New Poll Finds Strong Bipartisan Support for Expanding AmeriCorps and Senior Corps to Help Communities Respond to and Recover from COVID-19

Since the outbreak of the coronavirus, AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members across the country have acted quickly and creatively to address gaps in services and persistent inequities that have been exacerbated by COVID-19. AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members have delivered millions of meals, conducted hundreds of thousands of wellness checks, expanded access to health screenings, set up temporary isolation sites, organized blood drives and are providing virtual teaching, tutoring and mentoring to students.

In May 2020, TargetPoint Consulting conducted a poll of 1,000 registered votes in sixteen battleground states. The public opinion research found that the American people clearly recognize the value of national service at this extraordinary time.

The support to increase funding for AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic was overwhelming.

80% of voters across party lines support increasing the federal investment in national service to further help communities respond to and recover from COVID-19.

70% OF REPUBLICANS AND 90% OF DEMOCRATS

8 in 10 voters support increased funding in national service to help graduates and the unemployed.

The U.S. is facing its highest unemployment rates since the Great Depression and the effects of COVID-19 will be felt well into the future. Increasing the number of AmeriCorps service positions can help the unemployed, recent college and high school graduates develop workplace skills while contributing to our recovery. During their service, members earn a living stipend and a scholarship to help pay back student loans or to go on to college.

TargetPoint found voters support increasing funding for national service to help young Americans facing unemployment contribute to our national recovery while they earn a college opportunity and valuable skills for the future.

As the country faces the myriad challenges of responding to and recovering from COVID-19, AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs can tap the talent and energy of Americans, giving them meaningful ways to support their communities at this critical time.

For more information, visit voicesforservice.org

TargetPoint Consulting (2020): Voter Support for National Service