ServeOhio Day 2025
Training and Technical Assistance Webinar Notes
March 10, 2025 at 10a

Application Timeline
❖ The online application will close at **11:59p on March 25, 2025**. No extensions will be permitted.
❖ All applicants will be notified of funding decisions on **April 11, 2025 by 5:00pm**.
❖ ServeOhio Day 2025 projects can occur **June 1 through June 30, 2025**. Projects outside of this window may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
❖ If awarded the grant, all reporting is due Friday, July 25, 2025 at 5:00p.
❖ Reimbursement will be processed within 30 days of fully completed reports.

Eligibility Requirements
❖ Non-profit and public organizations in Ohio are eligible to apply including, but not limited to, volunteer centers, faith-based organizations, school districts, community colleges, universities, and local governments.
❖ Because the source of funds may be federal, AmeriCorps members may not apply for these funds directly. However, AmeriCorps members are encouraged to be involved in planning, leading, and serving on the day of service.
❖ The primary intent is to support projects that engage youth to create or improve community assets or infrastructure, such as parks, schools, senior centers, community gardens or low-income homes.
❖ Projects should be collaborative in nature and involve a broad spectrum of community participants.
❖ Benefits must accrue to the community as a whole, not simply to the applicant organization and its constituents.
❖ All projects must include an educational component to help volunteers learn more about the issue they're impacting and the community/population they're serving. Examples might include a brief training, inviting community members and leaders to participate and speak to the group, or a facilitated discussion of the issues affecting the community.

Application Process
❖ The online application must be submitted by **11:59p on March 25, 2025**. No extensions will be awarded.
❖ A guide to the online grants management system can be found here.

Funding
❖ Grant awards will range from **$250 To $1,000**.
❖ Funding requested should be commensurate with the number of volunteers engaged; the higher the grant request, the higher number of youth volunteers that should be engaged in the project.
❖ This cost reimbursement grant requires no match.
❖ Funds can be used for supplies and materials or volunteer support.
❖ Funds may not be used for staffing, travel costs, gift cards, awards, or grantee administration/overhead costs.
❖ Supplies/materials may include small equipment (useful life of two years or more) up to $100 unit cost.
  ➤ Example: a mower that costs $200; grant funds can be used for up to $100 of that cost.

❖ The primary purpose of the grant is to support the project(s), therefore no more than 20% of the total funding request should be allocated to volunteer support costs.
  ➢ For example, if requesting $1,000, no more than $200 should be budgeted for volunteer support.

Evaluations
❖ ServeOhio staff and commissioners will review applications on the following:
  ➢ Volunteer involvement
  ➢ Community need/project design
  ➢ Use of broad-based community participation and collaboration
  ➢ Number of volunteers engaged is commensurate with the funding request
  ➢ Budgetary compliance
❖ Other factors that may be considered include geographic diversity of projects and whether an applicant has received funding for another project in the past year. Funding preference will be given to applicants that do not presently receive other grant funding from ServeOhio.
❖ All applicants will be notified of funding decisions by **5:00p on April 11, 2025** via the person listed on the application as the project manager.

Additional Opportunities through ServeOhio
National Days of Service Grants
  ➢ We offer grant competitions for MLK Day in January, Global Youth Service Day in April, ServeOhio Day in June, and Make a Difference Day in October each year.
Get Connected
  ➢ ServeOhio offers a statewide volunteer management platform, Get Connected that is free to use for all non-profits and public organizations, as well as volunteers.
Professional Development
  ➢ Ohio Conference on Service & Volunteerism is an annual day of professional development and networking each year.
  ➢ Each fall and spring ServeOhio host a virtual Volunteer Engagement Fundamentals Course.
AmeriCorps
  ➢ AmeriCorps is a national service program administered by the federal government. ServeOhio operates the Ohio AmeriCorps programs.
ServeOhio Awards
  ➢ The ServeOhio Awards recognize outstanding people, groups, and initiatives in each region of Ohio who make great contributions to their communities through service and volunteerism. A cash award of $1,000 is issued to support the organization which benefited from the winner's service.