



## Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame Awards Nominations Open

Nominations for the 2020 Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame Awards are now being accepted! Nominations must be submitted online or postmarked by January 21, 2020; honorees will be recognized during a special ceremony in the Capitol in April. Details and nomination materials are online at [volunteeriowa.org/hof](http://volunteeriowa.org/hof).

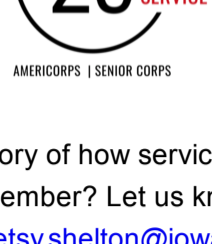
Induction into the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame is the highest state-level honor volunteers can receive; the people selected have changed the community, the state, the nation, or the world through the gifts of their time and talent. Inductees are recognized during a special ceremony held in the State Capitol Building and their names are engraved on the Volunteer Hall of Fame plaque on permanent display in the State Historical Museum. Since the award's inception in 1989, over 175 Iowans have been honored.

Any Iowa individual, national service member (current or alum), family, group, organization, nonprofit, business, or corporation, who has made a long-lasting positive and meaningful difference in the lives of people through their volunteer service activities, may be nominated for the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame.



### 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 thousands of opportunities to choose from; find the one that fits you. Click [HERE](#) for more information or to apply.



## Thankful for AmeriCorps

Volunteer Iowa is thankful for AmeriCorps every day, but we are highlighting the reasons why all through November! This fall marks the 25th anniversary of the AmeriCorps national service program, and we are celebrating by dedicating the entire month to

AmeriCorps. Are you an AmeriCorps alum and want to share your story of how service impacted your life? Has your organization hosted an AmeriCorps member? Let us know what makes you #ThankfulforAmeriCorps. Email [betsyshelton@iowaeda.com](mailto:betsyshelton@iowaeda.com) with a written or video version of why you are thankful for AmeriCorps, or post your story and pictures on social media, tagging us @volunteeriowa with the hashtag #ThankfulforAmeriCorps! We want to share our gratitude all month long.

Are you an AmeriCorps alum? Take our [alumni survey](#) and be sure to sign up for our [alumni emails](#) for news on how we will celebrate you later this month.

## Understaffed and Overwhelmed? Learn how Service Enterprise Can Help!

Join Volunteer Iowa for an informational webinar on Wednesday, November 20 from 10:00-11:00am CST and hear from colleagues in the field as they share how participating in this research-based assessment, training, and coaching process can build the capacity of your organization.

Presented by:

- Michelle Raymer, Senior Program Officer with Volunteer Iowa, the Service Enterprise training hub and Certified Service Enterprise
- Sarah Lettow, Engagement Coordinator at the ALS Association of Iowa Chapter
- Jeff Thompson, Organizational Development Consultant at Habitat for Humanity International

A "Service Enterprise" is an organization that effectively leverages volunteers, and their skills, to meet their social mission. Research by Deloitte shows organizations operating at this level are able to operate at the same level as their peers, with half the median budget. Cohorts across the state are beginning soon, with Des Moines area applications due January 6th.

Register [here](#). After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the training.

Questions? Want to request an application link? Please contact Michelle Raymer at [michelle\\_raymer@iowaeda.com](mailto:michelle_raymer@iowaeda.com) or 515-348-6235.



## 2019 Iowa Nonprofit Summit and Iowa Nonprofit Awards

Volunteer Iowa hosted the 2019 Iowa Nonprofit Summit on October 29-30 at The Meadows Events & Conference Center in Altoona. Over 300 conference participants and exhibitors attended nearly 45 learning sessions for staff in a variety of roles with nonprofit, civic, government and national service organizations. Keynote speaker Beth Steinhorn, a nationally renowned volunteer engagement expert, presented on "Innovation for Change, Growth and Sustainability" in the opening session. A panel of community engagement professionals from across Iowa closed the summit with a discussion on "Building a Stronger Iowa Together."

The Iowa Nonprofit Awards were also handed out during the summit. The winners of this year's Iowa Nonprofit Awards were:

- Carolyn Wallace, Iowa City, Riverside Theater, Nonprofit Board Leadership Award
- Grinnell AmeriCorps Partnership, Grinnell, Outstanding Nonprofit Collaboration Award
- Iowa Child Advocacy Board, Des Moines, Outstanding Volunteer or National Service Program Award
- Iowa West Foundation, Council Bluffs, Philanthropic Impact Award
- Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa, Cedar Rapids, Nonprofit Spotlight Award
- Melissa Strovers, Grinnell, Outstanding Volunteer or National Service Manager Award
- Tray Wade, Des Moines, EveryStep, Nonprofit Staff Leadership Award

For more information about the award winners, visit <https://volunteeriowa.org/document/2019-iowa-nonprofit-award-winners>.

The Iowa Nonprofit Summit would not be possible without the support of our sponsors Alliant Energy, Collins Aerospace and the Nonprofit Association of the Midlands. We would also like to thank our summit partners Larned A. Waterman Iowa Nonprofit Resource Center, United Ways of Iowa, Volunteer Centers of Iowa, the Iowa Council on Foundations, Iowa Mentoring Partnership, Iowa Association of RSVP Directors and the Iowa Association of Foster Grandparents & Senior Companion Programs.



## Happy 10th Anniversary to Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa



Nearly 150 people gathered on Saturday, October 5th to help celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Conservation Corps' Iowa Young Adult Program. The evening was full of reunions, good music and Corps camaraderie.

Over the past 10 years, Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa have had 311 total members, nearly 409,000 hours of service, have provided 53,317 hours of education and training, planted 105,377 trees and shrubs, and have removed 22,642 acres of invasive species and vegetation. They engaged 14,302 volunteers for a total of 72,143 volunteer hours. To learn more about their work visit <https://www.conservationcorps.org/>.



## Announcing the 2020 Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) & Senior Companion Program (SCP) Replacement Sponsor Competition Notice of Funding Opportunities

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has released the Fiscal Year 2020 Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) and Senior Companion Program (SCP) Replacement Sponsor Competition Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO). For decades, Senior Corps FGP and SCP programs have engaged older Americans in volunteer service that foster intergenerational relationships and provide companionship to other older adults. With these NOFOs, CNCS provides to fund applicants who will increase the impact of volunteers age 55 and older who provide volunteer service in response to local community needs.

The Notice of Funding Opportunities and specific geographic service areas can be found at the [FGP-SCP NOFO page of the CNCS website](#). Please see the 2020 FGP and SCP Replacement Sponsor Competition website for a full list of the available opportunities and to learn more about how Senior Corps FGP or SCP can help you increase your impact by engaging adults age 55 years and older in volunteer service.

There are 4 Iowa county groups up for replacement of sponsors:

- Pottawattamie, Fremont and Mills counties, \$170,353
- Dallas and Polk Counties, \$300,000
- Boone, Marshall and Story Counties, \$228,000
- Dubuque, Delaware, Johnson, Linn and Jackson Counties, \$240,000

Applications must be submitted no later than **5 p.m. ET, Friday, Dec. 6, 2019**. Visit the [competition homepage](#) to learn more.

## Serving Our Programs Better: Streamlined Claim Process

Volunteer Iowa is pleased to announce a streamlined claim payment process as part of our efforts to increase efficiency. The new accounting process was piloted in early September with the Volunteer Generation Fund claims. The new process automates the claim payment process and reduces the number of people involved; however, the set-up did take some time. Staff worked with programs to get every program to agree to direct deposit and ensure all financial information was correct in the IowaGrants system. Once the pilot proved to be successful, all other Volunteer Iowa federal subgrants were added, including AmeriCorps, RSVP and Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) grants. The new process has many benefits including: speeding up payments to grantees, reducing staff time in claim management, and limiting errors. Iowa Reading Corps AmeriCorps Program Director, Crystal Meier has experienced this as a great improvement, "The process is streamlined and highly efficient--allowing our program to receive funds in a timely, predictable manner. This is a significant advantage in the overall financial management of our grant."

## Service in the News

- EMBARC Iowa [Awarded Google Impact Award](#)
- Foster Grandparents Featured on [The Kelly Clarkson Show](#)
- Iowa Mentoring Partnership Program [Everybody Wins! Teaches Kids the Importance of Books](#)
- Kentucky Cave Closed for 40 Years to Reopen after [AmeriCorps NCCC Team from Iowa Clears Trail](#)

## Important Dates

- November 5: [Volunteer Hall of Fame Awards nominations open](#)
- November 11: Veteran's Day
- November 15: [National Philanthropy Day](#)
- November 20: [Service Enterprise Informational Webinar](#)
- November 23: [Family Volunteer Day](#)
- November 28: Thanksgiving Day
- December 19: Life After AmeriCorps Day, Vinton (Register via email [here](#))
- January 6: Service Enterprise Initiative Des Moines cohort applications due
- January 21: Volunteer Hall of Fame Awards nominations 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 at no cost.

Get Connected!

