

Minneapolis/St. Paul Ranks #1 in Nation for Producing AmeriCorps Members

New data shows more AmeriCorps members come from the Twin Cities than any other American city.

MINNEAPOLIS, MN, USA, August 15, 2019 /EINPresswire.com/ -- When it comes to enrolling in [AmeriCorps](#), Minneapolis/St. Paul residents rank first among American cities, according to new data released today by the Corporation for National and Community [Service](#) (CNCS), the federal agency that administers the AmeriCorps program and leads the nation's national service and volunteer programs. Previously, the Twin Cities appeared on the list in the number two spot. The state of Minnesota ranked fifth among states for generating the most AmeriCorps members.



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Audrey Suker, CEO of ServeMinnesota

According to Audrey Suker, CEO of [ServeMinnesota](#), this fall marks the 25th anniversary of AmeriCorps service to our country. "Minnesotans have a long history of embracing AmeriCorps programs. For example, Reading Corps and Math Corps are proven Minnesota programs that help students succeed in school and are replicated in 14 states and Washington, D.C.," she said.

Suker added that there are currently service positions available. Some programs in the metro area even provide an additional housing stipend to help with expenses. AmeriCorps programs serving the Minneapolis/St. Paul area are:

- City of Lakes AmeriCorps --supporting middle school long-term English learners in developing the academic language skills they need to succeed in school.
- College Possible – bridging the opportunity gap to help low-income and first-generation high school and college students to access and succeed in higher education.
- Conservation Corps Minnesota --helping youth hone their leadership skills through natural resource management and renewable energy activities.
- CTEP - helping youth and adults use technology to access civic, educational and economic opportunities.
- Law Enforcement Career Path Academy building positive connections between the St. Paul Police Department and community while launching your law enforcement career.
- Minnesota Alliance With Youth – Promise Fellows - keeping youth engaged in learning by providing in- and out-of-school supports to 6th-12th graders at risk of dropping out.
- Minnesota GreenCorps - improving Minnesota's environment while gaining experience and a network for your future career.
- Minnesota Math Corps -tutoring struggling 4th-8th graders to catch up to grade level in math.
- Minnesota Opportunity Corps - helping new Americans and low-income adults navigate to stable careers that pay a livable wage.
- Minnesota Reading Corps - helping students become better, more confident readers by the end of 3rd grade.
- Minnesota Recovery Corps - supporting youth and adults in sustaining their own recovery from opioid addiction.
- Total Learning Classroom – helping children in high-need schools reach their potential.
- Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity – building, rehabbing, and repairing homes in partnership with community volunteers and low-income families in the Twin Cities.

Since AmeriCorps programs were introduced to Minnesota in 1994, approximately 32,000 residents of Minnesota have given more than 52 million hours of service to their country and received more than \$130.3 million in scholarships. This year, CNCS will invest more than \$37 million in national service projects in the state, including funding for about 2,000 AmeriCorps members.

For more than two decades, dedicated Americans have chosen to strengthen education, prepare students for college, connect veterans to jobs, fight the opioid epidemic, preserve public lands, foster economic opportunity, and more through the national service program. Every year, 75,000 AmeriCorps members serve through 21,000+ schools, nonprofits, and community and faith-based organizations across the country.

Since the program's inception in 1994, more than 1.1 million AmeriCorps members have served providing more than 1.6 billion hours of service and earning more than \$3.6 billion in education scholarships, more than \$1 billion of which has been used to pay back student debt. Those interested in joining AmeriCorps can learn more at ServeMinnesota.org.

A growing body of research shows that service has an effect on more than just the communities served, but also on the members themselves. AmeriCorps alumni credit their year of service for developing leadership skills that bridge divides, solve problems, and open doors to opportunities that advance their careers and education. In addition, research shows that alumni gain skills and are exposed to experiences that employers find valuable.

The rankings were determined by associating the permanent address of AmeriCorps members' to a U.S. designated place and state. The analysis looked exclusively at members who served in program year 2016. A large-sized city was defined as any place with a population greater than or equal to 250,000. States and cities listed produce the highest number of AmeriCorps members per capita. The District of Columbia was considered a state for these rankings.

About ServeMinnesota

As a catalyst for positive social change, ServeMinnesota moves research to practice and deploys the people power of AmeriCorps to meet critical needs in Minnesota. It recruits and supports thousands of individuals to improve the lives of Minnesotans by offering transformative service opportunities that focus on education, affordable housing, employment, the environment, addiction recovery, and police-community relationships. Two of its innovative strategic initiatives, Minnesota Reading Corps and Minnesota Math Corps, are working to close the achievement gap and help struggling students become successful learners. ServeMinnesota's commitment to evidence-based practices, continuous program improvement, and strong community partnerships ensures national service is positioned to make meaningful contributions to our state. For more information, visit www.serveminnesota.org.

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