

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MCCS

2003

Annual Report



Maine Commission for Community Service
State Planning Office
187 State Street
38 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
207-287-5313

www.maineservicecommission.gov



Sowing The Seeds Of Service.

Our State Statute

“There is established the Maine Commission for Community Service to foster the State’s ethic of community service; encourage community service and volunteerism as a means of meeting critical human, environmental, educational, and public safety needs throughout the State; serve as the State’s liaison regarding nation and community service and volunteer activities; foster collaboration among service agencies; receive gifts and grants, implement statewide service programs, and make subgrants to state and local entities in accordance with the federal National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, Public Law 108-02”.

-SMRSA Chapter 373, Section 7501

Our Mission

To foster community service and volunteerism to meet human and environmental needs in the State of Maine.

Our Vision

Vibrant, productive communities with involved, responsible citizens.

Convictions and Principles

From its inception more than 10 years ago, MCCS’ mission has been guided by the following principles:

- Service is a fundamental building block of a civil society;
- Service cultivates a sense of personal and civic responsibility;
- Service is a strategy for solving a range of community problems;

- Service is an exemplary vehicle for delivering educational content and assessing learning — and an educational aim in itself;
- Service varies in intensity from part-time volunteerism to full-time paid service;
- Service, when it is well-conceived and implemented, can be a cost-effective complement to the work of professionals;
- Service includes a range of activities performed by different people using different means;
- Service is a lifelong habit that can be most easily acquired early in life;
- Service works best when it is community-led and government-supported; and
- Service is a fundamental American tradition.

Our Work

The work of MCCS includes:

- Developing the State vision for volunteer service;
- Producing and implementing a 3 year strategic plan that advances the vision and service among citizens;
- Serving as a clearinghouse for people interested in service and agencies recruiting volunteers;
- Setting Maine priorities for funding programs supported by the Corporation for National and Community Service;

- Preparing the State Application for funds, selecting programs to be funded under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 and administering those funds through subgrants;
- Providing training and technical assistance to national service programs in Maine; and
- Carrying out fund-raising efforts to supplement federal funding for volunteer service.

MCCS Values Service...

- As a community building strategy - harnessing the energy of a few to the benefit of many;
- As a problem-solving strategy - complementing the effort and energy of full-time volunteers; and the vision and sense of mission of part or full-time volunteers;
- As a state and nation-building strategy - cultivating a sense of civic identity and greater common purpose.

For More Information Visit Us:

www.maineservicecommission.gov

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-Mahatma Gandhi

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MCCS
Commission Board
2002-2003

Peter Taylor, Chair
Belfast
Maine Community Foundation

Paula Gagnon, Vice Chair
Kennebunkport
York County Community College

Judi Stebbins, Secretary
Winthrop
Griffiths Association

Denyse Anderson, Topsham
Wright Pierce

Susan Cheesman, Concord, NH
*Corporation for National and
Community Service*

Quenten Clark, Farmington
MSAD #58

Rae Clark-McGrath, Cape Elizabeth
*Foster Grandparents
Senior Companion Program*

Art Cleaves, Augusta
ME Emergency Management Agency

Eileen Conlon, Wells
Conlon Consulting Group

Peter Crockett, Augusta
Maine AFL-CIO

Chip Curry, Augusta
Communities for Children

Randall Curtis, Camden
MBNA New England

Acknowledgments

On behalf of the Maine Commission for Community Service, I am pleased to submit our 2003 annual report. The content of this report reflects the Commission's accomplishments in 2003 towards advancing community service in the state of Maine.

According to the Maine Development Foundation's 2004 Measures of Growth Report, 64% of Maine's citizens devoted time outside of regular family and work activities to community activities including volunteering at public schools, community organizations such as little leagues and scouts, organizations which assist the elderly, programs focused on addressing environmental issues, and agencies that assist those in need. This data indicates that Maine citizens are giving their time and talents to strengthening their communities, and that the Commission is moving towards our goal of building a strong ethic of service in Maine.

As you may know, MCCS is the state's lead contact for the federal Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) which operates all national civilian service programs. MCCS also has partnerships with State of Maine Children's Cabinet, Maine Department of Education, Maine Emergency Management Agency, Maine Volunteer Connection and the State Planning Office.

Some of our greatest accomplishments in 2003 were the result of these partnerships. We partnered with the Maine Emergency Management Agency to

implement Citizen Corps - a volunteer initiative aimed at linking citizen volunteer programs with first responders to strengthen community disaster preparedness planning. We also strengthened our partnership with the Maine Volunteer Connection to expand the Annual Blaine House Conference on Volunteerism and co-sponsor the Governor's Service Awards.

In addition, MCCS provided information to Maine's Congressional delegation and the public on the impact of the 2003 federal budget cuts to AmeriCorps programs in Maine. By working closely with Maine's delegation, the Commission was able to work alongside other state commissions and national service stakeholders to secure additional funds for the National Service Trust for the 2004-2005 program cycle.

As you review our Annual Report, you will learn more about these and other successes the Commission has achieved in 2003, as well as discover the many significant contributions average Maine citizens make everyday to help their neighbors. We hope that it will inspire more of our citizens to give themselves to others.

Thank you for your full-fledged support of the Commission and its vital work in making Maine the way life should be.

Peter Taylor
Maine Commission for Community Service Chair
Program Officer, Maine Community Foundation

The Commission

The Maine Commission for Community Service (MCCS) is a twenty-six member Commission established to foster community service and volunteerism to meet the human and environmental needs in the State of Maine. It was created in 1994 through an Executive Order and established in 1995 under state statute. Housed under the State Planning Office, MCCS serves as Maine's lead partner with the federal Corporation for National and Community Service. Representing a diverse, bi-partisan group from all regions of the state, commissioners are appointed by the Governor and serve on the board for a three year term with the option for re-appointment. For your convenience, 2003 commissioners are listed in the margins on the right and left of this page.



Many thanks to those Commission Members completing their terms of service in 2003.

Eileen Conlon, Wells
Dawn Girardin, East Wilton
Kristen Thomas, Harpswell
Brenda Zollitsch, Orono

Commission Staff

In addition to its twenty-six member board, the Commission was also supported by three full-time staff members in 2003. Those assisting the Commission with its mission include:

Maryalice Crofton, Executive Director
Anne Schink, Program Officer
Virginia Everett, Administrative Assistant

The Commission also received administrative support from the Maine State Planning Office. Thanks to the following SPO staff for their assistance:

Tony VanDenBossche, Grants Management
Cathy Levesque, Grants Management



MCCS

Commission Board 2002-2003 Cont'd

Greg DeWitt, Litchfield
Retired, Mental Health Services

Sharon Gleason, Pittston
Maine Volunteer Connection

Christine Force, Portland
STRIVE

Dawn Girardin, East Wilton
Western ME Community Action

Amy Nunan, Augusta
Getting Healthy

Lynda Rohman, Bangor
Eastern Maine Medical Center

Walter Rosen, Brunswick
Retired, National Academy of Sciences

Susanne Sandusky, Mapleton
Aroostook Community Action Program

John Stivers, Topsham
Maine Department of Education

Kristen Thomas, Harpswell
Educator, Wiscasset

Brenda Zollitsch, Orono
University of Maine Cooperative Extension

An Overview of Maine's National Service Programs



**Maine currently has
four major National
Service Programs
operating in the
state.**

**AmeriCorps
AmeriCorps *VISTA
Senior Corps
Learn & Serve**

All branches of National Service operate in communities through grants to non-profit and government organizations and are networked by the Commission. These agencies use the National Service resources to meet local needs and do so within the particular mission of each National Service Program. Whether it be administering federal grants or providing training and technical assistance to programs, the Commission is responsible for ensuring their success and professional development.

The Commission administers funds granted to AmeriCorps programs in Maine. These funds are granted through two processes: competitive and formula.

Every three years, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) holds a grant competition whereby non-profit organizations that operate a national or regional level program are eligible to apply for funding from CNCS. An example of programs that apply for these types of awards include Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Club of America, Campus Compact, Youthbuild, etc.

In addition to this direct funding, MCCS is allotted federal funds to run a formula grant application process where state non-profit and government organizations submit grants to become affiliated with AmeriCorps and have potential AmeriCorps members work in their individual communities.

CNCS also provides direct grants to programs that sponsor AmeriCorps*VISTA, Senior Corps, Citizen Corps and Learn & Serve. Maine's school-based Learn & Serve funds are granted in trust to the ME Department of Education, Kids Consortium and Maine Campus Compact.

One of the most interesting aspects of Maine National Service Programs is the type of people the AmeriCorps programs attract. The following information from the 2003 AmeriCorps Member Exit Survey highlights the significant impact the AmeriCorps Crew, AmeriCorps*VISTA, and AmeriCorps NCCC have not only on members but the State of Maine itself.

AmeriCorps Gives Maine Means to Advance Their Higher Education Goals

In 2003, 54% of Maine's AmeriCorps members were residents in the state before applying to serve. Interestingly, they were also 3-5 years older (average age was 29) than the "typical AmeriCorps volunteer" on a national scale. Only 34.6% had a college degree or higher.

Because the AmeriCorps programs provide educational awards to members who complete service (see pg. 13), it is not surprising that upon completion of the program, 53.8% of them plan to use their educational award to continue their education. In addition, 87.6% of them said that they are committed to enrolling in either a community college, college/university, or graduate program. One AmeriCorps member said, "I have wanted to get a graduate degree, but with two of my own kids in college, I wouldn't have pursued college myself without the AmeriCorps education award."

AmeriCorps Brings Young Educated Out-of-Staters to Maine

Forty-six percent of Maine's 2003 AmeriCorps members moved here from out of state.

A solid 81% were between the ages of 20-34 and 91% had earned a college degree or higher. An overwhelming 86.3% planned on remaining in Maine after the completion of their AmeriCorps service, making it evident that AmeriCorps is persuading talented young individuals to come to Maine, thus promoting the social and intellectual capital of the the state.

AmeriCorps Changes Members Perceptions about Volunteering

Before joining AmeriCorps, 23.7% of members seldom volunteered in their communities with 11.5% stating that they had never participated in community service. However, upon completion of the program, 100% of the 2003 AmeriCorps members said they were likely to volunteer in their communities in the future.

AmeriCorps Changes Lives

Another amazing part of AmeriCorps is that it changes member's lives. Many of them go through an intense self-discovery as well as learn skills to advance their education, careers, and personal well-being. Eighty-five percent of members learned how to work with other community members to get things done, 50% learned about or worked with different ethnic/cultural groups, and 83% learned to give assistance, motivation and direction to others.

In their own words...

"Be prepared for lots of new adventures and first times. You will quickly be exposed to and gain experience in many different new tasks that you may not have tried before--recruiting and supervising volunteers, designing and giving programs in front of large audiences, managing publicity for an event... You will definitely gain confidence and leave AmeriCorps as a more competent person in the world able to take on hard issues and solve problems, Don't be intimidated early on--it's worth the hard work." -2003 Maine AmeriCorps Member with advice for new members.



"AmeriCorps brought the leader out in me."

-Maine AmeriCorps Member

AMERICORPS *Clips*

AmeriCorps member **Steve Hoad** served with the Maine Conservation Corps in 2003, recruiting and placing volunteers with environmental projects for their State Environmental Resource Volunteer Effort for Maine (SERVE Maine) program. Steve is blind, but through the efforts of MCCS and its disability inclusion work, he was able to serve in AmeriCorps and become one of its amazing success stories. In his own words...

"Was it an issue that I was blind, with this job in mind, as far as I was concerned? The answer to that is no... because I know what my own skills, abilities are.

I think everybody has things to gain when they're involved with volunteerism. People with disabilities certainly stand to gain the most because they haven't always been included in occupational goals and things like that and in areas of employment and in areas of socialization. But I think the gains that can be made by the disabled, are very similar to the gains that can be made by the general society. Those obviously include : the ability to coexist with other people on a team; the ability to find out what kind of skills you have, and what kinds of skills you might enjoy using during this particular"period of your life; the ability to get out into the community and express yourself and let people know what kind of a person you are and what you have to offer; and maybe most importantly of all, the ability to feel good about the things that you're doing, and to know that the things that you're doing can make a contribution to the programs that need contributions."

-MCC Member Steve Hoad

Meeting Our Statutory Duties and Measuring Performance

MCCS must report annually to the Maine State Legislature Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government on its performance in regard to the statutory duties as defined by **SMRSA Chapter 373, Section 7501**.

Statutory Duty: Develop the State Vision for Volunteer Service

Every year the Governor of the State of Maine holds the Governor's Annual Service Awards, honoring people throughout the state of Maine who have dedicated their time to worthy causes in their communities. The awards program is administered jointly by MCCS and the Maine Volunteer Connection (MVC).

With planning beginning in early 2003, nomination criteria was set by a designated committee made of eight members from both MCCS and MVC. Once nomination forms were collected, the committee had the pleasure of selecting those who would be honored with an award based on the following criteria: the years of service they dedicated, how many people's lives they impacted, and whether they went above and beyond the call of service. One of the most important factors the committee considered were the letters of recommendations from their peers that were included with the nomination forms.

The criteria for the awards intended not only to highlight the significant contributions of volunteers in Maine's communities, but to also inspire other Maine citizens to follow the recipients lead in giving to their communities. Award winners will be announced in Spring 2004.

Statutory Duty: Cultivate Collaboration Amongst Public and Private Volunteer Service Programs

An important mission of MCCS is to promote volunteer service statewide. One of the ways we achieve this goal is through creating partnerships to discuss and implement community-building and problem-solving strategies with various agencies statewide.

Citizen Corps. Established in January 2003, a partnership between Maine Emergency Management Agency and MCCS was created to administer Citizen Corps. An initiative created by the order of the President after the 9/11 attacks, Citizen Corps is meant to engage every day citizens in specific homeland security efforts in their own communities. See pg. 10.

The Muskie School, Institute for Public Sector Innovation. In 2003, the Commission contracted with the Muskie School to provide training and technical assistance to Maine's AmeriCorps and National Service Program Directors. In addition, it provides administrative assistance to Maine's State Citizen Corps Councils.

University of Maine at Orono, Center for Community Inclusion. In an effort to provide opportunities to disabled citizens wishing to provide service to their communities, MCCS has coordinated with the Center for Community Inclusion to provide consulting and training to Maine's service agencies on working with volunteers with disabilities and other related issues.

Children's Cabinet. The Commission is represented on the Senior Staff of the Children's Cabinet and identifies sources of National Service and community service support for Cabinet initiatives.

Maine Jobs Council, School-to-Work Committee. Recognizing that volunteer service is often a means to exploring career options and gaining experience that can be transferred to employment settings, MCCS joined this committee in 2001.

Maine Homeland Security Task Force. The Commission participated on the Task Force's Objective IV Team and its subcommittee on roles and responsibilities. MCCS provided insight to including National Service and local volunteers in the state's disaster preparedness plan.

Maine National Service Alliance. The Commission is one of the convenors as well as a member of this organization. All branches of National Service in Maine are represented and collaborate on training, service activities, and outreach.

Maine Volunteer Connection. Along with the Maine Volunteer Connection, a private non-profit focused on the needs of volunteer administrators, the Commission co-sponsored the 17th Annual Blaine House Conference on Volunteerism - the largest training conference dedicated to volunteer management and program issues. Held every October at the Augusta Civic Center, this year over 200 people attended.

Performance Measures

MCCS is required to identify its Performance Objectives and Measures in conjunction with the biennial budgeting process. For the biennium ending in June 2005, the Commission established the following performance measures:

- Increase the percentage of discretionary time that Maine's adults devote to community organizations or civic activities.
- Increase the number of school-aged youth who are engaged in community service.
- Increase the numbers of community service leaders who have the knowledge, information, and skills they need to manage the risks associated with community service and volunteer programs.
- Increase the percentage of youth and adults in community service who have the knowledge, information, and skills necessary to operate programs that provide youth with opportunities to serve their communities.

Cont'd

Statutory Duties

Statutory Duty: Serve as a Clearinghouse for People Interested in Service and Agencies Recruiting Volunteers

In 2003, the Commission moved forward with redesigning, updating and making their websites ADA accessible. One of the first major actions was to change the Commission's website URL to **www.maineservicecommission.gov**. The MCCS's other site, **www.volunteermaine.org**, was also updated at that time.

Contracting with a Maine web development firm, both Commission sites were designed to interact with one another, collaboratively sharing information. Each web-site allows visitors to:

- Read the Commission's online newsletter, *Volunteer Fare*;
- Read current news releases about the commission and other community service agencies; and
- Submit community service events to be posted on the web-site calendar of events.

www.maineservicecommission.gov
The Commission's business website **www.maineservicecommission.gov** was designed to highlight the work of the Commission and hosts both a public and private side, becoming one of the first state agencies to

operate primarily online. As part of their duties, Commission members and staff are responsible for logging into the site and posting much of its content. All members have remote access to post minutes, upload reports from meetings, and maintain designated pages. In addition to the previously mentioned available information, visitors to the business site can access :

- Commission member list and minutes;
- Monthly business reports (HQ Happenings);
- Resources on national service, program management, grant administration, research, recruiting efforts, etc.
- Information about the Commission's grant-making activities and (from time to time) information about funding opportunities offered by our partners or other Maine agencies.

www.volunteermaine.gov

Its counterpart, **www.volunteermaine.gov** was designed to foster community service by providing support to three groups: volunteer administrators needing information on management issues; agencies looking to post volunteer opportunities; and individuals seeking such service activities. On this virtual volunteer resource center, you will find:

- A listing by subject matter of service agencies that are in need of volunteers;

- Links to databases that provide state-wide listings of volunteer opportunities; and
- Resources including data, research and laws on volunteer community service.

“We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.”

- Mother Theresa

Statutory Duty: Provide Training and Technical Assistance to National Service programs in Maine

MCCS provides ongoing training and technical assistance for National Service programs, including AmeriCorps and Senior Corps.

- Training involves conferences and workshops; technical assistance involves support, coaching,

mentoring for program staff to ensure their success and to foster their professional development. In 2003, MCCS:

- Provided volunteer management training to 113 National Service members by underwriting their attendance at the Blaine House Conference on Volunteerism in October.

- Convened Staff Council Meetings. This continues to be a mainstay for sharing of information, resources, and peer-to-peer networking among AmeriCorps program staff.

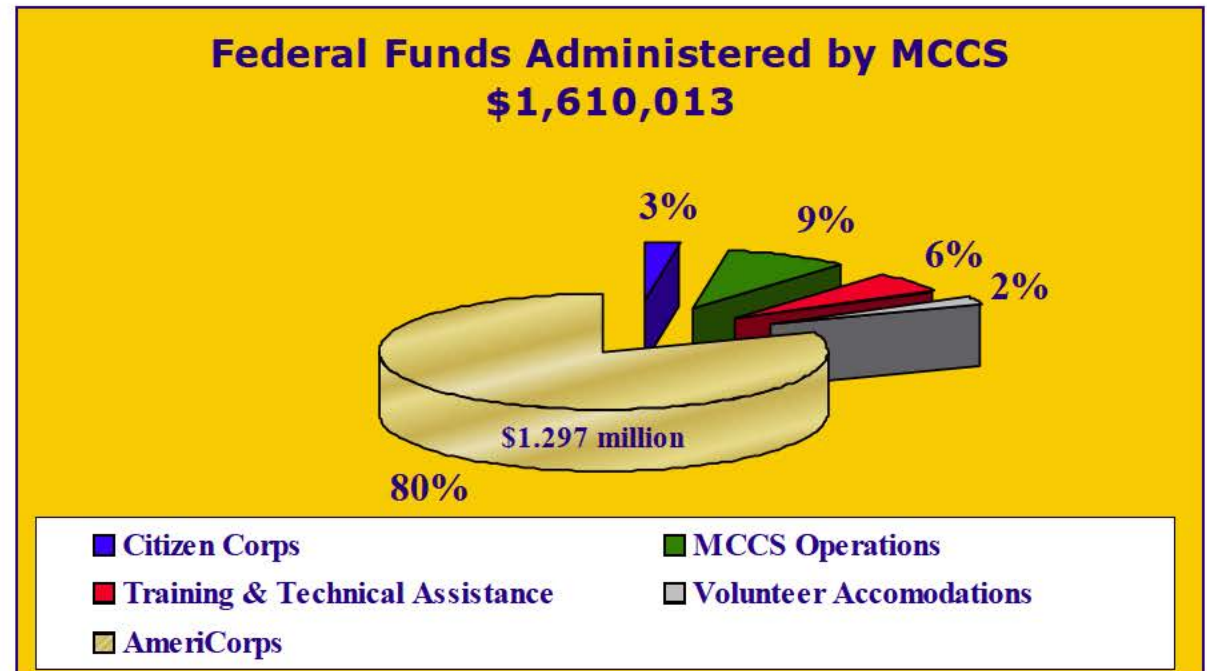
- Coordinated the Tri-State Conference. This five-year collaboration with ME, NH, VT and the CNCS State Office continues to be beneficial to community service program staff as it provides training and sharing of information of over 200 registrants.

- Hosted a Best Practices in Human Resources and Management Conference in the spring for all National Service Program Directors.

- Hosted Best Practices for Financial Management conference in the fall for Program Directors.

- Sponsored Corps Council meetings providing a network of actively serving AmeriCorps Members with community service opportunities above and beyond their service requirements.

- Established a Disability Advisory Committee that provided information between representatives of



the disability community and program directors on disability inclusion.

- Conducted two days of training in early December for Program Directors. The first session was a review of WBRS (Web Based Reporting System) and an introduction to the new APR (Automated Progress Report) format that grew out of the Corporation's desire for better measurement of long term outcomes in addition to outputs. The second day an information session on applying for an AmeriCorps grant and using EGrants at the Hutchinson Center of the University of Maine in Belfast was held.

Statutory Duty: Preselect Programs to be Funded under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 and Prepare the State Application for CNCS

In 2003, MCCS funded four AmeriCorps State programs and two planning grants. More information on the programs funded in 2003 can be found in the AmeriCorps section of this report on page 12 or in the Clips portion starting at page 16.

CITIZEN CORPS

State Coordinating Council

Quenten Clark, Co-Chair
Farmington
MSAD #58

Art Cleaves, Co-Chair
Wayne
Maine Emergency Management
Agency

Joe Bolduc, Oakland
SAPPI Fine Papers

Bob Bohlmann, Wells
York County EMA Director

Peter Crockett, Chelsea
Maine AFL-CIO

Susan Cheesman, Concord, NH
Corporation for National and
Community Service

Greg DeWitt, Litchfield
State of Maine Social Worker

Everett B. Flannery, Jr.
Kennebec County Sheriff's Office

John Rebar, Orono
UMaine Cooperative Extension

Department of Homeland Security

Citizen Corps

Maine State Citizen Corps is a federal, state, and local partnership that brings public, private, health, first responder, and volunteer sectors together for the purpose of meeting community needs and building a sustainable system for engaging citizens as volunteers during times of emergency.

Established by President Bush under the USA Freedom Corps, the Maine Citizens Corps was officially constituted in January 2003 under the auspices of the Maine Commission for Community Service and Maine Emergency Management Agency. Consisting of a 17 member council and two support staff, including an AmeriCorps*VISTA and coordinator at the Muskie School of Public Service, the Citizen Corps is working towards the vision of safe, healthy, secure Maine communities.

Mission

To create the volunteer infrastructure that leverages existing programs and agencies to engage citizens in addressing local emergency response needs in Maine's communities.

Maine State Citizen Corps Council (MSCCC)

The state council is a coordinating body that fosters local efforts. MSCC brings together a diverse membership to promote Citizen Corps' mission. Represented on the council are emergency prepared-

ness and response professionals, first responders volunteer groups, and community service programs that interact with public health and safety agencies. Council membership includes a county sheriff, a school superintendent, social workers, a police chief, hospital personnel, county emergency management, university staff, and American Red Cross members.

Each one of the council members bring their expertise and knowledge to the table to foster the initiative to inspire and enable Americans to find ways to better prepare their families, neighborhoods and communities.

Also included in the MSCCC is involvement from key sectors of Maine's communities including county government, businesses, schools, health organizations, emergency medical services and other civic groups.

Member Katy Stebbins

"Serving in the dynamics of the first responder and mainstream volunteer world has been an eye opener. I've learned to wear many hats and have had the chance to experience the realm of community development."

Priorities

- Identify how volunteers can meet the needs of first responders;
- Create an action plan to involve communities in prevention, preparedness, and response activities;
- Create an action plan to mobilize communities in the event of a large-scale disaster;
- With the community, design and implement a systematic approach for public education on relevant local issues;
- Provide leadership to new and existing volunteer opportunities in public health, safety, and emergency preparedness;
- Assess community strengths and needs related to public health, public safety, and emergency preparedness;
- Provide or coordinate training needed by local endeavors;
- Recognize activities that promote prevention, increase preparedness, or respond to local events;
- Organize community projects that promote Citizen Corps and recruit volunteers; and
- Network with other Citizen Corps councils by region and state.

Successes

This past year has been successful for the implementation of the council. Meeting bi-monthly, MSCCC was able to confirm two county councils and three affiliate programs including the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Maine Community Policing Institute (MCPI), and the UMaine Cooperative Extension (UMCE). In the event of a natural or man-made disaster, Citizen Corps would be able to call upon these affiliate groups to support volunteers in particular areas of need.

In addition, Citizen Corps was able to receive a three year grant of \$500,000 from the Corporation for National and Community Service to develop Citizen Corps Councils in Maine and address homeland security and emergency preparedness needs through the use of a 21 member AmeriCorps*VISTA team. Of the 21 VISTAs hosted locally, seven of those are connected to county emergency management offices in order to develop local Citizen Corps Councils. The remaining VISTAs are hosted by local programs that aim to help minority groups, special needs populations, immigrants, and senior citizens in five counties be prepared for emergencies. These five counties include York, Cumberland, Aroostook, Franklin and Hancock.



Olan Johnston
Muskie School of Public Service
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(207) 626-5240

CITIZEN CORPS

State Coordinating Council Cont'd

Gerry Keenan, Hulls Cove
*Partners in Practice Physician
Extenders Consulting Services*

Dawn Kinney, Boothbay
*Education & Training Licensing
Agent - Maine EMS*

Liz McCabe Park, Lewiston
Campus Compact, Bates College

Andrew Mendes, Jefferson
American Red Cross

Ruth Saint Amand, Waterville
HealthReach, RSVP

Steve Trockman, Georgetown
*Regional Resource Center
Southern Maine Medical Center*

Joe Young, Winthrop
*Police Chiefs' Association
Winthrop Police Department*

Kathy Knight, Bangor
*Center for Emergency Preparedness
Eastern Maine Medical Center*

Maine's National Service Programs

AmeriCorps VISTA, Crew, and NCCC



AmeriCorps, the domestic Peace Corps, engages more than 60,000 Americans in intensive, results-driven service each year. Members are teaching children to read, building handicap accessible ramps, serving on emergency response teams, and bringing communities together. Maine has three types of AmeriCorps Members: Crew, VISTA, and NCCC

AmeriCorps*VISTAs (Volunteers in Service to America)

VISTA's engage in capacity-building activities that result in the creation or expansion of programs meeting critical, low-income community needs. AmeriCorps*VISTAs serve full-time and are supported by a stipend. Benefits include healthcare and, upon successful completion of service, the individual is granted an educational award or cash benefit.

AmeriCorps Crew Members

AmeriCorps crew members focus on direct service to Maine's communities. Those who serve 1700 hours in 12 months receive a small living allowance of \$9,600 per year plus health insurance and child care assistance. To be eligible for service, members must be 17 years or older; a US citizen or legal resident; and in most cases, a high school graduate or be willing to work towards a GED. An educational award is granted upon successful completion of service.

AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps)

NCCC is a residential program whose participants are trained to meet community needs related to major disasters. Based at six campuses nationwide, NCCC members are deployed for varying lengths of time to disaster sites for floods, forest fires, ice storms, tornadoes, etc. When not involved in disaster relief, members take on special projects in their regions such as home building, trail construction, and natural resource protection.

AmeriCorps 2003: What Grant Funds Leveraged In Local Resources



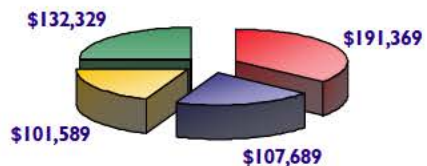
■ CNCS \$\$ ■ Local In-kind ■ Local Cash

AmeriCorps Grants Leverage Education

After completing a term of service, all AmeriCorps members receive an education award that can be used to pay off student loans or finance college or vocational training. Individuals who serve 1700 hours qualify for an education award of \$4,725 while those who serve part-time qualify for a pro-rated award.

By the end of the 2003 program year, the 108 AmeriCorps Members had qualified for just over \$532,976 in financial assistance for post-secondary education! See graph below.

2003 Education Awards Earned by Maine AmeriCorps Members: \$532,976 Total Value



■ Maine Conservation Corps ■ Maine Response Team
■ Maine Service Corps ■ Teach Maine

How AmeriCorps Grants Work

MCCS currently funds AmeriCorps programs that will have statewide impact and promote community sustainability in various areas including the environment, housing, and education. Approved for a 3-year grant through a competitive grant process, each program is selected for a variety of reasons, but most importantly, its alignment with the Commission's strategic plan.

In addition to receiving federal funds through MCCS, funded AmeriCorps grants require local matching through cash and in-kind support from the sponsoring organization and partners that host individual AmeriCorps Members. In 2003, Maine's AmeriCorps program grants leveraged nearly \$1.5 million dollars in local resources. See graph left.

AmeriCorps as a Catalyst for Citizen Service

AmeriCorps not only builds stronger communities, but it mobilizes local citizens to serve as volunteers alongside its members. In 2003, Maine's AmeriCorps programs enlisted an additional 8,473 community volunteers.

AmeriCorps State Program Name	Local Volunteers	Volunteer Hours
Maine Conservation Corps	5,643	24,278
Maine Response Team	448	1,467
Maine Service Corps	2,243	2,524
Teach Maine AmeriCorps	139	1,570
TOTAL	8,473	34,272

AmeriCorps State Program Name	CNCS Grant funds	Local Match	FTE Members	Value of Education Award
Maine Conservation Corps	\$ 569,500	\$ 854,300	49.6	\$ 191,369
Maine Response Team	\$ 198,400	\$ 297,601	17.5	\$ 107,689
Maine Service Corps	\$ 310,000	\$ 214,533	21.5	\$ 101,589
Teach Maine AmeriCorps	\$ 178,692	\$ 88,102	19.9	\$ 132,329
TOTALS	\$ 1,256,592	\$ 1,455,390	108.5	\$ 532,975

AmeriCorps Planning Grants	CNCS Grant	Local Match
AmeriCorps Mentor Project	\$ 20,000	\$ 12,900
Maine Primary Care Association	\$ 20,000	\$ 30,200
TOTALS	\$60,000	\$ 49,898



Maine's National Service Programs

Learn and Serve

Teaching Maine's Youth the Importance of Giving

Katie Machaiek, a junior at Rockland District High School, has used her love of and talent in video production to teach her community about a variety of issues. Created as part of her Video Production class, one video was a Public Service Announcement to help raise awareness of carbon monoxide poisoning. In her English class, Katie worked primarily with two other students to create a video about alcohol use and teens. Over 90 students, as well as faculty, parents and community members were involved. However, Katie played a leading role as director, videographer and editor. Katie also has organized food and toy drives and events and fundraisers for Breast Cancer Awareness Week.

Learn and Serve supports service-learning programs in schools and community organizations to help nearly one million students from kindergarten through college meet community needs while improving their academic skills and learning the habits of good citizenship. Learn and Serve grants are used to create new programs or replicate existing ones, as well as to provide training and development of staff, faculty and volunteers.

Benchmark of Success

During the 2002-2003 academic year, service-learning in Maine involved 14 school districts and 7 college/university campuses.

State Lead

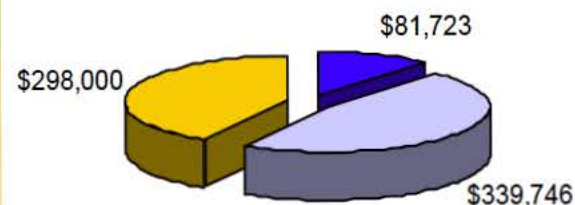
The state lead for K-12 service-learning is the Maine Department of Education. For more information contact:

Lora Downing, Education Specialist
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23 State House Station
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(207) 624-6740

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<http://www.maine.gov/education/lsa/homepage.htm>

2003-2006 CNCS Learn & Serve Maine Grants



- Dept. of Education School Based Service Learning (Formula)
- Dept. of Education Linking Civics, History and Service
- KIDS Consortium (Kids Civic Action Network)



Maine's National Service Programs

National Senior Service Corps

Foster Grandparents

Foster Grandparents devote their volunteer service entirely to children with special or exceptional needs, children who need tutoring because they lag behind in reading, troubled teenagers and young mothers needing mentors, and premature infants and children with physical disabilities and severe illnesses. Foster Grandparents interact directly, one-on-one, with children. They serve 20 hours a week; are 60 years or older in age; meet certain income eligibility guidelines; receive modest tax free stipends to offset the cost of volunteering; receive reimbursement for transportation and some meals during service, an annual physical, accident and liability insurance while on duty, and pre-service and monthly training sessions.

Senior Companions

Senior Companions reach out to adults who need extra assistance to live independently in their own homes or communities. They serve frail older adults and their caregivers, adults with disabilities, and those with terminal illnesses. Senior companions serve adult clients directly through one-on-one hands-on service; spend 20 hours a week in service; are 60 years of age or older; meet certain income eligibility guidelines; receive modest tax free stipends to offset the cost of volunteering; receive reimbursement for transportation, some meals during service, an annual physical, accident and liability insurance while on duty, and participate in pre-service and monthly training sessions.

Retired Seniors Volunteers Program (RSVP)

RSVP offers maximum flexibility and choice to its volunteers. RSVP matches the personal interests and skills of older Americans with opportunities to help solve community problems. Volunteers choose how, where, and when they want to serve making it easy for older adults to find the types of volunteer service opportunities that appeal to them. As an RSVP volunteer you must be age 55 or older; will receive supplemental insurance while on duty; participate in pre-service orientation; and receive on-the-job training from the agency or organization where they are placed.

2003 National Service Accomplishments

Maine Conservation Corps

“This year has provided the opportunity to be the biggest in personal growth ever recorded, for me anyway. I came to Maine not sure of what I was getting into and not knowing if I would be able to handle the challenge laid out before me. I was full of self-doubt and uncertain if I would be able to meet the expectations of MCC, my supervisors, my crew and of myself...

I was given room to experiment to see what worked for my crew and me. With some trial and error, I managed to lead a very successful team for two months this summer. My team and I spent the summer at Sugarloaf Mountain working on a connector trail that lead from the Appalachian Trail to the mountain summit. With my knowledge of trail skills, I am no longer able to look at trails the way I did before I arrived in Maine. I know how and when rock steps and water bars are set, proper bog bridging, and good trail maintenance when I see it. I will never take trails for granted.

I have spoken a lot about the skills that I have learned this year. But believe it or not, it is nothing compared to the people I have met. The personalities, all so unique have all influenced me in some way or another. And I have learned something from myself. If you believe in yourself, anything is possible.”

*Rick Alex Hanson
MCC Team Leader*

Maine Conservation Corps (MCC) is a statewide environmental program that had 88 full and part-time AmeriCorps Members. 45 members served in teams to improve public access to natural areas by building trails and completing other outdoor recreation and conservation projects. The remaining 43 volunteers served 131 volunteer hours with individually placed members on the following projects: water quality tests, AMS gardening after school, Halloween Concession Stands, volunteering at the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society, the Auburn Home for Aged Women, and the YMCA Child Care Center. In 2003, MCC contributed the following:

- Provided new or improved public access to natural areas, with minimal environmental impact, for trail users and recreationists by building and rehabilitating 19 miles of trail.
- Completed 773 pollution preventive or corrective actions (through watershed surveys, water quality testing, erosion control strategies, and water quality monitoring) on watersheds throughout Maine. Tests performed included phytoplankton monitoring, fecal coliform testing, turbidity, PH, chlorophyll, dissolved oxygen. Preventative/corrective actions included storm drain stenciling, coastal and beach cleanup, bank stabilization, and vegetative buffer planting.
- Conducted 1,383 experiential environmental training activities year-round for 14,799 students and teachers at 40 different schools across Maine.
- Organized environmental service projects for 1,135 children and youth.

2003 National Service Accomplishments

Maine Response Team

AMERICORPS

Clips

Maine Response Team. When members were not responding to local and national disasters, they provided disaster and safety education to targeted communities and populations throughout Maine. Their 2003 accomplishments include:

- 17 Maine Response Team members at 8 sites responded to 275 local disasters providing emergency needs for 1,010 disaster clients.

- Members were deployed nationally to majors disasters as part of Red Cross DSHR to perform mass care, family services, and other response functions for disaster clients. Members responded to tornadoes in Florida, Kansas and Missouri; a typhoon in Guam; ice storms and flooding in Ohio; and tornado and flood conditions in Louisiana and Texas.

- Provided community disaster and safety education to 42,265 children, seniors, and members of traditionally underserved or at risk communities through handing out safety and preparation materials, setting up booths at craft and health fairs, participating in fire prevention week, presenting to businesses, colleges, senior living facilities, Boy and Girl Scouts Groups, day care centers and apartment complexes.

- Developed or updated cooperative agreements with 340 Maine businesses and organizations to expand community ability to respond to the immediate emergency needs of individuals affected by disaster, and to ensure use of local facilities as shelters in the event of a disaster.

- Recruited 448 new volunteers.

“Once again, I don’t have any amazing, front-page-worthy stories... but for me, it’s all in the little things. One of my favorite parts of my limited time on disaster in Ohio was the day I spent feeding out of the back of a cargo van (the Emergency Response Vehicles were broken). We parked at a fire station and spent the afternoon scooping up meals and chatting with the firefighters who came outside in the snow to say hello. A disabled man in the house across the street came by to pick up lunch for his family and was so excited that we had pudding. He loved pudding! So when we were heading out for the afternoon, my partner Bill and I headed across the street with the leftovers from the meal- and a big tub of pudding for the man. He was smiling so wide when he opened the door. The rewards of this job are all in the little things- like the joys of leftover pudding- and his smile was the best part of my day.

I just have to say that I love working with the other members! Meeting the amazing people on our team, working with them, playing with them, and learning from them has been one of the best parts of this job. I know that even after July comes and goes I will have many long-time friends from this experience.”

-An MRT Member

2003 National Service Accomplishments

AMERICORPS

Clips

Maine Service Corps

HEADLINE: Maine Service Corps Members Co-host 4th Annual Halloween Egg "Haunt"

Maine Service Corps in Lewiston co-hosted the 3rd Annual Halloween Egg Haunt with the Lewiston Department of Parks and Recreation. At this free community event, elementary and middle school aged children celebrated the holiday by making crafts, participating in sing-alongs and searching for orange and black eggs filled with candy. Over 300 children brought their parents along for this family friendly holiday fare.

Maine Service Corps addressed compelling housing issues in Maine's second and third largest cities (Bangor and Lewiston) as well as in the midcoast area. AmeriCorps members upgraded housing units to be used as affordable, accessible housing for persons with limited incomes and disabilities. In Lewiston, the crew also helped expand the opportunity for first-time youth offenders to perform community service. Their 2003 accomplishments include:

- Retrofitting homes to allow 67 people to stay at their residence and remain independent through the services that 18 AmeriCorps members provided.

- 12 Members served on 12 housing modification projects that affected thirty-four people living in those units. Two wheelchair ramps were built, eight homes were retrofitted for energy conservation savings, and two houses had bathrooms refitted for people with disabilities.

- 9 Members have provided mentoring and future planning to 70 youth who had lost direction and were in need of guidance.

- Provided weatherization services to 44 homes in the state.

- 10 AmeriCorps Members served with volunteers in educating 150 + people in 16 communities about energy conservation. Members spoke in schools and at community organizations.

- Undertook service projects with 20 new community partners and 45 existing partners.

2003 National Service Accomplishments

Teach Maine



Teach Maine members worked with local non-profits, municipalities and schools teaching students and giving them service-learning opportunities that helped their communities. In 2003, they provided the following:

- 12 full time Members and 30 quarter time Members at the University of Southern Maine led 484 students through service learning projects.

- 12 Members presented educational presentations to 12,654 students for a total of 36,930 contact hours. Members operated large components of summer camps for the Wolfe's Neck Farm, the Morris Farm, and Tanglewood 4-H camp and learning center. These programs taught topics including: composting, wilderness survival, animal husbandry, egg education, pig science, food systems, sustainable agriculture, orienteering, fresh water ecosystems, tree identification, forestry, watershed protection, hunger issues in southern Maine (kids were raising food to be donated to the local food pantry), Portland history, and loon education.

- 15 part-time Members and 12 summer Members provided a safe place for 1,298 youth during out of school hours through providing after school study sessions, summer camps, and service project involvement.

- End of program reports from sites indicated 12 partnerships that were either created by or significantly strengthened by the work of the Teach Maine AmeriCorps Member. One of these collaborations was between the Wolfe's Neck Farm, Bowdoin College, and Freeport High School.

"One particularly nice moment of the past quarter occurred while I was teaching the watershed model at the YMCA camp in July. I was going through the presentation and one particular kid was answering all the questions perfectly. Then I realized he looked familiar. I had done the same presentation to his school class earlier in the year. It was great to see he actually remembered it and was able to participate and demonstrate his knowledge to the rest of the group."

Member Melissa Sternlieb

2003 National Service Accomplishments

AmeriCorps*VISTA Programs

American Red Cross of Southern Maine.

This statewide AmeriCorps*VISTA project (with 21 members) is designed to facilitate a unified and cohesive infrastructure to match volunteers to volunteer opportunities throughout Maine in order to mobilize communities to help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to disasters of all kinds. Members provided comprehensive preparedness and response activities and included the development and support of citizen corps councils and initiatives. Organizations hosting VISTA members include: Maine Emergency Management Agency, the State Citizen Corps Council (Muskie School), RSVP project sponsors, County Emergency Management Agencies, and American Red Cross Chapter sites.

Bread of Life Ministries. The Bread of Life Ministries is a small faith-based non-profit in central Maine that works to break the intergenerational cycle of homelessness. The VISTA member helped set up a network of supportive services that will enable currently homeless individuals to live more independently. The services were facilitated by a mentoring program that brought volunteers directly into contact with clients to teach such living skills as money management, child care skills, and pre-employment and employment skills.

City of Lewiston-Somali Resettlement Project.

Seven AmeriCorps*VISTA members served with the City of Lewiston, Lewiston CareerCenter and University of Southern Maine - Center for Workplace Learning, Department of Human Services, Literacy Volunteers of Androscoggin, Lewiston Adult Education, Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments, and Community Concepts. Members assessed and developed individual career plans for refugees to recapture or exceed prior career accomplishments; collected data about local under-employment and the impact of this effort on the community; managed an existing English Conversational Program; linked the Somali community in order to modify Literacy Volunteer's current services; assisted with volunteer recruitment, grant-writing, and development of an ESL library; assisted with the DHS Aspire program; found solutions for local transportation, childcare and mental health issues; created unique adult education programs and services; created marketing, mentoring and financial literacy programs; assisted with IDAs and entrepreneurship; designed activities to educate residents about cultural sensitivity and intercultural communication; and designed employment training and pre-employment work skills plan.

Coastal Enterprises, Inc. VISTA members were assigned to assist with affordable housing issues for low-income citizens. One VISTA member expanded the rural home ownership initiative providing comprehensive assistance to potential low income homeowners. The second VISTA member served in the City of Bath's Affordable Housing Initiative informing community members of affordable housing opportunities and bringing neighborhood concerns to the attention of the Community Development program. Developing community and individual assets has been the centerpiece of CEI's work. The project focuses on four target strategies designed to enhance existing efforts to produce significant results: StartSmart, Women's Business Development Initiative, Employer Supported Housing Initiative, and Downtown Revitalization Program.

Communities for Children. Coordinated by the Children's Cabinet, Communities for Children brings together the resources of state government with the leadership, organization and concern of local communities to solve problems facing Maine's children and families. VISTA members assisted in creating strong prevention systems effort addressing problems of substance abuse, teen pregnancy, violence, school drop-out rates, aspirations, and juvenile delinquency. To date, 61 communities, representing more than 200 towns in Maine, have signed on with Communities for Children.

Independent Transportation Network.

ITN's mission is to provide dignified, economically sustainable transportation for people who are too old to drive and for the visually impaired. Serving population of more than 25,000 people in the greater Portland area, ITN uses automobiles and both paid and volunteer

“There is no better exercise for your heart, than reaching down and helping to lift someone up.”

— Bernard Meltzer

drives to provide service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The service allows unsafe senior drivers to voluntarily transition to the passenger seat and to remain independently in the community when they can no longer drive. This year's two VISTA members expanded ITN's low-income riders program called the "Road Scholarship Program".

Department of Agriculture - Farm Share Program. The Maine Senior FarmShare Program is an innovative approach to improving low-income senior citizens' nutritional needs by providing locally-grown fruit and vegetables through "farm shares". The FarmShare program benefits both farms and low-income elderly by paying farmers \$100 per elderly recipient's share at the beginning of the growing season, to grow fresh produce. VISTA members supported the coordination, distribution, and data management systems necessary to facilitate the Maine Senior FarmShare program, serving approximately 1/3 of the low-income elderly population in the state.

Maine Campus Compact (MCC). MCC is a statewide coalition of colleges and universities established to encourage and enhance campus engagement in the community. The VISTA program is part of the Campus Compact Northern New England AmeriCorps*VISTA Collaboration among the Campus Compact state affiliates in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. It is based on a mutual interest in supporting service focused on anti-poverty measures at the more than 70 colleges and universities in our collective membership.

Maine Council of Churches. This VISTA project formed Restorative Justice Collaboration in the area served by the 6th District Court of Maine (Brunswick/Bath region). Members (1) assessed the current understanding of restorative justice among those who interface with "juveniles", (2) increased the understanding of restorative justice as an alternative model in criminal justice, and (3) worked with and trained community-based groups to launch new restorative justice initiatives.

The Maine Office of Substance Abuse.

VISTA members supplemented the work of the State Incentive Grant known as One ME, a grant to extend substance abuse prevention systems into poverty communities which otherwise would not be served by the grant. The program targets youths ages 12-17 with science-based prevention programs. Three VISTA members located in Skowhegan, Dover-Foxcroft, and Houlton assisted their communities with coalition building activities and engaged in a needs assessment process. They identified and applied for funding sources which will support substance abuse prevention in Maine.

Maine Time Dollar Network. The mission of Maine Time Dollar Network is to strengthen the informal support systems of family, neighborhood, and community, through a network of Time Dollar exchange programs throughout Maine. Expanding the network into Rockland, Lewiston, and Caribou, VISTA members focused on specific issues of concern to low-income families, seniors and disadvantaged youth. They developed a home repair and maintenance program to serve low-income seniors, a computer technology project for youth-at-risk, and a Time Dollar Store to improve employment skills for low-income families.

Preble Street Resource Center. Preble Street is a small grassroots community agency which offers direct services to and advocates for Portland's homeless and low-income populations. VISTA members developed a long-range plan to make the Food Pantry program self-sufficient; served with the Oxford Street Garden Project and recruited homeless individuals, community members, stakeholders, and other service agencies to expand the garden; and supported the Breakfast Program by managing and training the community volunteers that run this program and working with the volunteer coordinator to publicize the program and to solicit donations from the community.

AMERICORPS *Clips*

Jennifer Capen from New York just completed two years of service as VISTA Member at the Career Center for Workplace Learning with the City of Lewiston Somali Resttlement Project. She dedicated her time to helping Somali residents with employment assistance, training, and career development. Most importantly, Jennifer says she helped the Somali citizens build confidence,

"The difficult part for them is adjusting to the American economic lifestyle and trying to place their religious values into our society while maintaining their cultural integrity. I know that what I did for them made a difference in their lives and their future."

2003 National Service Accomplishments

Senior Corps Volunteers

UMaine Cooperative Extension Senior Companion Program

Total Communities Served: 142

Working in 13 Maine counties, the Senior Companion Program volunteers traveled 341,440 miles to help meet the following needs of 500 frail elders. Senior Volunteers provided services to persons that have chronic illnesses, visual and/or hearing impairments, and depression and/or loneliness. Types of assistance provided include: education, emotional support, social activities, transportation, nutritional assistance, home management, respite care and advocacy and referral.

Penquis CAP Foster Grandparent Program

Total Communities Served: 53

Working in 86 sites in 53 communities, Penquis CAP Foster Grandparents provided tutoring, mentoring, before and after school care, childcare and ethnic diversity assistance. Volunteers tutored over 450 children to learn to read and master subject content, mentored over 300 children, provided a safe and enriching environment for children before and after school, spent time with another 250 children in child care programs and addressed the special needs of 250 children of diverse ethnic backgrounds.

PROP's Foster Grandparent Program

Total Communities Served: 32

Providing tutoring, mentoring, before and after school activities, and childcare, seniors who participate in this program are fulfilled by their service. "I am so much happier working in this program," a 67 year old foster grandparent remarked, "After I lost my husband, I felt I didn't have much to look forward to, but working with children has made my life much more meaningful. The children show so much love, and you can return that love."

Aroostook Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

Total Communities Served: 48

Aroostook RSVP's provide nine programs to the county. Those programs include community thrift shops, adult daycare, housing repairs, transportation, youth mentoring, congregate and home delivered meals, and providing winter accessories for those cold months. 93 volunteers served 12,961 hours maintaining 6 community thrift shops in the county. Two volunteers provided adult daycare services to 6 adults, and another 2 donated 537 hours to the Fix Me Program where they provided home repairs such as ramp construction, winterizations, and/or clean-ups. 320 volunteers made 12,326 visits or calls to elderly clients in 20 communities. 768 rides to an average of 29 elderly clients were given in 14 communities. 805 books were read per month in 7 daycares throughout 4 municipalities. 8,666 individual congregate meals were served by 75 volunteers at 7 meal sites and an additional 12,878 meals were delivered to elderly client's homes. 71,513 miles were traveled transporting clients to medical appointments in 13 localities, and 2,188 knit items including mittens, socks, caps, scarves and lap robes were given to schools, daycares, Veterans homes, and other non-profit agencies.

University of Maine Center on Aging RSVP

Total Communities Served: 30

RSVP's volunteer in four areas of service: Congregate Meals and Nutrition, Reading to Children, Public Health, and Quality of life for Elders. 160 volunteers serving the Eastern Maine Agency on Aging nutrition program as well as the Penobscot Valley Hospital and the Housing Foundation provided 17,484 hours and 19,444 nutrition meals to 12,580 older citizens. In partnership with the Maine Humanities Council's Born to Read Program, RSVP's read over 450 hours to approximately 60 children. Volunteers are also serving the American Red Cross Collection program in four areas: (1) donor registrar, (2) making sure donors are safe and comfortable, (3) walking donors after donations, and (4) assisting in the Red Cross's regimen and protocol. 267 volunteers have given over 47,044 hours of service to enriching the lives of elders through friendly visiting, in-home care, respite and adult daycare activities.

HealthReach Retired and Senior Volun- teer Program

Total Communities Served: 34

HealthReach RSVP's provide service in the areas of literacy and mentoring, health and nutrition, compan-

RSVP Bob Klausse

Bob Klausse has been an RSVP volunteer at Coastal Manor Nursing Home in Yarmouth for three and a half years. He facilitates a reading group with the residents on Wednesdays. A long-time diabetic, he recently had his second leg amputated. Yet, after a short rehab period, he loved volunteering so much that he returned to his service at Coastal Manor. Bob is considered an inspiration to the faculty, staff and residents.

ionship & outreach, and homeland security. 32 volunteers have served 750 hours a month reading to an average of 80 children in 36 daycares and head starts. 16 RSVP volunteers dedicated 1200 hours to Literacy Volunteers of America, helping 17 adults learn to read. 83 RSVP's served 7,370 hours at food banks and pantries providing food for 17,765 low-income residents. The quality of life for seniors in nursing homes, hospitals, group homes and senior living facilities has improved through over 85 volunteers visiting, entertaining and providing activities to residents. Volunteers trained to do community disaster education reached out to 58 seniors in Franklin County giving them disaster kits and an emergency preparedness plan.

Coastal Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

Total Communities Served: 59

Coastal RSVP's provide companionship and outreach, literacy and mentoring, health and nutrition, tax assistance and community and economic development. 40 volunteers contributed over 4,500 hours visiting, entertaining and spending time with seniors. 9,185 children have been read to through the Born to Read program. 16 RSVP Volunteers delivered 19,760 meals to 100 homebound individuals and 58 donated 5,500 hours of service to local soup kitchens and food pantries. 1,195 hours were donated to preparing federal and state income tax returns for low-income individuals and homebound seniors, and 40 RSVP's provide support to organizations like the Chamber of Commerce, museums and historical societies to help revitalize the region's tourist industry.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Southern Maine

Total Communities Served: 31

RSVP of Southern Maine focuses on literacy, supporting senior independence, volunteering at hospitals, and assisting libraries. 29 volunteers tutored 145 children and adults in literacy programs. 275 children

in York and Cumberland counties were read to by 55 volunteers in partnership with the Maine Humanities Council. 16 volunteers helped public libraries provide information and literature to their patrons. 122 hours were volunteered to bill-paying assistance, and 2,582 hours were spent delivering Meals on Wheels to

seniors. 72 RSVP's spent 6,453 hours in hospitals serving patients and their families, and 12,822 hours were donated by 30 volunteers making mittens, hats, nap robes, booties and sweaters for low-income children.

Senior Corps Volunteer Activity Summary 2003 Compiled by the National Senior Service Council of Maine

Program	Counties Served	# of Volunteers	# of Hours
UMaine Cooperative Extension Senior Companion Program	13 Counties	111	89,072
Penquis CAP Foster Grandparents	14 Counties	127	78,237
PROP'S Foster Grandparents	Cumberland and York	151	114,228
Aroostook RSVP	Aroostook	659	143,937
UMaine Center on Aging RSVP	Penobscot, Piscataquis, Hancock, Washington	538	90,545
HealthReach RSVP	Franklin, Kennebec Somerset	491	77,529
Coastal RSVP	Knox, Waldo, Lincoln	273	37,280
RSVP of Southern ME	Cumberland and York	442	56,924
TOTAL		2,792	687,752
VALUE: \$11,375,418*			

*Value is calculated using Independent Sector's "assigned hourly wage for volunteers," (\$16.64/hr.) which is based on the average hourly wage for nonagricultural workers, as published in the Economic Report of the President, increased by 12% to estimate fringe benefits.

Make Connections. Stay Connected.

National Service Program Directory

AmeriCorps Crew

Maine Conservation Corps

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Maine Time Dollar Network

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Preble Street Resource Center

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Learn and Serve

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Senior Corps

Senior Companion Program (Statewide)

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Maine's National Service Programs

Listed by County

Program Name	Type	Page #	Androscoggin	Aroostook	Cumberland	Franklin	Hancock	Kennebec	Knox	Lincoln	Oxford	Penobscot	Piscataquis	Sagadahoc	Somerset	Waldo	Washington	York
Maine Conservation Corps	Crew	14	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		•		•		•		•
Maine Response Corps	Crew	15	•		•	•		•		•	•	•	•					•
Maine Service Corps	Crew	16	•	•			•	•		•		•		•		•	•	
Teach Maine	Crew	17			•				•	•						•		
Red Cross of Southern Maine	VISTA	18	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bread of Life Ministries	VISTA	18						•										
UMaine Center on Aging Senior Sense	VISTA	18		•	•	•		•	•			•				•		
Lewiston Somali Resettlement Project	VISTA	18	•															
Coastal Enterprises, Inc.	VISTA	18	•				•	•		•								•
Communities for Children	VISTA	18	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Independent Transportation Network	VISTA	18			•													
Dept of Agriculture Farm Share Program	VISTA	19	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Maine Council of Churches	VISTA	19			•									•				
Maine Office of Substance Abuse	VISTA	19		•									•		•			
Maine Time Dollar Network	VISTA	19	•	•	•				•									
Preble Street Resource Center	VISTA	19			•													
Maine Campus Compact	VISTA	19	•		•		•	•		•	•	•	•	•		•	•	
CHESP-Maine Campus Compact	Learn & Serve	12	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dept. of Education	Learn & Serve	12	•		•							•			•	•		
KIDS Consortium	Learn & Serve	12	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•		•		•	
Senior Companion Program	Senior Corps	20	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
Penquis CAP Foster Grandparents	Senior Corps	20	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
PROP Foster Grandparents	Senior Corps	20			•													•
Aroostook RSVP	Senior Corps	20		•														
UMaine Center on Aging RSVP	Senior Corps	20					•					•	•				•	
HealthReach RSVP	Senior Corps	21				•		•							•			
Coastal RSVP	Senior Corps	21							•	•						•		
RSVP of Southern Maine	Senior Corps	21			•													•

Notes

“To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.”

—Ralph Waldo Emerson



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