



# 2011-2013 State Service Plan

DRAFT

Governor Brian Schweitzer  
Office of Community Service  
P.O. Box 200801  
Helena, MT 59620  
[serve.mt.gov](http://serve.mt.gov)

**serve**  
**montana**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

This year marks the first anniversary of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act to expand opportunities for people of all ages to serve and put communities on a path of growth by bringing people together to create innovative approaches to local challenges. Montana's State Service Plan demonstrates how national service programs and volunteerism can be part of the solution to address community needs and build community capacity.

Involved citizens help make Montana a great place to live, work, recreate and raise a family. The Governor and the Montana Commission on Community Service believe that volunteers are vital to making the state's communities stronger. With a timeless tradition of neighbors helping neighbors, Montanans believe that more can get done when working together. The plan will serve as a guide for Montana's volunteer strategies, specifically how we can increase opportunities to meet critical needs throughout the state.

This State Service Plan functions as the 2011 work plan for the Montana Commission on Community Service. Following the Commission's strategic planning session in February 2010, this plan was developed with input from our partners in service and a survey of citizens and community organizations conducted the summer of 2010. The State Service Plan, administered by the Governor's Office of Community Service, will be updated annually with this document serving as the basis for the next three years.

In 2010, the Commission affirmed the priorities adopted the previous year which include the Corporation for National and Community Service national priorities for education, healthy futures, opportunity, clean energy, veterans as well as disaster services. The Commission also supports the Governor's strategic initiative for clean energy and math and science education.

The Governor's Office of Community Service supports community collaboration, targets rural, tribal or underserved areas of our state and encourages disability inclusion in the design and delivery of all volunteer and national service programs. Targeted efforts across Montana will focus on: expanding opportunities for national service and volunteering; developing volunteer capacity; building partnerships; marketing national service and volunteerism, as well as sustaining a strong staff and operation.

Goals and action items are as follows:

Goal	Actions
Expand opportunities for all Montanans to volunteer.	<p>Promote volunteer opportunities through ServeMontana to encourage citizens to get involved in their local community and to help their neighbors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize extraordinary service of Montana volunteers on the website and facebook</li> <li>• Create and lead annual volunteer recognition by the Governor and Commission at the ServeMontana Symposium</li> <li>• Partner with the Pioneer League and the MSU and UM sporting events to honor volunteers and promote national service</li> <li>• Partner with Montana Nonprofit Association on Build Montana website to market opportunities and benefits of volunteer participation, especially for 55 and older adults</li> <li>• Serve as lead agency for Global Youth Service Day to engage young people in community driven volunteer projects</li> <li>• Partner with K-12 Learn and Serve activities by the Office of Public Instruction and public schools</li> <li>• Partner with Senior Corps</li> <li>• Partner with AmeriCorps VISTA</li> <li>• Support First Lady’s Math and Science initiatives by integrating national service and volunteers</li> <li>• Promote <a href="http://serve.mt.gov">ServeMontana</a> (serve.mt.gov) and <a href="http://ready.mt.gov">ReadyMontana</a> (ready.mt.gov) websites</li> <li>• Engage citizens in national and other service days</li> <li>• Utilize social media and traditional media to promote opportunities</li> <li>• Facilitate Youth ServeMontana Scholarships</li> </ul>
	<p>Increase the number of Montanans who register as organ, eye and tissue donors to save lives and improve the quality of life for others by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage Campus Corps AmeriCorps members in partnership with Donate Life Today for a statewide call to service campaign</li> </ul>
	<p>Manage national service programs, promote awareness of national service and assist with AmeriCorps and Citizen Corps member recruitment to meet critical community needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Market available AmeriCorps funding opportunities: State, Competitive, Formula and National Grants</li> <li>• Provide technical assistance for volunteer and service funding and training opportunities</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post marketing materials and information for all streams of national service</li> <li>• Post marketing materials and information for Citizens Corps on the ready.mt.gov website</li> </ul>
	<p>Increase citizens' preparedness for fire and winter seasons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement Governor's Call to Service Campaigns: Fire Ready Montana and Winter Ready Montana which includes Warm Hearts Warm Homes and First Lady Coat Drive</li> <li>• Engage citizens in service, emergency preparedness and helping neighbors by partnering AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, Citizen Corps, state agencies, community organizations and businesses</li> <li>• Promote Fire Ready and Winter Ready with public service announcements</li> </ul>
Provide training and technical assistance on volunteerism and national service in Montana	<p>Host annual ServeMontana Symposium to provide national service programs and community organizations with technical assistance for volunteer recruitment and sustainability and recognize volunteers in Montana.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene annual ServeMontana Symposium to provide a cross-stream national service training event</li> <li>• Support increased capacity of Montana service organizations and community based non-profits to effectively mobilize and manage volunteers</li> </ul>
	<p>Provide support for 1,000 AmeriCorps members who will serve Montana Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scholarship and/or facilitate training and conferences to build AmeriCorps and Office of Community Service staff skills</li> <li>• Host resources on serve.mt.gov website</li> </ul>
	<p>Provide opportunities for citizens to receive training on emergency preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct state-wide needs assessment</li> <li>• Mobilize and manage volunteers with new partners</li> <li>• Scholarship, coordinate and/or provide training to build skills</li> </ul>
	<p>Promote access and affordability of college with \$1 million in education awards for national service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Run "AmeriCorps in Montana" radio and television ad</li> <li>• Analyze benefits of education award in Montana</li> </ul>

## Regular calendar items, meetings, trainings, and events:

Statewide Call to Service Campaigns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire Ready Montana, <b>May-September</b></li> <li>• Winter Ready Montana, <b>October-January</b></li> <li>• Donate Life Today, <b>April</b></li> </ul>
National Service Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, <b>January</b></li> <li>• 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance, <b>September</b></li> </ul>
Other Service Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Youth Service Day, <b>April</b></li> <li>• Earth Day, <b>April</b></li> <li>• National Volunteer Week, <b>April</b></li> <li>• AmeriCorps Week, <b>May</b></li> <li>• National Preparedness Month, <b>September</b></li> <li>• National Public Lands Day, <b>September</b></li> <li>• Senior Corps Week, <b>September</b></li> <li>• Make a Difference Day, <b>October</b></li> <li>• Disability Mentoring Day, <b>October</b></li> </ul>
Commission Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>February</b>, in person, ServeSymposium, ServeMontana Awards, Strategic Planning</li> <li>• <b>June</b>, video conference, formula funding</li> <li>• <b>October</b>, in person, training, State Service Plan</li> <li>• <b>December</b>, video conference, competitive funding</li> </ul>
Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ServeMontana Awards               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Nominations Due, <b>December</b></li> <li>◦ Awards Presented, <b>February</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Youth Serve Montana Scholarships               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Applications Due, <b>April</b></li> <li>◦ Scholarships Presented, <b>May</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Cross Stream Conference Calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of <b>every month</b> from 11am-12pm</li> </ul>
Program Trainings, Reports, and Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conference Calls the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 2pm               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>January, April, June, and October</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• In person Trainings: <b>February-</b> Serve Symposium and <b>August-</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday</li> <li>• Scholarship Training opportunity               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>September</b>, MNA conference</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in Commission Meetings if relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>February, June, October, and December</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Progress Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Current Programs (expect MCC) due, <b>April and October</b></li> <li>○ Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) due <b>January and July</b></li> <li>○ 1<sup>st</sup> Round Planning Grants due <b>February, May, August, and November</b></li> <li>○ 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Planning Grants due <b>March, June, September, and December</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Main Recruitment Times, <b>February and September</b></li> </ul>
Conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ServeSymposium, <b>February</b></li> <li>• FireSafe Montana Conference, <b>February</b></li> <li>• Central Montana Career Fair, <b>April</b></li> <li>• Disaster &amp; Emergency Service Conference, <b>April</b></li> <li>• Tribal Benefits Conference, <b>April</b></li> <li>• Governor’s Conference on Aging, <b>May</b></li> <li>• MBI Summer Institute, <b>June</b></li> <li>• National Volunteer Conference, <b>June</b></li> <li>• Rural Community Conference, <b>August</b></li> <li>• Building Engages Citizens MTCC, <b>September</b></li> <li>• CNCS Grantee Meeting, <b>September</b></li> <li>• Montana Nonprofit Association Conference, <b>September</b></li> <li>• MEA-MFT Educators’ Conference, <b>October</b></li> <li>• MT Youth Transition Conference, <b>October</b></li> <li>• National Disability Inclusion Training Development, <b>December</b></li> </ul>
Governor’s Office of Community Service Progress Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citizen Corps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Progress Reports due <b>January, April, July, and October</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Corporation for National and Community Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Disability due <b>November</b></li> <li>○ Program Development and Training due <b>November</b></li> <li>○ Formula due <b>January</b></li> <li>○ Competitive due <b>January</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Reference Documents:

1. Volunteering in America from the Corporation for National and Community Service, [volunteeringinamerica.gov](http://volunteeringinamerica.gov)
2. Governor's Office of Community Service 2010 Summer Survey
3. Civic Life in America: Key Findings on the Civic Health of the Nation from the Corporation for National and Community Service, [civic.serve.gov](http://civic.serve.gov)
4. ServeMontana Web Analytics, [serve.mt.gov](http://serve.mt.gov)
5. Community Building Institutes February 2010 and August 2010
6. State Service Plan Calendar



**serve**montana

Governor's Office of Community Service

Jan Lombardi, Executive Director

P.O. Box 200801

Helena, MT 59620

Phone: 406-444-9077

Email: [serve@mt.gov](mailto:serve@mt.gov)

Website: [serve.mt.gov](http://serve.mt.gov)