



### **Nevada Volunteers statement of purpose**

Nevada Volunteers, a 501(c) 3, is the Governor's Commission on Service. Our investment in Nevada's volunteer infrastructure shapes a culture of service and citizenship, engaging individuals, organizations, and businesses across Nevada. Through the administration of AmeriCorps we strive to address critical community needs through service. Our initiatives focus on: 1) expansion of service opportunities, 2) creating service awareness, 3) strengthening service and volunteer programs, and, 4) providing service recognition.

### **What is the Governor's Points of Light Awards?**

The Governor's Points of Light Awards were inaugurated in October of 2001. Since that time, the event has shined the light on exemplary volunteer service in Nevada, highlighting regional impacts along with the private and public partnership across the nonprofit and corporate sector. The Governor's Points of Light Award is Nevada's most prestigious award. Unlike other forms of volunteer recognition, the Governor's Points of Light finalists are selected by a panel of judges. Finalist show achievement through voluntary service, addressing an unmet need, innovative or unique approach, opportunities to mobilize other volunteers and endurance of an ongoing project, with exception to short-term crisis situations.

### **What is the Silent Auction?**

The Governor's Points of Light event includes a silent auction. The silent auction will be promoted statewide via online and social media in the weeks prior to the event. Donors will be positioned as supporters of service and volunteerism, and will enjoy the benefits of marketing exposure to influential bases within our communities including families, business executives, and community leaders.

### **Why is Fundraising important for Nevada Volunteers?**

State Service Commissions like Nevada Volunteers are created with an obligation to meet significant federal compliance standards related to the oversight of national service programs. Nevada Volunteers receives federal funds to achieve that objective. The structure of State Commissions is purposely a private, public partnership. To this end, Nevada Volunteers leverages state money, federal money and private fundraising to bring additional resources into Nevada.

Nevada has a relatively young volunteer infrastructure. In 2008 Nevada Volunteers expanded its mission to invest not just in national service but in strengthening Nevada's volunteer infrastructure. This investment requires additional resources, but has significant returns on investment. Nevada Volunteers is committed to helping organizations increase their capacity to meet Nevada's unmet needs through service and volunteering.

### **Return on Investment for Nevada**

- For the program year ending in August 2016, over \$8.8 million of national service resources were invested in Nevada. This total investment in Nevada communities was supported with \$150,000 Nevada general funds. That is a ROI of \$61 for every \$1 of state money spent.
- In the 2015-2016 AmeriCorps Nevada program year, 298 AmeriCorps State members served 229,285 hours at 45 host sites across Nevada. Those 298 AmeriCorps members recruited an additional 6,866 volunteers who served 16,749 hours in Nevada communities.
- In 2016, Nevada Volunteers leveraged federal funds and private fundraising to support more than 661 nonprofit organizations in statewide volunteer recruitment, connected 280 volunteer coordinators for professional development, resources and information sharing statewide, trained 12 organizations in the Service Enterprise national best practice standard and recognized more than 490 Nevadans with a Governor's Volunteer Recognition Certificate.