

## DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL SERVICE AND VOLUNTEER TERMS

### A

#### **America's Service Commission (ASC)**

A nonpartisan, nonprofit organization representing and promoting state service commissions.

#### **AmeriCorps**

A national service program supported by the federal government, and state and private partnerships, that engages adults in service opportunities with nonprofits, schools, public agencies, community and faith-based groups across the country.

#### **AmeriCorps Member (AC Member)**

An individual serving in an AmeriCorps program. AmeriCorps members are not employees or volunteers. They are service members who may receive a living allowance in exchange for their commitment to serve and are eligible to receive an education award.

#### **AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC, N Triple C)**

AmeriCorps NCCC is a full-time, team-based residential program for men and women age 18-24. Members serve 10 months and are assigned to one of five campuses — Denver, CO; Sacramento, CA; Baltimore, MD; Vicksburg, MS; and Vinton, IA. Members work on a variety of projects nationwide from school summer programs to disaster response. Members serving in Nevada typically visit from the Sacramento campus.

#### **AmeriCorps National Direct**

AmeriCorps programs that receive federal funding directly from CNCS to support multi-state organizations. Examples of National Direct programs in Nevada include Teach for America and Equal Justice Works.

#### **AmeriCorps State**

AmeriCorps programs that receive funding and oversight through state commissions like Nevada Volunteers. Nevada Volunteers manages two types of grants: **Competitive and Formula**. Competitive programs submit their grant directly to CNCS and compete nationally for funding. Nevada Volunteers distributes these funds and provides oversight. Formula programs submit their applications to Nevada Volunteers and the Commission makes funding decisions to distribute an allocation assigned to that state by CNCS. Nevada Volunteers distributes these funds and provides oversight.

#### **AmeriCorps Volunteers In Service to America (VISTA)**

AmeriCorps program managed through CNCS State offices. VISTA service members can be any age and serve for one year in a full-time capacity with organizations in need of capacity building support.

#### **AmeriCorps Week**

Week in March dedicated to honoring service members.

### C

#### **Code of Federal Regulation 45 (45CFR)**

Federal code regulating AmeriCorps programs.

#### **Continuation**

AmeriCorps State grants operate on a three-year cycle. Grants in years two and three are continuation grants.

### **Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS, The Corporation)**

U.S. Federal agency that oversees AmeriCorps and Senior Corps. CNCS is authorized under the Community Service Act of 1993. There is a CNCS state office in Nevada in Reno that oversees AmeriCorps VISTA and Senior Corps programs in the state.

## D

### **Direct Service**

AmeriCorps State Members are to provide direct service. Direct service includes activities like tutoring, teaching English and restoring hiking trails. Direct service does not include activities like answering phones or clerical support.

### **Directors Of Volunteers In Agencies (DOVIA)**

A professional, nonprofit organization promoting excellence in volunteer management through education, training, mentoring and advocacy. Nevada has a chapter in Southern Nevada.

## E

### **Education Award**

An award given to members who have successfully completed an AmeriCorps term of service. Education Awards may be used to repay student loans or towards the cost of attending an institute of higher education.

### **E-grants**

CNCS managed website where AmeriCorps grants are submitted and member records are managed.

## F-I

### **Federal Financial Report (FFR)**

The FFR is used to submit financial information about individual grant awards to CNCS.

### **Foster Grandparent (FGP)**

Senior Corps program overseen by the CNCS state office. Volunteers age 55 and older serve through activities like mentoring trouble youth and young mothers, helping children learn to read and caring for pre-mature infants.

### **Governor's Points of Light (GPOL)**

Annual event hosted by Nevada Volunteers to honor volunteerism in Nevada.

### **Grantee**

The direct recipient or the sub-recipient of a federal grant. Grantees are legally accountable to CNCS.

### **Host Site**

An entity that acts as a project sponsor and is responsible for the actual site on which a project is to be performed. This entity may provide task specific training, technical assistance supervision, or other services as agreed to in a contract between the program and the host site.

### **In-Kind Services**

Donations of goods and/or services (not monetary donations).

## L-M

### **Living Allowance**

Some AmeriCorps members receive a modest living allowance during their term of service. This is a benefit in addition to the education award available to members who successfully complete their terms of service.

### **Mayor, County and Tribal Recognition Day**

Day in April that brings community leaders together in support of National Service.

### **Member**

An Individual who is enrolled in an approved national service position, who is a U.S. Citizen, U.S. national or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States, who is at least 17 years of age and has a high school diploma or an equivalency certificate or agrees to obtain one before using an education award.

### **Member Service Year (MSY)**

The equivalent of one full-time term of service.

## N

### **National Service**

Any CNCS funded program, including AmeriCorps.

### **National Days of Service**

AmeriCorps members participate in days of service throughout the year to complete specific service projects in their communities.

### **Nevada Commission for National and Community Service (NCNCS)**

Former name of Nevada Volunteers

### **National and Community Service Act of 1990 and National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993**

Acts authorizing CNCS, AmeriCorps and Points of Light

### **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**

A legal notification, published in the Federal Register, announcing the availability of federal funds for a grant program. CNCS releases a NOFO each year and Nevada Volunteers uses it to create a NOFO for Nevada State programs.

## O

### **Office of the Inspector General (OIG)**

Federal office in Health and Human Services dedicated to combating fraud, waste and abuse and improving the efficiency of programs.

### **Office of Management and Budget (OMB)**

Federal office assisting the President in preparing the annual federal budget. OMB must approve CNCS's regulations, applications, forms and any other documents that will affect the public.

## P-R

### **Periodic Expense Report (PER)**

Monthly (or quarterly) request from grantees to Nevada Volunteers to draw down grant funds.

### **Points of Light**

The world's largest organization dedicated to volunteerism. Nevada Volunteers is a Points of Light certified Service Enterprise organization. Points of Light also houses AmeriCorps Alums, the AmeriCorps alumni associate.

### **Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)**

CNCS volunteer network for people 55 and over. The CNCS state office manages this program.

## S

### **Senior Companion Program (SCP)**

CNCS program for volunteers 55 and over. Senior Companions serve 15 to 40 hours per week helping an average of two to four adult clients live independently in their own homes.

### **Serve, Service**

Whenever possible, the terms service should be used rather than work when referring to AmeriCorps member activities.

### **Service Enterprise (SE)**

Organizations that have been certified by Points of Light for their ability to efficiently and effectively leverage volunteers across all levels of their organization to address community needs.

### **State Service Plan (SSP)**

A three-year plan developed by the commission, and signed by the governor, that details measurable goals for national service funded through the state. The plan also sets priorities for promoting national service and strengthening national service infrastructure.

### **Sub-grantee**

An organization receiving AmeriCorps grant funds through Nevada Volunteers or other commission.

## T-V

### **Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA)**

Additional support provided to grantees or volunteer organizations by CNCS, Nevada Volunteers or consultants.

### **Volunteer Association of Northern Nevada (VANN)**

Organization supported by Nevada Volunteer that provides support and training to volunteer managers in Northern Nevada.

### **Volunteer Week**

Week in April dedicated to honoring volunteers.