



STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sarah Palin, Governor
Emil Notti, Commissioner
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Serve Alaska

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**Alaska Honors AmeriCorps Members
During AmeriCorps Week**

Anchorage, Alaska— Alaska will join the third nationwide celebration of **AmeriCorps Week, May 9-16**, spotlighting the vital work done by AmeriCorps Members in communities across Alaska since the national service program began 16 years ago.

More than 440 AmeriCorps Members are serving in Alaska this year, helping students learn to read, mentoring at-risk youth, providing health services, building homes for low-income families, and helping nonprofits recruit more volunteers and better achieve their mission.

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

In the past 16 years more than 574,000 men and women have served as AmeriCorps Members and they have given more than 718 million hours of service to their country.

To mark AmeriCorps Week, there are events happening around the state, including Alaska’s AmeriCorps Recognition Awards Ceremony in Anchorage, the community service project ‘Spring Garden Prep’ at the Anchorage Senior Center, the ‘Fairbanks Clean Up Day’ at the Wellspring Revival Ministries, and AmeriCorps Awareness Week in Juneau where AmeriCorps Members will be available at key locations around town to allow community residents to learn about AmeriCorps programs.

AmeriCorps works through existing organizations and helps them reach more people and better achieve their mission. In 2008, the nation’s 75,000 AmeriCorps members recruited 2.2 million community volunteers to serve alongside them in some 4,100 nonprofit and community organizations across the country.

AmeriCorps members typically remain actively engaged in their communities once their term of service is complete. They not only can be counted on as volunteers, but they also run nonprofits, marshal resources within their communities to address difficult issues and many pursue public service careers.

Upon completion of their term of service, AmeriCorps members are eligible to receive the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of \$4,725, which can be used to pay back student loans or cover future tuition costs. AmeriCorps Members in Alaska have received \$6,600,000 in Education Award since 1994.

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Serving Alaskans Together

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