997
Total	2,626	\$40,035,328

AmeriCorps members served in
82 of 87 MN counties



1,023
sites served

20
AmeriCorps programs

15,371
volunteers engaged

49,565
people supported by AmeriCorps

Interested in serving or know someone who might be?

Whether you are a recent graduate, stay-at-home parent, or retiree, we have great opportunities to serve Minnesota!

Visit ServeMinnesota.org





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.

ServeMinnesota

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