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## SERVE WISCONSIN

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## **Milwaukee Celebrates New Ranking as #7 City for Producing AmeriCorps Members**

***New data shows more AmeriCorps members come from Milwaukee than other cities; Milwaukee ranks #7 among cities of its size***

When it comes to enrolling in AmeriCorps, Milwaukee residents rank 7<sup>th</sup> among large American cities according to new data released by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency that administers the AmeriCorps program and leads the nation's national service and volunteer programs.

"We are incredibly proud that Milwaukee is one to the top large cities nationwide for recruiting AmeriCorps members. Milwaukee has a legacy of civic engagement and being a Top 10 "AmeriCity." We are proud to continue the tradition," said, Jeanne Duffy, Executive Director of Serve Wisconsin, the state commission charged with managing AmeriCorps programs in the State of Wisconsin.

There are over 400 AmeriCorps members serving in Milwaukee schools and nonprofits. Members tutor kids in schools, serve in health clinics, run after school programs, help high schools prepare for college and create a more just and equitable Milwaukee.

This fall marks the 25th anniversary of the AmeriCorps program and more than 5,800 Milwaukee residents over the past 25 years have served in AmeriCorps. They have provided more than 10.2 million hours of service to their country and local community through AmeriCorps and received more than \$25,620,000 in Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards. This year, CNCS will invest more than \$2 million to support AmeriCorps members and projects in Milwaukee, including funding for more than 340 AmeriCorps members serving the Milwaukee community.



For more than two decades, dedicated Americans have chosen to prepare students for college, reduce crime and revitalize cities, connect veterans to jobs, fight the opioid epidemic, rebuild communities following disasters, preserve public lands, strengthen education, foster economic opportunity, and more through the national service program. Every year, 75,000 AmeriCorps members serve through 21,000+ schools, nonprofits, and community and faith-based organizations across the country.

Since the program's inception in 1994, more than 1.1 million AmeriCorps members have served providing more than 1.6 billion hours of service and earning more than \$3.6 billion in education scholarships, more than \$1 billion of which has been used to pay back student debt. Those interested in joining AmeriCorps can learn more at [AmeriCorps.gov/Join](https://AmeriCorps.gov/Join).

A [growing body of research](#) shows that service has an effect on more than just the communities served, but also on the members themselves. AmeriCorps alumni credit their year of service for developing leadership skills that bridges divides, solves problems, and opens doors to opportunities that advance their careers and education. In addition, research shows that alumni gain skills and are exposed to experiences that communities and employers find valuable.

The rankings were determined by associating the permanent address of AmeriCorps members' to a U.S. designated place and state, including the District of Columbia. For this analysis, a small city was defined as any place with a population greater than or equal to 100,000 people and less than 250,000 people. A large-sized city was defined as any place with a population greater than or equal to 250,000. States and cities listed produce the highest number of AmeriCorps members per capita. The District of Columbia was considered a state for these rankings.

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**Serve Wisconsin** works with AmeriCorps programs throughout the state of Wisconsin to address human, educational, environmental, public safety and homeland security needs. AmeriCorps members are given the opportunity to enrich the lives of the people and communities they serve and their own lives through professional and personal development. Serve Wisconsin is governed by 21-member citizen body appointed by Governor Evers. For more information visit <https://servewisconsin.wi.gov>.

AmeriCorps is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that engages millions of Americans in service through AmeriCorps and Senior Corps, and leads the nation's volunteering and service efforts. For more information, visit [www.NationalService.gov](http://www.NationalService.gov).

