



VOICES *for* NATIONAL SERVICE

September 13, 2023

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Chair
Senate Subcommittee on Labor-HHS Appropriations
U.S. Senate
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
House Subcommittee on Labor-HHS Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
266 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member
Senate Subcommittee on Labor-HHS Appropriations
U.S. Senate
170 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Subcommittee on Labor-HHS Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Baldwin, Ranking Member Capito, Chair Aderholt, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

The undersigned organizations are concerned about fiscal year 2024 funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), also known as AmeriCorps. While we understand that Congress faces challenging budget decisions as a result of the debt deal, we hope you will ultimately provide a robust appropriation for CNCS in FY24 so that communities can continue to count on AmeriCorps for help where it's needed most.

The House and Senate have proposed funding levels for AmeriCorps that are vastly different. The House Labor-HHS Appropriations bill cuts the service agency's budget by 50%—the lowest level in nearly three decades. It also eliminates all funding for AmeriCorps education awards, undermining a fundamental commitment that if you serve in AmeriCorps, you will earn money to help pay for college or to pay back student loans. The House proposal would eliminate tens of thousands of AmeriCorps positions and resources that our communities cannot afford to lose.

While the Senate bill is comparatively a step in the right direction, it still falls short of what is needed to fund planned increases to the AmeriCorps member living allowances and maintain AmeriCorps' footprint across the country. CNCS will be increasing living allowances in FY24, a strategic investment that was endorsed by a sizable, bipartisan group of senators and representatives earlier this year. But without additional investment by Congress, it would trigger a significant cut in awarded positions and a reduction in services that AmeriCorps members provide.

Since 1993, AmeriCorps has deployed more than 1.25 million Americans to the local front lines of our nation's most immediate and critical issues. Every day, dedicated AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors respond to natural disasters, tutoring students, combatting hunger and homelessness, fighting the opioid epidemic, helping seniors live independently, supporting veterans and military families, and far more.

AmeriCorps is one of the federal government's best investments. AmeriCorps service members offer community organizations the people power they need to solve urgent local challenges – and AmeriCorps grants are matched by funds from private, philanthropic, and local sources, increasing the impact of the

taxpayer dollars. This high-impact and efficient public-private partnership yields more than \$17 in benefits for every \$1 invested by Congress.

For FY24 appropriations, we hope you will pledge to reject any cuts and support a robust investment that leverages AmeriCorps' impact and sustains our current corps size. Thank you for your leadership in Congress.

Yours in Service,

Voices for National Service

–

9/11 Day

AccessKC

AcruxKC (formerly Baptist-Trinity Lutheran Legacy Foundation)

Alpine Achievers Initiative

America Forward

America Learns

American Youthworks

AmeriCorps | Florida VISTA Network

AmeriCorps Central Texas

AmeriCorps Project CHANGE

AmeriCorps Seniors Professional Network

Appalachian Mountain Club

ArtistYear

Association Guidance

Baltimore Corps

Bay Area Community Resources

Big Brothers Big Sisters of America

Boston Plan for Excellence

Boston University - College Advising Corps

Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania

Break A Difference

Breakthrough Central Texas

California Family Resource Association

California Volunteers, Office of the Governor

Campus Compact

Casa de Esperanza de los Ninos, Inc.

Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan

Central Community House

Chattanooga-Hamilton County Public Education Foundation

Child Abuse Prevention Center

Citizen Schools

City Fresh

City of Philadelphia - Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity

City Year

Civic Works, Inc.

CivicWell

Coalition for Service-Learning

CoGenerate (formerly Encore.org)
College Possible
Colorado Youth Corps Association
Colorado Youth for a Change
Communities First, Inc.
Community Development for All People
Community Development Technologies Center
Community Learning Partnership
Community Mediation Maryland
Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS)
Community Resource Center
Community Roots
Concilio Campesino del Sudoeste Inc. (Concilio CDS, Inc.)
Connecticut Office of Higher Education
Conservation Legacy
DREAM
E5 Enterprise
EDGE Consulting Partners
Education Forward Arizona
Education Reform Now
Family Scholar House - KY HealthCorps
FoodCorps
Franklin's Promise Coalition
Franklinton Farms
Generation Teach Inc.
Girl Scouts of the USA
GO Foundation
Grand St. Settlement
Great Basin Institute
Green|Spaces
Habitat for Humanity International
Habitat for Humanity - Central Berkshire
Habitat for Humanity - Findlay/Hancock County
Habitat for Humanity - Greater Springfield
Habitat for Humanity - MidOhio
Habitat for Humanity - Milwaukee
Habitat for Humanity - West Orange
Health Resources in Action
High Rocks
Hilliard Food Pantry Plus
Hindman Settlement School - ReadingCorps
Homage Senior Services
Homewood Children's Village
Hunger Free America
Idaho Mountain Guides
Idaho Nonprofit Center
Impact America
Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center
Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative

Jewish Council for the Aging of Greater Washington
Jumpstart for Young Children
Kanbe's Markets
Kentucky Intervention Team-Fulton Independent School District
Larimer County Conservation Corps
Lead For America
Legacy Land Conservancy
Literacy KC
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Louisiana Green Corps
Maine Philanthropy Center
Massachusetts Service Alliance
Mattie Rhodes Center
MENTOR
Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness
Michigan Nonprofit Association
Mile High Youth Corps
Minnesota Alliance With Youth
Mission: St. Louis
Missouri Community Service Commission
Montana Conservation Corps
Move for America
National Association of RSVP Directors
National College Attainment Network (NCAN)
National Council of Nonprofits
National Peace Corps Association
National Senior Corps Association (NSCA)
National Youth Leadership Council
NJ Youth Corps of Phillipsburg
Notre Dame Mission Volunteers
Northeastern University
Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission, Inc.
Ohio Association of Foodbanks
Ohio Campus Compact
Oklahoma AmeriCorps
OneStar Foundation
Partners for Rural Impact
Partridge Creek Compost
Partridge Creek Farm, Inc.
People Inc.
Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development (PHENND)
Playworks
Playworks - New England
Points of Light
PowerCorpsPHL
Public Allies
Public Allies - San Antonio
Quaker Voluntary Service
Reading Partners

Relay Graduate School of Education
Repair the World
Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico
Rocky Mountain Conservancy
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps - CO & WY
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps - NM
Rural Youth Catalyst
Saga Education
San Jose Conservation Corps & Charter School
SBP
Serve Alaska - Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED)
Serve Connecticut
Serve Kentucky Commission
Serve Washington
ServeMinnesota
ServeWyoming
Service Year Alliance
Serving Our Neighbors Ministries (DBA Festa)
Seton Center, Kansas City
Special Day Camp Programs/Camp Chabad
States for Service Coalition/America's Service Commissions
Stelos Alliance
Strategic Opportunities
Student Conservation Association
Teach For America
TerraCorps, Inc.
The Appalachian Regional Coalition on Homelessness
The CAKE Initiative
The Children's Foundation
The Community Action Committee of Pike County
The Corps Network
The Hardy Center Inc.
The Literacy Lab
The Service Collaborative of WNY, Inc.
TNTP
TrustedRiders, Inc.
United Way Worldwide
United Way of Buffalo & Erie County
United Way of Central Jersey
United Way of Central West Virginia
United Way of Greater Toledo
United Way of Greenville County
United Way of King County
United Way of Massachusetts Bay
United Ways of California
Up2Us Sports
Volunteer Maine/Maine Commission for Community Service
Walker Therapeutic and Educational Programs
Washington United Church of Christ

West Ohio Food Bank
WestCare Texas
Westside Free Store Ministries
With Honor Action
YMCA of the USA
Young Adult Development in Action Inc
Youth Action Programs and Homes, Inc.
Youth Service America
YouthBuild USA
YouthBuild - Louisville