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California AmeriCorps Members Spotlighted During AmeriCorps Week

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – As America celebrates AmeriCorps Week from March 9-17, CaliforniaVolunteers today spotlighted the incredible work of California’s AmeriCorps members over the past 19 years.

More than 8,500 California AmeriCorps members provide support and service to the state’s nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups. Their service helps communities tackle vital issues in the areas of education, health, the environment and other human needs while mobilizing thousands of volunteers for the organizations they serve. In return, they gain valuable professional, educational, and life benefits; and the experience has a lasting impact on the members and the communities they serve.

“It’s a win win. They’re truly helping California communities meet local needs while gaining great skills in return,” said Karen Baker, California’s State Secretary of Service and Volunteering. “I hope all Californians will take a moment this week to recognize the great things AmeriCorps members do for the Golden State.”

AmeriCorps was founded 19 years ago.

- Since then more than 800,000 Americans have given more than 1 billion hours of service across the nation.
- Every year more than 75,000 AmeriCorps members meet pressing community needs across the country, serving at more than 15,000 locations nationwide;
- In 2012 AmeriCorps members recruited and managed more than four million volunteers, significantly boosting the impact of the nonprofit and faith-based organizations they serve.

“AmeriCorps members are improving the lives of millions of citizens and making a powerful impact on the toughest challenges facing our nation,” said Wendy Spencer, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency that administers AmeriCorps. “AmeriCorps Week is an opportunity to recognize their impact and thank them for their service. AmeriCorps members and the millions of volunteers they manage are an indispensable resource to our nation, and we are grateful for their dedicated service.”

AmeriCorps Week is an annual event designed to salute AmeriCorps members and alums for their service, thank AmeriCorps’ community partners, and recognize AmeriCorps’ impact on communities and on the lives of those who serve. Hundreds of events are taking place across the United States – service projects, recruitment fairs, school presentations, alumni gatherings, awards ceremonies, and more. For more information visit

AmeriCorps.gov.

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About CaliforniaVolunteers

CaliforniaVolunteers is the state office that manages programs and initiatives to increase the number of Californians involved with service and volunteering. Through its innovative web site, individuals and families can find more than 50,000 volunteer opportunities throughout the state involving the arts, education, animals, disaster preparedness, the environment and other areas of interest. Karen Baker, the nation’s first state cabinet Secretary of Service and Volunteering leads the organization. For more information, please visit www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.