



VOICES *for* NATIONAL SERVICE

Voices for National Service Steering Committee

America Forward
America's Service Commissions
Bay Area Community Resources
Blue Engine, Inc.
CaliforniaVolunteers
Cities of Service
City Year, Inc.
College Possible
Conservation Legacy
Conservation Corps MN & IA
Encore.org
FoodCorps
Jumpstart for Young Children
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Massachusetts Service Alliance
Notre Dame Mission Volunteers
Ohio Association of FoodBanks
Playworks
Points of Light
Public Allies
Reading Partners
Service Year Alliance
Student Conservation Association
Teach For America
The Child Abuse Prevention Center
The Corps Network
United Way Worldwide
YouthBuild USA

Voices for National Service Members

Alliance for Catholic Education
America Learns
American Red Cross
American Youth Works
Campus Compact
Citizen Schools
Colorado Youth Corps Association
Communities In Schools
Community Training Works
Connecticut Commission on
Community Service
Education Northwest
Equal Justice Works
Great Oaks Foundation
Habitat for Humanity International
Hunger Free America
LIFT, Inc.
Michigan Community Service
Commission
Michigan Nonprofit Association
Minnesota Alliance With Youth
Montana Conservation Corps
National Association of Foster
Grandparent Program Directors
National Assn. of RSVP Directors
National Health Corps
National Senior Corps Association
National Youth Leadership Council
Nevada Volunteers
New Sector Alliance, Inc.
NYC Coalition Against Hunger
Northwest Youth Corps
OneStar Foundation
Rebuilding Together, Inc.
Repair the World, Inc.
Southern Association of RSVP
Directors
The Great Basin Institute
Texas Association of Senior Service Corps
Directors
Utah Commission on Volunteers
Utah Conservation Corps
Volunteer Florida
Volunteer Mississippi
Youth Service America
Youth Volunteer Corps
9/11 Day of Service

17 May 2018

Dear Representative Graves,

We are writing in support of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the tens of thousands of national service members who are helping schools effectively meet the needs of our nation's students.

In many of our nation's high-poverty schools, more than half of the students require intensive interventions and supports to reach their full potential. Yet, many of these schools have neither the capital nor human resources needed to provide the individualized attention required to meet each struggling student's unique needs. CNCS is helping to resource a citizen-driven effort to address the need for additional caring adults in our nation's high-poverty schools and to ensure all students develop the skills they need to be college and career ready.

Serving through AmeriCorps, VISTA, the Foster Grandparent Program and RSVP, national service members are working as teachers, tutors and mentors to help fill critical educational needs in public, charter, and private schools nationwide. Across the country, in both urban and rural areas, AmeriCorps members serve in one in every ten public schools and one in every four persistently low-achieving schools. In Louisiana, programs ranging from Communities in Schools and Foster Grandparents to the ULL AmeriCorps program and Senior Corps RSVP and many, many more are making a significant impact with our students and schools every day. The talented and dedicated individuals who serve through CNCS programs are partnering with these schools to create the conditions that make children want to learn and get the most out of school. National service members deliver vital educational supports to more than three million struggling students every year, work with families to support student growth and expand learning time to ensure maximum results. These efforts are already leading to increased school attendance and classroom engagement, as well as improved student achievement. National service members are also helping to assist students applying to college and ensure they are prepared for college-level work.

On behalf of our students, educators, and schools, we urge you to increase the federal investment in AmeriCorps and Senior Corps. If our schools lose our national service members, it will be exceedingly difficult to ensure our students receive the attention and the support they require to meet college and career ready standards and effectively compete in the global marketplace.

Sincerely,

Angela Beck, Superintendent, Celerity Schools Louisiana
Norah Gillam, Dean, Relay Graduate School of Education
Trey Godfrey, Executive Director, 100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge
Raymond Jetson, Chief Executive Catalyst, MetroMorphosis
Maura Macphee, Senior Program Manager, TNTP
Dr. Ibrahim Sel, Superintendent, Kenilworth Science and Technology School
Lucas Spielfogel, Executive Director, Baton Rouge Youth Coalition
Hasan Suzuk, Principal, Kenilworth Science and Technology School
Kyle Wedberg, President and CEO, New Orleans Center for Creative Arts
Chloe Wiley, Founder and School Director, Baton Rouge Bridge Academy