



# *Voices for National Service*

## STATE CHAPTER NETWORK

### WHO WE ARE

Voices for National Service is a diverse coalition of national and local AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs, state service commissions and individual champions who work together to ensure Americans of all ages have the opportunity to serve and volunteer in their communities.

### OUR GOAL

We work to ensure that key members of Congress hear directly from their constituents about the impact that AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs have in communities they represent, and that these lawmakers understand the importance of protecting and increasing federal investments in national service.

### *Our Work*

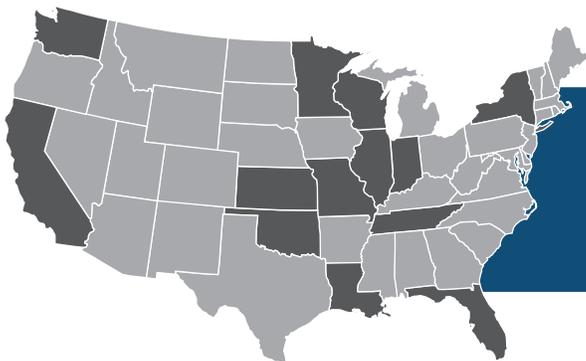
Voices for National Service works with State Chapter captains and members to carry out a series of engagement opportunities throughout the year. Each month we convene a national call with our chapters to hear from high-level speakers, share successes, and hold mini-trainings on targeted advocacy tactics.

Engagement opportunities are designed to ensure that key members of Congress continuously hear from their state's national service community. The strategies are designed to demonstrate strong and broad local support for service programs, and there are different ways that group members can get involved.

Examples of tactics include coordinated email campaigns and handwritten letters to Congress; congressional call-in days; in-district meetings with the member and/or staff; meetings with the member in DC; in-district service event/site visit with the member; mobilizing local elected and business leaders to contact the member; writing and placing letters to the editor that highlight the impact of national service programs in a legislator's state or district.

### *State Chapter Structure*

Voices for National Service currently has chapters in California, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Washington, and Wisconsin—and we're planning to expand to new states in 2018. Each chapter has a captain and members, all of whom are critical to successfully strengthening key relationships with Congressional offices in order to build greater support for CNCS.



### LEARN MORE

See reverse for more information on roles within state chapters, time commitment, and how to get involved.

# PATHS FOR ENGAGEMENT IN A STATE CHAPTER

## Captain

Captains are leaders of the State Chapters. Captains can expect to:

- Report out on their chapter's activities on monthly national service working group calls
- Serve as the point-person on communications with chapter members
- Communicate with chapter members between calls to share news and information, to encourage members to take action, and to gather information about actions taken by chapter members
- Be responsible for the group hitting goals and benchmarks in a timely way (for example, organizing X number of calls to a senator's office, or arranging an AmeriCorps site visit for a member of Congress)

## State Chapter Member

Members of State Chapters are passionate about national service and are willing to take action to cultivate and expand public support. They can expect to:

- Participate in monthly calls with the rest of the national working group members
- Commit to taking specific actions on monthly advocacy tactics
- Brainstorm with other group members about specific actions to engage members of Congress

## *Time Commitment*

The Voices for National Service state chapters are driven by volunteers—so we want to make sure that participating is as easy and straight forward as possible. We convene a monthly call that we ask all captains and members to join. In addition to the call, captains and members are encouraged to participate in Voices monthly advocacy tactics, and are also invited to join occasional webinars, trainings, Capitol Hill Days, and other events. The Voices team provides templates, step-by-step instructions, and individual support to chapter leaders and members so that participating in our advocacy campaigns is a light lift.

## *How to Get Involved*

Please contact Amanda Hooper at [ahooper@cityyear.org](mailto:ahooper@cityyear.org) with questions or to join a Voices for National Service State Chapter.

