



Providing Vision & Resources Michigan Community Service Commission

● What is the Michigan Community Service Commission? ●

Michigan is a generous state for service with 2.3 million adults volunteering in 2009. These volunteers' 308 million service hours have an economic value equivalent to \$6.2 billion. The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC), acting as the state's lead agency on volunteerism, strives to increase these efforts and impact by promoting service as a strategy to address Michigan's toughest challenges.

The MCSC receives **\$674,000 in state funds** to address those challenges and is anticipating maintaining that level of funding for FY12. Those state funds leverage more than **\$10 million in federal funds** to be dispersed through various initiatives of the MCSC. For every one dollar the state provides the MCSC, \$14.83 in federal funds are leveraged. Without the state's investment, critical challenges would not be addressed through AmeriCorps, service-learning, mentoring, and general volunteerism.

Each day, the MCSC looks to build a culture of service by providing vision and resources to strengthen communities through volunteerism. The MCSC achieves its mission by:

- Providing leadership to support, promote, and expand volunteerism
- Securing and delivering resources to expand programming and excellence in volunteering and service
- Focusing on the critical community needs identified at the local, state, and national levels

The MCSC, through the Corporation for National and Community Service, funds national service programs in Michigan, in the form of AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve. It also supports a variety of other initiatives related to service and volunteerism. The MCSC is housed in the Michigan Department of Human Services.

● MCSC National Service & Other Initiatives ●

In 2010-2011, the MCSC is funding **26 AmeriCorps programs** and **1,211 members** through its **Michigan's AmeriCorps** initiative. These members serve in nonprofits and schools throughout the state addressing some of Michigan's most critical challenges.

Over the next year, members will provide foreclosure prevention and financial counseling, help ex-offenders re-enter society, assist homeless individuals and families in finding permanent housing, organize literacy and tutoring programs for underperforming youth, mentor and support youth from disadvantaged circumstances, and support health care services to the most needy – among other things. They will accomplish this with the help of the more than **24,000 local volunteers** they will recruit. As a result of their service, Michigan's AmeriCorps members will earn an estimated **\$3 million** in education awards to pay for college, vocational training programs, or to repay student loans.

This year, the MCSC is also funding **25 Learn and Serve programs** in Michigan K-12 school districts through its **Learn and Serve – Michigan** initiative. Service-learning is a teaching and learning approach that connects meaningful service to the community with classroom instruction that when done well enriches learning, teaches civic responsibility, and fosters personal growth.

The programs, with the help of nearly **900 teachers**, will engage at least **25,000 students** in service-learning activities this year. More than **4,000 adult volunteers** will also assist Learn and Serve – Michigan programs in completing community-revitalization projects focused on issues such as: health education, food collection/distribution, child literacy, recycling, animal welfare, and others. Service-learning creates a commitment among young people to be part of the solution – and also increases their likelihood of a lifetime of volunteerism.

The Michigan Community Service Commission desires for all youth to successfully transition to adulthood and reach their full potential through its **Mentor Michigan** initiative. Mentor Michigan supports nearly **250 mentoring programs** with training, research, partnerships, and building public awareness. A 2010 survey of 137 of those programs shows **23,706 children** were served by mentors. Michigan also had **17,681 active mentors**.

The MCSC implements **Volunteer Michigan**, a statewide initiative that facilitates increased recruitment, engagement, and tracking of volunteers including: specific population groups such as adults age 55 years and older, as well as highly skilled volunteers.

Volunteer Michigan has **seven grantees** who strive to recruit, manage, and support volunteers and strengthen the state's volunteer infrastructure. Grantees consist of volunteer connector organizations that look to increase the number of volunteers addressing health and public safety issues in local communities and statewide. Volunteer Michigan also supports the development and implementation of **HandsOn Connect**, a full lifecycle volunteer management platform that will enable volunteer connector organizations to recruit, manage, and track volunteer engagement.

Each year, the MCSC honors **8 volunteers, organizations, and a business** for their commitment to volunteerism with **Governor's Service Awards**. These awards are given annually to the heroes of Michigan who are helping to solve community issues.

The Michigan Community Service Commission strives to engage citizens across the state in annual National Days of Service. For example, as part of the **2010 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service**, more than **5,200 citizens** were engaged in **51 service projects** that impacted more than **15,000 individuals**.

● Financial Impact ●

The Michigan Community Service Commission is granting more than **\$9 million in Federal Funds** to local communities for volunteer programs and activities in 2009-2010.

That includes **\$7,993,502 in Federal Funds** for Michigan's AmeriCorps programs and **\$476,489 in Federal Funds** for Learn and Serve – Michigan programs. The MCSC is also granting **\$299,266 in Volunteer Generation Funds**.

This year, those Michigan's AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve – Michigan programs will leverage more than **\$6.75 million in Match Funds** in their local communities.