

**For Immediate Release**

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**Media Contact:**

Monica Hassan, 916-323-7646

[Monica.Hassan@CaliforniaVolunteers.ca.gov](mailto:Monica.Hassan@CaliforniaVolunteers.ca.gov)

## **CaliforniaVolunteers Now Accepting AmeriCorps Planning Grant Applications** *One-Year Grants with up to \$75,000 in Funding Available*

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – CaliforniaVolunteers announced today that it is now accepting applications for 2016-17 AmeriCorps state planning grant funding in support of community partnerships that will engage AmeriCorps members to meet state and local challenges through service and volunteer action.

“CaliforniaVolunteers is committed to helping communities with the power and talent of AmeriCorps members,” said Chief Service Officer Karen Baker. “This new round of federal planning grant funding will allow for organizations to create new and innovative AmeriCorps programs to address challenges within their neighborhoods.”

The AmeriCorps planning grants provide funding to design and develop new AmeriCorps programs that can address community problems and demonstrate significant impacts. A one-year planning grant can support staffing costs, travel, materials, and other costs necessary to conduct a community needs assessment, bring together community partners to help design appropriate service activities to address community needs identified, develop financial plans to support cost share, and develop high quality plans for managing program implementation.

The optional Notice of Intent to apply is due May 20, 2016 at 5:00 pm and the hardcopy application deadline is June 3, 2016 at 5:00 pm.

Informational call-in sessions will be held on both May 13 and 19, 2016, where interested applicants can learn more about the application process.

For more information, please visit [www.californiavolunteers.org](http://www.californiavolunteers.org) and click the “2016 AmeriCorps Planning Grant Applications” link under “Highlights.”

### **About CaliforniaVolunteers**

*CaliforniaVolunteers is the state office that manages programs and initiatives to increase the number of Californians involved with service and volunteering, including the state AmeriCorps program and the management of volunteers and monetary donations during times of disasters. For more information, please visit [www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org](http://www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org).*

### **About AmeriCorps**

*AmeriCorps is a national service program that engages Americans of all ages and background in service to meet critical needs in education, the environment, economic opportunity, health, and other areas. Its members serve in thousands of nonprofit and faith-based organizations in rural and urban communities throughout the nation. Among other activities, AmeriCorps members tutor and mentor youth, build affordable housing, teach computer skills, clean parks and streams, run after school programs, help communities respond to disasters, and recruit and train volunteers. Interested individuals can learn about available opportunities and apply online by visiting [AmeriCorps.gov](http://AmeriCorps.gov).*