



A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MONICA RITCHIE

It is my great pleasure to present the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2019, including an in-depth look at the past year's successes and opportunities. Our dedicated staff engaged and supported Mississippians of all ages and backgrounds in service to their communities, and it makes my soul swell with pride. It swells for the strides Mississippi has taken in service to others, and it grows even more with the thought that we have so much more to do. Since 1994, MCVS has worked to encourage a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility to America and our great state. And we don't plan to stop any time soon.

We are incredibly lucky to be charged with these responsibilities. It should be said, though, that these responsibilities are neither used to advance our purposes nor to make a name for ourselves. There is but one use of great responsibility, and it is to serve people. The issues in our state are large, indeed, but our hearts are larger. Our challenges are great, but our will is greater. Our hearts and our will together have forged a bold path through the last year, and I look forward to continuing that legacy throughout the coming years.

Yours in service,
Monica L. Ritchie

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: FISCAL YEAR 2019

The mission of the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service is to engage and support Mississippians of all ages and backgrounds in service to their communities. Since it was established in 1994, the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service (a.k.a. Volunteer Mississippi) has worked to encourage a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility to America. Volunteer Mississippi administers funds from the Corporation for National and Community Service to address critical community needs in Mississippi and engage citizens in service.

AMERICORPS

- 300 local service sites
- 2,500 Senior Corps and AmeriCorps members
- 27.5 million CNCS and local funding
- In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps members earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award that can be used to pay for trade school, college, or graduate school; or to pay back qualified student loans. All 82 counties in Mississippi have benefitted from AmeriCorps programs in the past 25 years – whether it's tutoring children, restoring parks and public land, or giving health education training to youth with disabilities.

- Since 1994, more than 16,000 Mississippi residents have served approximately 32 million hours through AmeriCorps earning more than \$61.7 million in Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards (From CNCS 2018 Year in Review Report as of 2/6/19)

MISSISSIPPI HUB NETWORK

Through the Volunteer Generation Fund from the Corporation for National and Community Service, and partnerships with the Mississippi Alliance of Nonprofits and Philanthropy, the MS Community Foundation Network, and several United Way organizations, Volunteer Mississippi established the MS Hub Network with the sole purpose of serving volunteers and nonprofits throughout every region in the state. Hubs recruit and support volunteers, nonprofits, and funders who give their time and talents, creating avenues for good work to happen, providing the **People, Know-How, and Resources** necessary for nonprofits to do the excellent work that they do.

VOLUNTEERISM & NONPROFITS

2019 Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence (GIVE) Awards: On April 8, 2019, Volunteer Mississippi, along with Governor Phil Bryant and First Lady Deborah Bryant, honored 13 individuals and organizations for their outstanding volunteer service. The 2019 GIVE Award recipients were: Mary Tooke Kitchens, Crystal Springs; Kearn Lynda Cherry, Gulfport; Etricia Easley, Columbus; Beth Gardner, Lake Cormorant; Beverly Goff, Pascagoula; Michael J. Higgins, Jr., Olive Branch; Dennis "DJ" Jewel, Columbus; Verdine Judd, Okolona; Paige Scruggs, Ellisville; Dr. Myrtis S. Tabb, Cleveland; Heartland Hands Food Pantry, Southaven; Jackson Free Clinic, Jackson; WellsFest and Its Volunteers, Jackson.

Mississippi Volunteer Engagement Results for July 2018 - June 2019:

- 18,000 volunteer engagements
- 148,000 hours of service
- 54 workshops for 500 attendees
- 850 volunteers
- 67,895 number of times that Mississippi volunteers engaged in service opportunities
- \$8,133,312.46 estimated value of volunteer efforts in Mississippi
- 1,225 community partners that volunteered (nonprofits, businesses and corporations, k-12 schools, colleges and universities, faith-based organizations, associations and community clubs)

LEVERAGE (2018-2019):

- State Appropriation: 681,449
- Federal Funds: 3,211,332
- Community Investment: 2,011,579
- Education Awards: 1,203,347

For every \$1 the State if Mississippi invested, MCVS returned \$9

The full Annual Report document for FY 2019 is available at: VolunteerMississippi.org

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