



Iowa Nonprofit Summit

The Iowa Nonprofit Summit will be held October 29-30 at The Meadows Events & Conference Center at Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino. Registration for the Summit is NOW OPEN! Don't miss out on dozens of breakout sessions, networking opportunities, exhibitors and keynote presentations.

The biennial summit offers essential learning opportunities relevant to staff in a variety of nonprofit, civic, volunteer management, government and national service roles, including but not limited to Board Members, Executive Directors, Program Directors, Resource Development staff and AmeriCorps members.

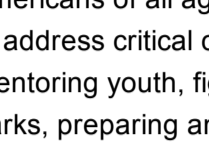
This year's keynote presenter is Beth Steinhorn, President of VQ Volunteer Strategies, a leading provider of high-impact volunteer engagement solutions designed to help organizations raise their "VQ" - volunteer quotient. Beth regularly participates in the national dialogue about volunteerism and engagement. Beth is also a Service Enterprise Trainer and has trained and supported dozens of organizations across the country to become certified Service Enterprises.

Early registration rates are available now through October 17th. Register NOW at www.regonline.com/ianpsummit2019. You can follow [Iowa Nonprofit Summit](#) on Facebook for regular updates and information about the summit.



Be The Greater Good. Join AmeriCorps.

AmeriCorps is your moment to take the path less traveled, to break the status quo, to stop talking about the problem and be the solution. Join AmeriCorps and you can mentor and tutor kids, rebuild a community after disaster, help veterans, or work with local communities to alleviate poverty. There are thoughts of opportunities to choose from; find the one that fits you. Click [HERE](#) for more information or to apply.



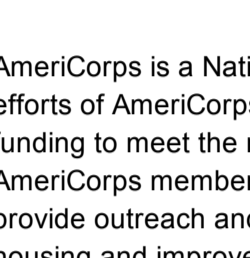
25 Years of AmeriCorps

This Fall marks the 25th anniversary of the AmeriCorps national service program. AmeriCorps engages approximately 75,000 men and women in intensive service each year at more than 21,000 locations across the country, including nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups. Civic-minded Americans of all ages commit to service terms that range from three months to one year to address critical community needs such as increasing academic achievement, mentoring youth, fighting poverty, combating the opioid epidemic, sustaining national parks, preparing and responding to disaster, and more.

Since its inception in 1994, more than 1.1 million AmeriCorps members have served and provided more than 1.5 billion hours of service in America's communities. AmeriCorps members mobilize and coordinate millions of volunteers to serve alongside them that promotes a lasting impact on the volunteers and the communities they serve.

Through their service, these members have earned more than \$3.6 billion in education scholarships (known as Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards) that may be used to repay qualified student loans of pay for college or trade school. More than \$1 billion of these funds have been used to pay back student debt, reducing the costs of higher education for tens of thousands of AmeriCorps alumni.

Are you an AmeriCorps alum in Iowa? Contact [Betsy Shelton](#) for information on how you can help us celebrate 25 years of AmeriCorps.



AmeriCorps Grant Funding Open

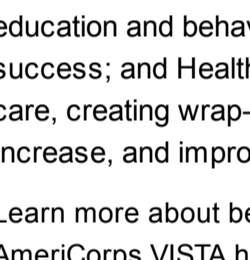
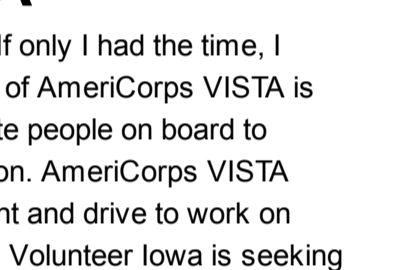
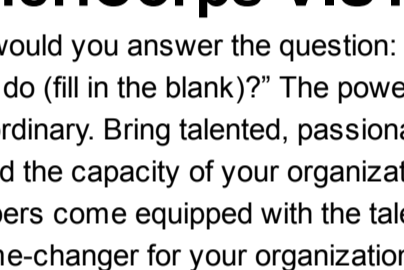
Competition is open for 2020-2021 AmeriCorps State program grants!

AmeriCorps is a National Service program that helps meet community needs through the efforts of AmeriCorps members. The AmeriCorps State program offers different types of funding to meet the needs of various host agencies and communities. Currently, AmeriCorps members serving in Iowa tutor at-risk youth and run afterschool programs; provide outreach and services to prevent child and substance abuse; build low-income housing and improve home energy efficiency; provide capacity-building services to increase the effectiveness of Iowa nonprofit organizations; restore habitats and build trails in Iowa parks; and assist refugees in accessing healthcare and securing jobs. Potential applicants may do similar activities or use members to address other identified needs in their community. For more information or to access the application materials, please visit the Funding Opportunities section of the IowaGrants website at www.iowagrants.gov. The announcement and appendices are posted to the [AmeriCorps State 2020-2021 funding opportunity](#). Application materials are also available upon request via email to Volunteer Iowa at americorps@iowaeda.com.

There is no Notice of Intent to Apply for this competition, but potential applicants can sign up [here](#) to receive updated information about the competition. Required pre-applications for returning programs are due October 8, 2019, whereas new applicants have an option of rolling due dates starting with November 12, 2019.

Volunteer Iowa Commission Meeting

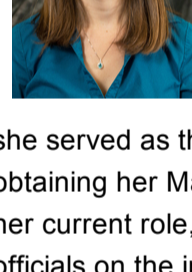
The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service held a meeting on Tuesday, September 24. New commissioners Alex Freeman, A.J. Lyman, Dan Cataldi, and Terry Maloy attended an orientation session prior to the start of the commission meeting. Lynne Carroll, Executive Director of Heart of Iowa Big Brothers Big Sisters, delivered a presentation on the advantage of receiving Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) grant funding and how it supports both the kids and families enrolled in their programs.



AmeriCorps VISTA

How would you answer the question: "If only I had the time, I would do (fill in the blank)?" The power of AmeriCorps VISTA is extraordinary. Bring talented, passionate people on board to expand the capacity of your organization. AmeriCorps VISTA members come equipped with the talent and drive to work on projects that could be a game-changer for your organization. Volunteer Iowa is seeking host sites to apply for an AmeriCorps VISTA project to focus on the following anti-poverty activities such as Economic Opportunity: improving or creating job skills training programs that lead to increased employment, and increased access to services and benefits to enhance financial literacy, access to safe, affordable housing; Education: school readiness for economically disadvantaged students, K-12 success in student education and behavioral outcomes in low-achieving school, and post-secondary success; and Healthy Futures: improving access to nutritious food, access to health care, creating wrap-around support for economically disadvantaged individuals Increase, and improve services to low-income individuals affected by substance abuse.

Learn more about becoming an AmeriCorps VISTA host site [here](#). Apply to be an AmeriCorps VISTA host site [here](#).

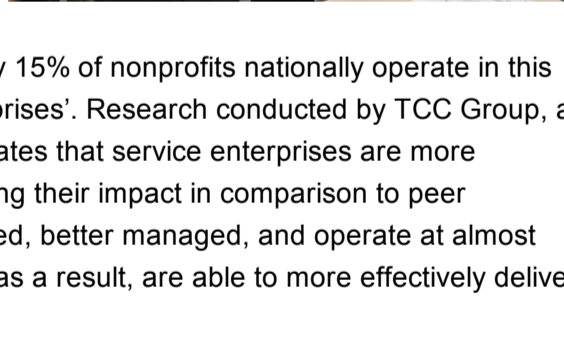


Jamie Orozco Nagel Celebrates 10 Years at Volunteer Iowa

Volunteer Iowa recently celebrated Jamie Orozco Nagel and her 10 years of service with Volunteer Iowa. Jamie began her AmeriCorps service in 2005 in an elementary school in Los Angeles, and in 2006, she served as the first Iowa Legal Aid AmeriCorps member in Mason City, Iowa. After obtaining her Master's in Social Work in 2009, she joined the staff of Volunteer Iowa. In her current role, Jamie works with commissioners and programs to educate elected officials on the impact of service in Iowa. Adam Lounsbury, Volunteer Iowa Executive Director, says "Jamie impressed me from the get go. She has added so much to our team, by helping develop hundreds of AmeriCorps positions through several programs that would otherwise not exist. Jamie has brought out the best in all she works with by challenging what could be done to really serve Iowa's most vulnerable."

Jamie continues to tirelessly advocate and volunteer to help those in need. She is the Chair of the ELL Advisory Committee at her church. You can frequently find Jamie at the Capitol on her days off, meeting with policymakers and learning more about proposed legislation and its impact on Iowans. The impact of Jamie's AmeriCorps service will live on in Iowa for years to come. Kristin Honz, Deputy Director of Volunteer Iowa, shared the sentiments of all of those who work with Jamie: "Jamie is smart, thoughtful, patient, engaging, committed. These qualities and the unique perspective she brings to issues makes her a great team member. It's been a pleasure to learn from and work with Jamie over the past ten years. It's been a lot of fun for me, personally, to get to know Jamie and to be a part of her life as has gotten married and started a family. She's a key member of our AmeriTeam and Volunteer Iowa – I'm looking forward to the next 10 years of working with her!"

Applications Now Open for Service Enterprise Initiative



Volunteers may be vital to your work, but are you effectively leveraging the skills and talents of your volunteers in your core operations? Though you may intend to, only 15% of nonprofits nationally operate in this manner. They are known as 'Service Enterprises'. Research conducted by TCC Group, a national program evaluation firm, demonstrates that service enterprises are more adaptable, sustainable and capable of scaling their impact in comparison to peer organizations. Furthermore, they're better led, better managed, and operate at almost half the median budget as their peers and, as a result, are able to more effectively deliver on the social mission of their organization.

Want to be part of the innovative group?

Volunteer Iowa is now accepting applications to participate in the Service Enterprise Initiative. Your nonprofit can access innovative training and consulting support to become a service enterprise and achieve the results outlined above. Through a multi-month engagement with Volunteer Iowa or a local participating hub, your nonprofit organization will move through a change management process that will result in more effectively leveraging the time and talents of volunteers and lead to greater impact.

Your organization will receive:

- A thorough research based assessment of your existing organizational capacity and volunteer engagement practices
- Up to 16 hours of training in re-tooling the roles and ways in which your organization engages volunteers
- Individualized consulting to address unique organizational opportunities and challenges
- National certification signifying your organization's commitment to and proficiency in appropriately leveraging the time and skills of volunteers to meet the social mission of the organization

Applications for the Des Moines cohort will be considered in the order they are accepted, through January 6th, so apply early! Learn more about the process and training hub locations at <https://volunteeriowa.org/SEI> or contact michelle.raymer@iowaeda.com to request an application link.

Future Ready Iowa Mentoring Program

As Future Ready Iowa Grants and Last-Dollar Scholarships are being awarded for the 2019-20 academic year, a new mentoring initiative is preparing to launch in the months ahead. The Future Ready Iowa Mentoring Program will match scholarship and grant recipients with mentors working in their field of study. Mentors and students will primarily interact through an e-mentoring communications platform, in addition to any face-to-face meetings. Through engagement in the program, students will establish meaningful career connections and strengthen their job readiness skills. Matches between students and mentors will be based on multiple factors, including professional goals, interests, background, and location.

The Future Ready Iowa Mentoring Program is actively recruiting mentors and could use your help. Mentors are needed in a variety of high-demand career fields, including but not limited to nursing/healthcare, business, IT/network administration, web design, police and fire science, and education. If you are interested in serving as a Future Ready Iowa Mentor or would like to receive additional information, you can complete [this form](#). The program is being administered by staff at Volunteer Iowa and the Mentoring Partnership. If you would like to connect with Program Manager Jason Wiegand, he can be reached at jason.wiegand@iowaeda.com. You can learn more about Future Ready Iowa by visiting <https://www.futurereadyiowa.gov/>.

Important Dates

- October 8: Pre-applications for returning AmeriCorps programs due
- October 16: World Food Day
- October 20-26: National Pro-Bono Week
- October 26: Make a Difference Day
- October 29-30: [Iowa Nonprofit Summit](#)
- October 31: [Governor's Volunteer Awards Ceremony, Cedar Falls](#)
- November 5: [International Volunteer Managers Day](#)
- January 6: Service Enterprise Initiative Des Moines cohort applications due
- February 11: [Volunteer Iowa Day at the Capitol](#)
- April 1: [Give Back Iowa Challenge](#) begins

Looking for a way to give back? Visit [Get Connected](#) today to find volunteer opportunities. Organizations can [post volunteer opportunities](#) on Get Connected as well as no cost.

Get Connected!

