



General Talking Points about FY24 Funding for AmeriCorps  
(Updated 9/20/2023)

- This year, the AmeriCorps agency awarded funds to place more than 75,000 AmeriCorps members with nonprofit, faith-based, and community organizations. But without increased appropriations in fiscal year 2024, AmeriCorps can only support about 49,000 positions next year. This is a 35% cut in AmeriCorps members, a loss of over 26,000 individuals and the services they would have provided their communities.
- Our organization, and many others like us, rely on AmeriCorps members to serve our community every day. AmeriCorps members respond to immediate and critical needs around the country – from natural disaster response to providing services to veterans and military families. With the explosion of needs in our community, now is the time to invest in AmeriCorps.
- *[Explain how AmeriCorps funding and AmeriCorps members help your organization deliver tangible impact in the state or congressional district.]*
  - Because of AmeriCorps, we are able to ...
  - Without AmeriCorps, we would be unable to ...
- AmeriCorps is critical to our operations, but legislation moving through Congress would cut funding for AmeriCorps. Our organization stands to lose grant funding and AmeriCorps service positions. This puts the future of our program at risk and would create significant loss in our community. We know the process is not over, but neither the House nor the Senate bill funds AmeriCorps at needed levels, and the House bill would slash funding by a devastating 50%.
- AmeriCorps is one of the best investments the federal government can make. Unlike most grant programs, we match AmeriCorps grants with funds from philanthropic and local sources, and this public-private partnership yields more than \$17 in community benefits for every \$1 Congress invests.
- The proposed cuts to AmeriCorps' funding would jeopardize critical – and effective – investments in local community impact. We hope that you and your colleagues in Congress will ensure a robust appropriation in fiscal year 2024 so our community and others can continue to count on AmeriCorps for help where it's needed most.
- The spending bills also cut funding for the National Service Trust, threatening the fundamental commitment that if you serve your community through AmeriCorps, you will earn money to pay for

*If you would like additional talking points and messaging support, please contact Shanelle Oliver, Director of Advocacy & Outreach, at [soliver2@cityyear.org](mailto:soliver2@cityyear.org).*

college or pay back student loans. Inadequate funding for education awards would also limit AmeriCorps' recruitment efforts.

- President Biden requested \$1.5 billion for the AmeriCorps agency and this spring, a bipartisan group of senators called for a \$300 million increase. While we understand Congress is facing challenging budget decisions, now is the time to invest in AmeriCorps. Additional funding is needed to make important, targeted investments in the program and to maintain our current corps size and service footprint.