

Montana AmeriCorps Connection

Leaders Networking AmeriCorps Members



About Montana AmeriCorps Connection:

The Montana AmeriCorps Connection is a leadership council of AmeriCorps State and National members and AmeriCorps VISTA members from across Montana. This leadership council was formally known as ACMAC or the AmeriCorps Member Advisory Council. The purpose of the Montana AmeriCorps Connection is to encourage networking between AmeriCorps members in Montana through action, communication and representation to enhance all members' national service experience and impact to our state. The Montana AmeriCorps Connection is made up of no more than 10 AmeriCorps State, National, and VISTA members.

Goals:

- Raise awareness about AmeriCorps and National Service in Montana.
- Support AmeriCorps members around the state through networking, promoting service days and projects, and collecting service stories.

Montana AmeriCorps Connection works in coordination with oversight from the Governor's Office of Community Service (OCS).

Why Should I Apply?

Participating in the Montana AmeriCorps Connection is a great opportunity and platform to partner, lead and support your AmeriCorps State, National and VISTA peers in Montana through social media outlets, public speaking, promoting national service days and more. Did you know that there are more than 1,300 AmeriCorps members in Montana? Be part of the team that provides resources to help members connect to each other while promoting AmeriCorps members, programs and projects and their impact in Montana. Ideal applicants are social people who like networking and sharing resources.

Time Commitment:

Time commitment is approximately 10 hours/month - above and beyond your program responsibilities.

Montana AmeriCorps Connection members should budget time wisely, extra responsibilities cannot compromise program and project site responsibilities.

To participate, members will need permission from:

- Host Site Supervisor
- AmeriCorps VISTA Project Supervisor or AmeriCorps Program Director

Group Makeup:

The Montana AmeriCorps Connection is made up of a maximum of 10 members. Ideally, the group will represent all types of AmeriCorps members serving in Montana. Selections will be made to have diversity in geographic areas represented, age of members, returning and new members, and members from in and out of state.

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Meetings:

There is at a minimum, one required conference call per month with all Montana AmeriCorps Connection members and the Governor's Office of Community Service. Conference calls are held the third Tuesday of the month at 1pm.

All members will be encouraged to attend the annual ServeMontana Symposium in February. The Governor's Office of Community Service will have limited scholarships available for members to attend. If funding allows, members will also be brought together once in the fall.

Member Responsibilities:

- Network and distribute information to AmeriCorps members in your area.
- Manage the Montana AmeriCorps Connection Website (<http://mtamericorpsconnection.tumblr.com/>) to provide AmeriCorps members with resources, tips, and stories related to AmeriCorps service in Montana.
- Manage the Montana AmeriCorps Connect Facebook page to provide AmeriCorps members a place to have peer-to-peer communication.
- Collect stories of service for the Governor's Office of Community Service and the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- Assist with AmeriCorps promotion events by tabling and participating in presentations or coordinating outreach at conferences.
- Help with promotion and member engagement on National Service Days (MLK Day and 9/11 Day), Global Youth Service Day, AmeriCorps Week and the Governor's call to service campaigns (Winter Ready Montana and Fire Ready Montana).
- Participate as a focus group for the Governor's Office of Community Service and the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Application Process:

- AmeriCorps VISTA Project Supervisors will distribute applications, recommend and submit eligible applications by email to Jackie Girard, Montana State Program Director for CNCS, jgirard@cns.gov (406) 449-5404
- AmeriCorps State and National Program Directors will distribute applications, recommend and submit eligible applications by email to Julia Gustafson, Governor's Office of Community Service, jgustafson@mt.gov (406) 444-9077
- New member selections will be made on a rolling basis.