

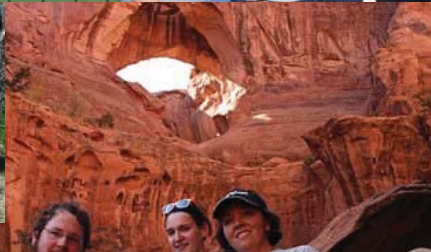


2011 Annual Report

Utah

Commission on Volunteers

Improving Communities Through Service and Volunteerism



Utah Commission on Volunteers

State Service Commissions exist to administer Corporation for National Service funding to AmeriCorps state programs in their states through annual grant competitions. In addition, the Commissions manage, monitor and evaluate these AmeriCorps programs. State Service Commissions are also charged with encouraging volunteering in their states.

About Us:

The mission of the Utah Commission on Volunteers (UCOV or the Commission) is to improve communities through service and volunteerism. Created by state statute in February 1994, the Commission is comprised of 25 members and 5 full time staff. It furthers its mission by promoting community collaboration, volunteer recognition, youth service and administering federally funded AmeriCorps and National Service programs.



Utah Commission on Volunteers



Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Forward..... | 1 |
| AmeriCorps in Utah..... | 2 |
| Volunteer Generation Grant..... | 4 |
| Volunteer Recognition..... | 5 |
| Youth Engagement..... | 6 |
| 2011 Conference on Service..... | 7 |
| Serving Communities, Changing Lives..... | 8 |
| 2012 Calendar..... | 9 |
| Back Cover..... | 10 |



2011 Commissioners

Lt. Governor Greg Bell
Brian Garrett
Betsy Ward
Erica Dahl
Dwight Rasmussen
Jake Murakami
Bill Sederburg
Stephanie Simmons
Larry Shumway
Sue Okroy
Judy Barnett
Bill Crim
John Curtis

Jose Enriquez
Lori Giovannoni
Jeanne Hall
Jennifer Hogge
Ron Humphries
Bill Hulterstrom
Carol Hunter
Gail Miller
Anne O'Brien
Gwen Springmeyer
Keith Squires
McKenna Strong
Leslie Wagstaff

Current Staff

LaDawn Stoddard
Acting Executive Director

Susan Hayward
Outreach & Training

Amanda McDonald
Program Specialist

Chris Frederickson
Executive Assistant

Improving Communities Through Service and Volunteerism



Since 1994 the Utah Commission on Volunteers (UCOV) has focused on increasing the capacity of organizations to serve, strengthen and transform communities through service and volunteerism. In reflecting on the past year with the Commission, 2011 brought significant achievements. Through the Volunteer Generation Fund Grant the Commission has been able to expand its relationship with local volunteer connector organizations and a new Volunteer Recognition program has been introduced with tremendous reception from the non-profit sector.

Utah continued to rank #1 in the nation for volunteering in 2011, not only in the number of volunteers and the intensity with which they serve, but also across all measurable demographics. That being said, our goal is to build upon that success and encourage even more Utahns to volunteer on a regular basis and work with organizations that need their particular skills and abilities.

In our ongoing effort to promote our mission of "Improving Communities through Service and Volunteerism", we have come to recognize the importance and impact of our National Service programming across the State. Over 400 individuals elected to serve their community through AmeriCorps membership in 2011.

These individuals, who served on a part-time to full-time basis, recruited and mobilized more than 31,000 volunteers who tutored and mentored youth, connected underserved populations with health care resources, cleaned and tended parks and streams, provided recreational opportunities for those with disabilities, provided services to those at risk for homelessness, taught environmental stewardship, operated after-school programs, and helped communities prepare for disasters giving over 308,000 hours of service. The estimated economic contribution to the State of these volunteers is \$5,534,760.

We are proud of these accomplishments and grateful for the efforts provided to make them a reality, but there is still much to be done to help preserve a bright future for our great State. Looking ahead, we are excited about the possibilities for engaging more Utahns in service and volunteering.

As we embark on a new chapter in the life of the Utah Commission on Volunteers, it is appropriate to review last year's activities as a foundation for the future. We encourage you to read on to see how the Commission leverages federal dollars in Utah communities, see how community challenges are met, individuals are engaged in civic service, and volunteers are thanked and honored for their work. The Commission is excited to offer even more opportunities in 2012 to shape service and contribute to Utah communities.

Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GBell".

Greg Bell
Lieutenant Governor
State of Utah

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LStoddard".

LaDawn Stoddard
Acting Executive Director
Utah Commission on Volunteers

AmeriCorps In Utah



AmeriCorps, the domestic Peace Corps, engages tens of thousands of Americans nationwide in intensive, results driven service each year in areas such as education, public safety, health and the environment. The majority of AmeriCorps members are selected by, and serve with, local nonprofit organizations. Along with the experience of a lifetime, AmeriCorps members receive a modest living allowance and training. After their term of service, AmeriCorps members receive education awards to help finance past or future tuition.

In Utah over 400 AmeriCorps members addressed the critical, unmet needs of our communities during the 2010/2011 program year. They have mobilized more than 31,000 volunteers who have given over 308,000 hours of service. The Commission was awarded \$3,493,301 in AmeriCorps grant funding in 2010/2011 which was passed through to the 13 AmeriCorps State Programs.

2011 Utah AmeriCorps Programs

The National Ability Center (NAC) is committed to the development of lifetime skills for people of all ages and abilities by providing quality, affordable outdoor sports and recreational experiences in a nurturing environment. Members are trained and provide therapeutic recreational and sports programs for individuals with disabilities. The objective of these experiences is to build self-esteem, confidence, leadership and physical development, thereby enhancing active participation in all aspects of community life. The program provided services for over 800 clients in the 2010/2011 program year. **Summit County**

BYU Service Learning Program seeks to provide students with meaningful service opportunities, to instill in their hearts and minds a desire to give lifelong service, and to assist them in developing skills that will enrich their future careers and lives. Service focuses in the following areas; Children and Families at Risk, Lower Socioeconomic Households and Homelessness, Disabled and Mentally Ill, Geriatric Populations, Health and Substance Abuse, and Human Rights and Humanitarian Work. The program served over 3,000 clients in the 2010/2011 program year. **Utah County**

The South Salt Lake Afterschool Project focuses on strengthening partnerships and building capacity to address risk factors and promote protective factors, with special emphasis on preventing and reducing youth gang involvement in South Salt Lake City. AmeriCorps Members act as Group Leaders, providing direct services in after-school programs and working with families to deliver the activities that prevent and reduce delinquent behavior and build resiliency in SSL youth. Members worked with more than 2100 youth through 2010/2011. **South Salt Lake City**

The AmeriCorps Be Red Cross Ready Program works to address the needs of individuals to be prepared in the event of a disaster. Members are placed in Red Cross chapters in Salt Lake and Utah Counties and Northern Utah and are trained to support the increasing demand for community disaster education. In 2011 members recruited over 300 volunteers who provided more than 3700 hours of service to help in this effort. **Salt Lake/Provo/Weber/Davis County**

United Way of Utah County focuses on addressing disparities and gaps in education, income, and health within Utah County. The program serves mainly low-income individuals through several Utah County organizations. Members work to assess needs, determine eligibility, provide assistance, and refer people to resources. In 2011 the program worked with over 5,900 disadvantaged children and youth, as well as 3,500 adults. **Utah County**

The Utah Council of the Blind project works to prevent the unnecessary consequences of blindness which often occur through fear and inactivity. AmeriCorps members who are blind, use their unique experiences, skills, and talents as mentors/teachers to help the person who is blind or who is losing their sight, and his/her family, learn techniques for returning to normal activities in the home and community. AmeriCorps members mentored more than 240 individuals in 2011.

Statewide

AmeriCorps Education Awards

Each AmeriCorps member who successfully completes a term of AmeriCorps service will receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award. The award can be used to pay educational expenses at qualified institutions of higher education, for educational training, or to repay qualified student loans.

Since 1994, more than 10,000 Utah residents have served more than 5 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$20,200,000*. (as of March 2011)

*National Service Trust





The Utah AmeriCorps Literacy/Math Tutoring Initiative was created to meet the challenge of No Child Left Behind. This program works with 110 schools to provide AmeriCorps members who serve as tutoring coordinators within the school. These members recruit and train community volunteers who tutor children in math and reading. The focus is in the primary grades 1 - 3 to assure that children are at or above grade level by the end of third grade. In the 2010/2011 school year this program recruited 9,950 volunteers who donated 190,300 hours tutoring 12,464 children across the state. **Statewide**

AmeriCorps and the Medically Underserved in Utah places members at health care sites throughout the state of Utah. AmeriCorps members work to reduce economic, geographic, cultural, and language barriers to health care and to expand primary care services for the medically underserved populations of Utah. This program has helped over 3,300 individuals establish a medical home with health care clinics rather than using the emergency room for treatment, which equates to a significant cost savings to the public. **Statewide**

The Chronic Homelessness Program located in Salt Lake County, involves AmeriCorps members in functions that supplement case management operations in segments of the population who are determined to be at 'high risk' for homelessness. The targeted populations include young people who have aged out of foster care and recently housed individuals who have previously been identified as chronically homeless. Services were provided for 250 households throughout the 2010/2011 program year. **Salt Lake County**

The Youth Garden Project (YGP) provides educational programs to Grand County youth and community members through organic gardening, extra curricular programs and community service projects. This program uses gardening and mentoring as a metaphor to teach civic engagement and job skills to the youth of Grand County. This program provides educational opportunities that foster, in youth, the desire for lifelong learning and an appreciation for community and the environment. In 2011 this program served over 1,000 youth through classes and summer camp programs. **Grand County**

"As I finish out this year of AmeriCorps service I feel very satisfied about what I have achieved at my host sites. I truly feel this complements my service to this country through the military and I feel that it has prepared me for future work in non-profits".
-AmeriCorps and the Medically Underserved in Utah Member-

The Utah Conservation Corps works in partnership with state and federal land management agencies to complete needed statewide conservation projects. The program has also developed a partnership with the US Forest Service to survey recreational facilities for ADA accessibility utilizing AmeriCorps member with disabilities to perform the surveys. In 2011 the program complete 39 surveys of recreational facilities, maintained 72.34 miles, created 13.27 miles of new trail, built 4.5 miles of new fence, maintained 24.32 miles of fence, and restored 5760 acres of habitat on public lands. **Statewide**



USU Community Outreach Program incorporates members in a unique project, Aggie Blue Bikes. The mission of Aggie Blue Bikes is to promote increased bicycle commuting to improve air quality in the Cache Valley. Bicycles are made available to students at Utah State University which can be rented for commuting as well as tools sets for students to use to repair their own bikes. Over 3,000 students have used the services provided by the program through 2011. **Cache County**

The Boys & Girls Clubs AmeriCorps Project focuses on inspiring and enabling young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens through two main focus areas: Education/Career Development and Health/Fitness. The program partners with various Boys & Girls Clubs from throughout the state of Utah in placing AmeriCorps members to provide structured activities to Utah youth, ages 6-18 before school, after school, and during the summer. During the 2010/2011 program year the program worked with more that 2,500 youth across the state. **Statewide**

Volunteer Generation Fund



The Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) supports efforts to expand the capacity of organizations to recruit, manage and retain individuals to serve in high quality volunteer assignments. Grant monies were awarded to Volunteer Connector Organizations statewide who sub-grant to partner nonprofits for participation in national days of service projects. In 2010/2011, \$48,500 in grants were awarded to 12 Volunteer Connector Organizations for the Martin Luther King and 9/11 National Days of Service.

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'"

MLK Day of Service projects included literacy and mentoring programs, care packages and letters for soldiers, numerous food bank projects (cleaning, restocking, food drives, building a facility), birthday bags for Juvenile Justice Services, and an anti-bullying campaign.



Volunteer Center Organizations Used:

890 Total Volunteers
2630 Volunteer Hours

"We felt these projects were very successful. We already have plans to partner with First Step House for two additional service days – in April and September 2011 – based on the success of this event. The First Step House in particular was successful because the veterans and other clients enjoyed working alongside the students and this partnership is expanding as a result of this project. Many long-term volunteers are being developed through this partnership. The success was based on the number of volunteers that participated – exceeding our goal by nearly 50%. Success was also evaluated on the likelihood that long term volunteers will result."

Nancy Bassinger, Ph.D., Assistant Director & Service-Learning Manager at the Bennion Center

9/11 National Day of Service

For 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance, projects were required to focus on military, veterans, military families and first responders.

Thousands of letters and packages for deployed soldiers were completed, events for military families (parties, yard cleaning, household maintenance, food collection, child care), soldiers being deployed recorded reading books for their children to listen to in their absence, veterans took trail rides

and barbequed with the Kostopoulos Foundation staff, camo quilts were sewn for deployed soldiers, working with organizations who care for homeless veterans and cleaning and landscaping American Legion posts.

Volunteers Center Organizations Used:

9,099 Total Volunteers
29,771 Volunteer Hours



Volunteer Management Trainer Certification

The Volunteer Generation Fund Grant was also used to assess volunteer management training needs in Utah. This assessment was used in the development of a Volunteer Management Trainer Certification program. Eight Volunteer Connector organizations have been selected to participate in the certification and will then implement a training plan for nonprofits in their communities. The Volunteer Management Trainer Certification training will commence in February, 2012.

Volunteer Recognition



2011 State Award Winners

Lt. Governor's Volunteer Recognition & Awards Banquet April 19, 2011 Salt Lake City Hilton Hotel

Lieutenant Governor Greg Bell and the Utah Commission on Volunteers congratulate the 2011 Utah State Volunteer Service Award and County Silver Bowl Award recipients. These awards celebrate the extraordinary volunteer efforts of Utahns all across the state.

Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award:
Marion Palmer

Lt. Governor's Civic Volunteer of the Year Award:
Kelly Christensen

Nonprofit Volunteer Program of the Year:
English Skills Learning Center

Corporate Volunteer Program of the Year:
Utah Community Credit Union

Volunteer Administrator of the Year:
Lt. Jeff Koehler

Senior Volunteer of the Year:
Henry Ogborn

Youth Volunteer of the Year:
Erin Olschewski

AmeriCorps Member of the Year:
Cathlena Plammer

AmeriCorps VISTA Member of the Year:
Lisa Hammon

"I know there are Utahns throughout our great state who are freely giving their time and talents for the betterment of the community. These programs give us the opportunity to recognize their achievements."
-Lt. Governor Bell

Volunteer Recognition Certificate Program

The Commission launched the Lt. Governor's Volunteer Recognition Certificate program in August of 2011. The program is an opportunity for organizations to recognize the volunteers that work so hard providing service.

The Volunteer Recognition Certificate:

- Is "non-competitive", easy, and low-cost
- Can be utilized by any nonprofit, faith-based, corporate or government agency
- Is aimed at recognizing more of the many volunteers helping to make Utah a better state
- Promotes and inspires further ongoing volunteer efforts

The Commission distributed over 100 Volunteer Recognition Certificates in 2011.



The Family Support and Treatment Center requested a Volunteer Recognition Certificate for Aubrey, saying that "From June 2010 through the present, Aubrey has spent over 100 hours volunteering in our Crisis Respite Nursery. Over that time she has helped hundreds of children who needed a safe place to stay from a high-risk or crisis situation. Because of Aubrey's competence and skill, we have been able to take children with significant behavior difficulties during her time, for the sole reason that we knew we would have her help. Because of Aubrey's help, we have been able to take in more children, and each child has benefitted from more quality attention and her example as a role model".



"The Volunteer Recognition Certificate is a great way to recognize our amazing volunteers at the Humane Society. It's easy to do, and volunteers know that they are truly appreciated when you present them the certificate".
-Utah Humane Society-

Youth Engagement

SUMMER OF SERVICE

Summer of Service 2011

Summer of Service is a statewide campaign in partnership with the Utah Commission on Volunteers and many nonprofits organizations across Utah. The campaign encouraged and mobilized people of all ages to make a difference in their communities through volunteering over the summer.

By simply signing up to participate, volunteering their time and logging their hours online, participants could win a Presidential Service Award signed by the President of the United States. The people that logged the most hours of service from June 1 through August 31 in their age group won lunch with Lt. Governor Greg Bell. In addition to the three top volunteers, all volunteers ages 5 to 14 who logged more than 50 hours of service, and those ages 15 and older who served more than 100 hours were also honored with a Presidential Service Award and Recognition Pin.

650+ Youth

20,000+ hours



2011 Summer of Service Winners: Daniel Ovard age 13, Shannon Babb age 23, and Dale Greenland age 53, recorded the most service hours in their age categories over the past three months, earning both a Presidential Service Award and lunch with Lt. Governor Bell.

Daniel Ovard volunteered at the Living Planet Aquarium
Shannon Babb volunteered at that Living Planet Aquarium
Dale Greenland volunteered at the CAP in Magna



"Volunteering is at the heart and soul of Utah, and it is with great personal pride that I recognize these three Utahns for their service this summer. Let their examples serve as inspiration for all of us to increase our level of volunteerism in our local communities".

Lt. Governor Bell

GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY



April 15-17, 2011

In Utah

Projects: 38
 Youth Volunteers: 1,473

Worldwide

Projects: 3502+
 Youth Volunteers: 550,363+

Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) recognizes and celebrates the contributions children and youth, ages 15-25, make to their communities. Established in 1988, Global Youth Service Day is the largest service event in the world, and the only day of service dedicated to children and youth. Each year, the day is celebrated a recognized in over 100 countries. Over 1,400 youth participated in GYSD in Utah in 2011, with projects ranging from refugee services to neighborhood cleanups to community art projects.

Look forward to Global Youth Service Day April 20-22, 2012

Lt. Governor's Conference on Service



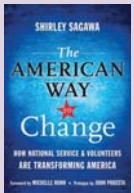
"Partnering for Impact"

The 2011 Lt. Governor's Conference on Service brought together National Service members with leaders from the nonprofit, government and private sectors to discuss volunteer management practices and inspire attendees to make a difference in their communities. In keeping with the theme, Partnering for Impact, the Commission on Volunteers partnered with the Utah Nonprofits Association, the Nonprofit Academy for Excellence and the Utah Society of Fundraisers to ensure that the conference met the needs of all conference attendees.

Workshops were tailored to the needs of organizations and individuals that manage and work with volunteers; keynote speakers spoke on both the national and local impact of volunteering; and volunteer projects were offered that provided lasting help to the organizations involved.



Our Keynote Speaker, Shirley Sagawa, a national expert on children's policy and philanthropy, has been called a "founding mother of the modern service movement" in the United States. All were inspired by the examples she shared about volunteer programs that are making a difference nationwide. Her book, *The American Way to Change*, profiles real people who have performed national service, examines the organizations they have worked with, and reveals the often profound impact these local heroes have made through their efforts.



"This conference was well worth my time. I enjoyed and learned every minute of it."

2011 Conference Attendee



"The workshops were very, very informational. They were things I wish everyone would learn, and things that I will definitely use for the rest of my life."

2011 Conference Attendee

The Conference focused on making an impact in our community by providing service projects focusing on children, youth or families. Opportunities to serve great organizations around the valley, as well as projects at the hotel, were available for conference participants.



2011 Encore Committee Events:
Senior Corps Week,
September 19-23
Collaboration with National
Days of Service: MLK Day and
9/11 Day

Encore Committee

Excerpt from a letter to Senior Corps Members from Lt. Governor Bell:

"With the Senior Corps Week celebration just around the corner, it was the perfect opportunity to thank you. Our state and nation rely upon citizens like you who see needs in their community and take it upon themselves to be a part of the solution. You are the leaders in our state among volunteers, and a major reason that Utah continues to be ranked #1 in the United States in volunteering.

Your service represents compassion, patience and sacrifice in serving those around you. It would be so much easier at this time in your life to sit back and reflect on the problems in our society. But you have chosen to do just the opposite – you have chosen to act!"

-Lt. Governor Bell-

The Commission seeks to empower the growing population of older Americans to use their skills, experience, and energy to help address community problems through National Service and volunteerism.



Serving Communities, Changing Lives

"Sometimes it is easy to feel like we are not appreciated for all the hours we give. One day as I was reading and a little boy in my group started laughing. I said what is so funny. He said "I just love this book!" We are helping these kids not only improve but give them a love for reading good books. We do make a difference! Especially to those kids who don't get one on one reading at home".

-AmeriCorps Literacy Initiative Member-



"I was able to go out to a house fire response at a single family home and was so glad I was there to assist. The woman in the home was so very appreciative of the Red Cross. It was a great experience to see full circle how the Red Cross prepares people for events such as these, but then also responds to help those who are suffering when a disaster does happen."

-AmeriCorps Be Red Cross Ready Program Member-

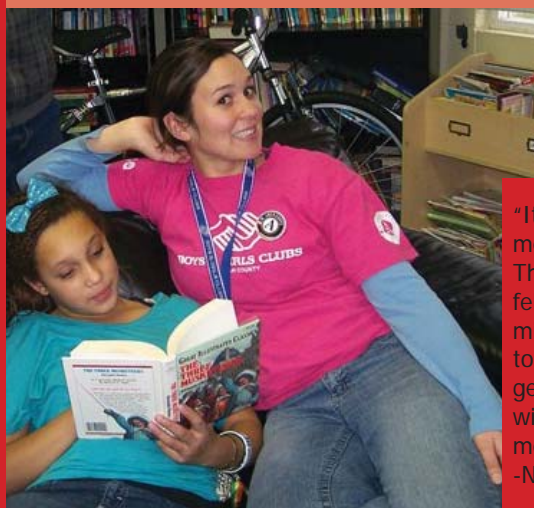


"I helped motivate students to improve and maintain a positive attitude for learning. I helped the people in my community prepare and feel safer- by providing classroom emergency buckets for my school and by training for my hometown's CERT. I experienced joy from giving more of my time to serve within my community, and I felt the gratitude & appreciation of others. I gained confidence, learned teamwork & communication, and fulfilled greater responsibilities. I became dedicated, felt commitment & connection, and developed a stronger desire to help, and a stronger love for what I do. I strengthened America by strengthening myself and my community- all through AmeriCorps! Within my heart exists pride for belonging to such an organization- it has been the best opportunity ever! I was already actively serving in my community before joining AmeriCorps, yet now I see even more motivation within myself to incorporate service into the rest of my life!"

- AmeriCorps Literacy Initiative Member-

"After my year of service with AmeriCorps I now feel that I know more about how it is to work in social service. I think the work of social workers is more valuable than ever in this economic climate in which many families no longer have steady incomes or health insurance. I am now in contact with many agencies and key people that can help a community member when in crisis, this brings me to the point that in order to survive humans rely on social networks, whether they are extended family or church networks. I will forge ahead with this idea in mind in my future careers".

-AmeriCorps & the Medically Underserved in Utah Member-

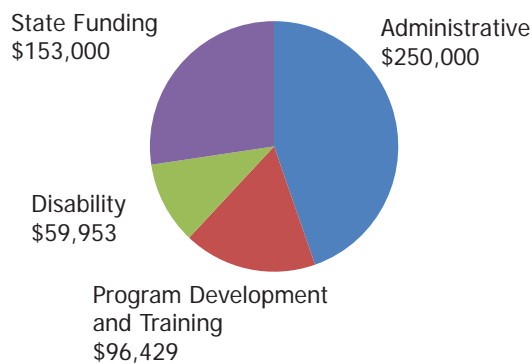


"It is great working with these men and women because they are coming back as active members in our military and have either been injured or are recovering from an injury. Their attitude and zest for getting back to a "normal" before their injury is a lot like how I felt when I was hurt. It is really cool seeing the spectrum of injuries and seeing how each military person reacts to adaptive recreation and how we are using it as a tool at the NAC to promote a healthy lifestyle and a way to "cope" with some of the very different ways of getting back to that normal. It was once again a great group and I look forward to working with them in the days ahead as we have many more opportunities to work with our military men and women."

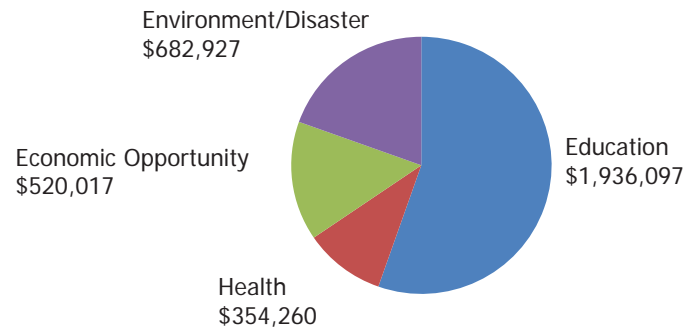
-National Ability Center AmeriCorps Member-

Financial Report

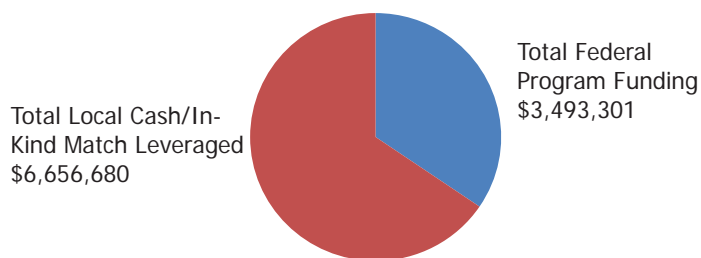
Commission Funding



Sub-granted Funding Focus Areas



AmeriCorps Program Funding



A wide range of financial contributions are necessary to meet the critical needs of the state, coordinate thousands of AmeriCorps members and volunteers, and promote national service in Utah. Local organizations have made commitments to identify needs in their communities and address them. For service programs to provide solutions to serious needs in the community, there must be ongoing support from local and state organizations, we express appreciation for all who contribute to make Utah communities stronger.

Looking Forward to 2012

January

| | |
|----|----------------------|
| 12 | Annual Board Retreat |
| 16 | MLK Day of Service |

February

6 Conference on Service Registration Opens

March

| | |
|-------|---|
| 10-18 | AmeriCorps Week |
| 31 | Conference on Service Registration Closes |

April

| | |
|-------|---|
| 20-21 | Global Youth Service Day Events |
| 24 | Conference on Service - AmeriCorps Day |
| 25 | Lt. Governor's Annual Conference on Service |
| 25 | Volunteer Recognition & Awards Banquet |

May

10 Board Meeting

June

1 Summer of Service Begins

July

August

| | |
|----|------------------------|
| 9 | Board Meeting |
| 31 | Summer of Service Ends |

September

10 AmeriCorps Request for Proposals
11 9/11 National Day of Service

October

November

December

[illegible]

2011 Annual Report

Utah

Commission on

Volunteers

The Utah Commission on Volunteers
Utah State Library
250 N 1950 W Ste A
Salt Lake City UT 84116-7901

Phone: 888-755-8824
Fax: 801-715-6725