



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 3, 2021

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Volunteer Mississippi Announces 2021 – 2022 AmeriCorps Grant Awardees

Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service (Volunteer Mississippi) Receives Federal Grants to Host Nine AmeriCorps Programs in the 2021-2022 program year: America Reads Mississippi (ARM) Grenada School District; Scientific Research (SR1); Operation Upward; City of Laurel—Laurel Plays; Reading & Math, Inc. (RMI); University of Southern Mississippi (TRIAD); The University of Mississippi College Corps (UMCC); and The City of Greenville.

[Volunteer Mississippi](#), Jackson, today announced that AmeriCorps Mississippi has received \$2,946,190 in federal grants from AmeriCorps, the federal agency for national service and community volunteerism.

These grant funds will support nine AmeriCorps programs throughout Mississippi that will aid in educational advancement, strengthen healthy futures, develop economic opportunities, bolster environmental stewardship, respond to disasters, and even help local communities recover from the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Volunteer Mississippi is honored to support the growth of National Service programs in Mississippi,” said Executive Director Monica Ritchie. “It’s essential that we continue to serve our great state in the areas of education, economic opportunity, workforce development, healthy futures, and environmental restoration.”

Volunteer Mississippi's mission is to engage and support Mississippians of all ages and backgrounds in service to their communities. Established in 1994, as the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service (MCVS), Volunteer Mississippi has encouraged a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility to America. In partnership with [AmeriCorps](#) and faith-based and community organizations statewide, Volunteer Mississippi fosters community engagement and building volunteer capacity throughout the state.

After successfully completing an AmeriCorps term of service, AmeriCorps members are eligible to receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award. Awards for full-time members are over \$6,300 and can be used to pay for college or go towards qualified student loans.

For the past year, thousands of AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors members across all 50 states and U.S. territories have continued their service, quickly adapting to meet the changing needs caused by the

pandemic. Dedicated members have persisted in supporting communities as they respond and recover from the impact of COVID-19, developing new ways to deliver the same services to keep both themselves and those they serve safe.

The recently passed American Rescue Plan includes an additional \$1 billion for AmeriCorps. The agency will use this investment to expand national service programs into new communities and increase the opportunity for all Americans to serve their country.

Every year, 75,000 AmeriCorps members serve through thousands of nonprofit, community, and faith-based organizations across the country. These citizens have played a critical role in the recovery of communities affected by disasters and helped thousands of first-generation college students access higher education. They also tutor and mentor young people, connect veterans to jobs, care for seniors, reduce crime, revive cities, fight the opioid epidemic, and meet other critical needs.

As the federal agency for volunteering and service, AmeriCorps brings people together to tackle the country's most pressing challenges. Since the agency's inception in 1994, nearly 1.2 million AmeriCorps members have served the nation.