

Over 300 AmeriCorps members collect food for Helena Food Share

5th Annual Doorsteps to Kid Packs city wide food drive kicks off with address from First Lady Lisa Bullock

HELENA, MT – Over 300 AmeriCorps State and VISTA members from across Montana collected food for the Doorsteps to Kid Packs citywide food drive today, the Governor’s Office of Community Service announced.

Members from across Montana spent the afternoon canvassing neighborhoods and grocery stores across Helena, picking up kid-friendly food donations for the Helena Food Share’s Kid Packs program, which provides afterschool and weekend food to over 1,100 students at 17 local schools each week.

“Doorsteps to Kid Packs engages our AmeriCorps members in collective service to benefit Helena Food Share as together we make an impact in alleviating childhood hunger” said Dan Ritter, Executive Director of the Office of Community Service.

Last year, members collected 10,078 pounds of food for Helena Food Share’s Kid Packs. The annual Doorsteps to Kid Packs event is the largest food drive for kid packs every year and strives to ensure that the program has enough food to provide weekend nutrition for children at risk of hunger for the rest of the school year.

First Lady Lisa Bullock addressed the members before the event, thanking them for their service and for helping to feed hungry kids.

“My family and I truly appreciate your service and what you are doing today for hungry kids in our community,” Bullock said.

Helena Food Share Director Bruce Day also thanked the members and noted that nearly 1 in 5 kids in Montana faces food insecurity. **“Paired with the remarkable generosity of the Helena community, AmeriCorps increases our ability to serve children and families, thank you”**