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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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### Alaska Honors AmeriCorps Members During AmeriCorps Week

(Anchorage, AK) – Alaska will join the nationwide celebration of AmeriCorps Week, March 9-17, 2013 spotlighting the vital work done by AmeriCorps members in communities across Alaska since the national service program began 19 years ago. This year's theme is "*AmeriCorps Works*," reflecting the triple return on investment -- the recipients that benefit, the people who serve, and for the larger community and nation.

This year more than 152 AmeriCorps members are serving in Alaska, helping students learn to read, mentoring at-risk youth, providing health services, building homes for low-income families, and helping nonprofits recruit volunteers to achieve their mission.

"We are proud to be part of AmeriCorps and grateful for the AmeriCorps members who are getting so much done for Alaska," said Nita Madsen, Executive Director of the State Service Commission, *Serve Alaska*. "AmeriCorps members have made a significant impact on Alaska's ability to meet so many local needs, and AmeriCorps Week is a perfect opportunity to recognize their great work."

AmeriCorps works through existing organizations to help them assist more people and better achieve their respective missions. Since 1994, more than 800,000 men and women have joined AmeriCorps, and have volunteered more than one billion hours of service to the country.

In 2012, Alaska AmeriCorps members:

- Tutored or mentored more than 14,554 disadvantaged children and youth;
- Provided more than 258,000 hours of service valued at more than \$6 million;
- Recruited more than 12,750 volunteers;

- Raised more than \$3.6 million in cash or in-kind resources for the organizations they served; and,
- Earned \$1.4 million in education awards that can be used to pay back student loans or cover future tuition costs.

Approximately 342,142 Alaskans benefited from AmeriCorps projects and services.

In Alaska, AmeriCorps operates through Serve Alaska, an independent corporate agency operating under the auspices of the State Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

AmeriCorps Week, March 9-17, 2013, is an annual recruitment and recognition event to demonstrate AmeriCorps' impact on critical issues, bring more Americans into service, and thank the community partners who make AmeriCorps possible. AmeriCorps is a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service. For more information, visit [www.AmeriCorpsWeek.gov](http://www.AmeriCorpsWeek.gov).

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