

MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties

From: Michael Meyers, TargetPoint Consulting & Anna Greenberg, GQR

Date: May 6, 2021

Re: Voices for National Service – Survey Findings

TargetPoint Consulting & GQR conducted a national survey from April 15th -April 19th, 2021. The survey interviewed 1,000 adults from ages 18-24, with all interviews conducted online with a margin of error of +/- 3.1%.

Key Findings

Young Adults Overwhelmingly Support Continued and Expanded Funding for AmeriCorps

Young adults overwhelmingly agreed that increased funding for AmeriCorps in the COVID relief bill was a good idea. A majority (81%) supported increasing the budget for AmeriCorps. Young adults also showed nearly unanimous support for funding increases in the future with nearly eight in ten agreeing that *additional* funding for AmeriCorps is a good idea.

Furthermore, 83% of this youngest generation of American adults would like to see an increase in the annual stipends provided to AmeriCorps members so that their basic living needs could be better met and to allow for more diversity among the membership.

Bipartisan Support for Additional Funding for AmeriCorps

Young adults across the political spectrum support AmeriCorps and would broadly support expanded funding in another federal COVID-19 relief package. Among young adults, **90% of Biden voters, and 77% of Trump voters** agreed that increasing the AmeriCorps budget was a good idea. This includes strong support across party lines with 86% of Democrats supporting *additional* AmeriCorps funding, along with 80% of Republicans, and 73% of Independents.

Young Adults See Direct Service as the Most Effective Way to Make an Impact

Nearly nine in ten young adults see working with local non-profits as the best way to make an impact. These levels of support are supported by the numerous reasons young adults cite as why they would take part in national service programs:

Wanting to do their civic duty (87% *total good reason to take part*)

Helping solve problems in their communities (86%)

Preparing communities for climate change (86%)

Helping people recover from natural disasters (86%)

Gaining real world experience and transferable job skills to jumpstart their career (85%)
Helping with COVID relief efforts (85%)

The economy is also a significant concern for young adults. Eight in ten are concerned about the current job market and their ability to find a good job, with 34% of young people who are *very* concerned, and 46% who are *somewhat* concerned.

AmeriCorps is Attractive to Young People

When young adults are asked if they would consider participating in an AmeriCorps service program, seven in ten say they would consider or already signed up, **including almost eight in ten urban minority young adults**. When asked about participation in a Climate Corps, 62% say they are interested in that program specifically.

Nearly nine in ten young adults agree that AmeriCorps is a good way to serve the country, would make our country a better place to live, and provide an alternative to military service for those wanting to serve. Support among young people also considering military service is extremely high, with 91% seeing AmeriCorps offers another avenue to serve your country.

Conclusions

Young adults support for AmeriCorps is overwhelming. Support for expanding AmeriCorps and increased funding is widely supported across party, racial, geographic and demographic lines. Young people find direct service as the best way to make a difference, including a super-majority of young people considering participating in AmeriCorps or a potential Climate Corps.