

Summary of Applicants



BIG SKY WATERSHED CORPS

Executive Summary

America's headwaters are at-risk in Montana. The Big Sky Watershed Corps (BSWC) invests in community solutions to protect and restore healthy watersheds and public waterways. AmeriCorps members will lend innovation and skill within watershed organizations to improve at-risk ecosystems at the very headwaters of our nation's greatest rivers, and mobilize volunteers to restore America's Great Outdoors.

	Current Grant ('11)	Request ('12)	Difference
Federal Funds	\$133,000	\$199,500	\$66,500
Cash Match	\$90,000	\$150,000	\$60,000
In-Kind Match	\$115,600	\$162,065	\$46,465
Total Match	\$205,600	\$312,065	\$106,465
Match %	61%	61%	0%
Project Cost	\$338,600	\$511,565	\$172,965
MSY	10.00	15.00	5.00
Cost per MSY	\$13,300	\$13,300	\$0

MONTANA STATE PARKS AMERICORPS

Executive Summary

The Montana State Parks AmeriCorps program promotes healthy, active and environmentally aware communities by increasing volunteerism, enhancing educational opportunities, and improving community outreach in Montana State Parks. AmeriCorps members serving this program will develop a commitment to stewardship of natural and cultural resources.

	Current Grant ('11)	Request ('12)	Difference
Federal Funds	\$144,413	\$144,413	\$0
Cash Match	\$47,771	\$169,165	\$121,394
In-Kind Match	\$96,415		(\$96,415)
Total Match	\$144,186	\$169,165	\$24,979
Match %	50%	54%	4%
Project Cost	\$288,599	\$313,578	\$24,979
MSY	10.91	10.88	(0.03)
Cost per MSY	\$13,237	\$13,273	\$36

FOOD CORPS

Executive Summary

FoodCorps is a national service organization that seeks to reverse childhood obesity and food insecurity by increasing vulnerable children's knowledge of, engagement with, and access to healthy food. Fifteen AmeriCorps members will invest one year each to serve with a network of state and local partners in Montana. Members will deliver food and nutrition education, cultivate school gardens, and source and promote local food for K-12 students in communities of need. This model has already been shown to measurably improve student attitudes toward fruits and vegetables, setting them on an enduring path toward maintaining a healthy diet and lifestyle.

	Request ('12)
Federal Funds	\$187,500
Total Match	\$262,500
Match %	58%
Project Cost	\$450,000
MSY	15.00
Cost per MSY	\$12,500

JUSTICE FOR MONTANANS PROJECT

Executive Summary

15 AmeriCorps*State Justice for Montanans Project members and one leader will leverage an additional 120 volunteers to help low-income people apply for and obtain legal aid services, refer self-represented litigants and others to legal information and resources, process consumer inquiries and complaints, and assist crime victims across the state. At the end of the 3-year period, low-income Montanans will have increased access to courts, legal services, and other means of asserting and protecting their legal rights. This project will focus on the applicant-identified area of Legal Services, as well as the CNCS focus areas of Economic Opportunity, Capacity Building, Healthy Futures, and Veterans and Military Families. The CNCS investment of \$212,794 will be matched with \$147,763.

	Current Grant ('11)	Request ('12)	Difference
Federal Funds	\$169,008	\$212,794	\$43,786
Cash Match	\$51,521	\$62,546	\$11,025
In-Kind Match	\$67,607	\$85,218	\$17,611
Total Match	\$119,128	\$147,764	\$28,636
Match %	41%	41%	0%
Project Cost	\$288,136	\$360,558	\$72,422
MSY	13.00	16.00	3.00
Cost per MSY	\$13,001	\$13,300	\$299

GREAT FUTURES CORPS

Executive Summary

The Great Futures Corps will assist Montana Clubs, particularly those in communities with the lowest performing schools, in helping youth prepare for school; perform at grade-level; and graduate from high school ready for college, work and life. During the 2012-13 academic year, ten full-time, fourteen halftime, and eight minimum time AmeriCorps members will serve Montana's children (Grades K-12) in at least 20 urban, rural and reservation clubhouses throughout the state. The 20 clubhouses currently serve 7,600 youth annually. AmeriCorps members will leverage an additional 92 volunteers to assist them with offering high-yield learning activities and providing evidence-based targeted programs designed to meet our priority outcomes, namely consistent club attendance resulting in demonstrated improved academic engagement. This project will focus on the CNCS focus area of Education.

	Current Grant ('11)	Request ('12)	Difference
Federal Funds	\$27,445	\$218,266	\$190,821
Cash Match	\$9,113	\$28,798	\$19,685
In-Kind Match		\$41,345	\$41,345
Total Match	\$9,113	\$70,143	\$61,030
Match %	25%	24%	-1%
Project Cost	\$36,558	\$288,409	\$251,851
MSY	n/a	18.69	n/a
Cost per MSY	n/a	\$11,678	n/a

GRADUATION MATTERS MONTANA

Executive Summary

Fourteen (14) full-time AmeriCorps members will leverage an additional 140 community volunteers to increase the number of Montana students who graduate from high school and are college- and career ready through the Office of Public Instruction's Graduation Matters Montana (GMM) initiative. AmeriCorps members will serve at K-12 school sites, collaborating with local school districts, college campuses and community partners to provide supportive mentoring and dropout prevention services to students, particularly those who are economically disadvantaged. Members will assist in the implementation of local Graduation Matters activities, recruiting and supporting ten additional volunteers per site. In collaboration with Montana Campus Compact (MTCC) and its network of college and university campuses, the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) aims to provide mentoring services to 500 K-12 students in year one of the project, with 400 (or 80 percent) of those completing participation in the program by the end of the academic year, defined as May 1. Of the 500 students participating in the GMM AmeriCorps project, 275 will demonstrate improved academic engagement, as indicated through school records, teacher surveys, and student surveys. At least 75 of the high school seniors participating in the project will graduate on time with a diploma. This project aligns with the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) focus area of Education, as well as Serve Montana's strategic initiatives to generate volunteers and develop Montanans to be college- and career ready. The CNCS investment of \$186,201 in federal funds will be matched with \$186,200 in non-federal funds, which constitutes 50% grantee share of the overall budget.

	Request ('12)
Federal Funds	\$186,201
Total Match	\$186,200
Match %	50%
Project Cost	\$372,401
MSY	14.00
Cost per MSY	\$13,300