#### COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES



Meeting Date: 05/9/2024 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Meeting Location: State Library of Ohio, 274 E. First Ave. Columbus, OH 43201

#### In Attendance:

Jason Kucsma, Morna Smith, Kevin Corey, Curtis Kemp, Jacob Erwin, Brie Lusheck, Joe Lemon, Caitlin Bierman, Scott Hunt, Felicia King, Gary Cates, Ron Soeder

#### Absent:

Kimberly Smidt-Poma, Daniel Meyer

**New Business** 

• Meeting was called to order by Chair Pam Steurer at 1:05 PM.

- Meeting minutes from January 11, 2024 were approved as presented.
- Commissioner Nominating Committee:
  - o Ron Soeder
  - o Morna Smith
- No Public Comment

#### Administration & Program Updates

- Executive Director Report: William Hall updated Commissioners on current topics as summarized in his presentation (Attachment 1).
- AmeriCorps Member Survey Presentation, D. Beth Laux, President & CEO, Quest Cultural Solutions

#### AmeriCorps Formula Applications/Review & Approvals

New Applications/Planning Grants

- Family Scholar House, Inc.
  - o Request: \$74,985
  - Moved by Soeder, seconded by Kucsma to accept the recommendation to not fund the application in the amount of \$74,985. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.
- Lake Erie College
  - o Request: \$55,406
  - Moved by Lusheck, seconded by Smith to accept the recommendation to fund the application in the amount of \$55,406. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.
- Ohio Association of Foodbanks
  - o Request: \$70,781
  - Moved by Kucsma, seconded by Lusheck to accept the recommendation to fund the application in the amount of \$70,781. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.

- Omega Community Development Corporation
  - o Request: \$75,000
  - o Moved by Corey, seconded by Kucsma to accept the recommendation to fund the application in the amount of \$75,000. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.
- Xavier University
  - o Request: \$73,174
  - Moved by Corey, seconded by Lusheck to accept the recommendation to fund the application in the amount of \$73,174. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.

#### New Applications/Operational Grants

- Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
  - o Request: \$150,960; 5.60 MSY; 8 AmeriCorps Members
  - Moved by Smith, seconded by Kucsma to accept the recommendation to not fund the application in the amount of \$150,960. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.
- ArtistYear
  - o Request: \$350,000; 14.00 MSY; 20 AmeriCorps Members
  - o Moved by Soeder, seconded by Lusheck to accept the recommendation to fund the application in the amount of \$350,000. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.
- Catholic Social Services
  - o Request: \$248,877; 10.00 MSY; 20 AmeriCorps Members
  - o Moved by Lusheck, seconded by Kucsma to accept the recommendation to not fund the application in the amount of \$248,877. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.
- Renounce Denounce Gang Intervention Program
  - o Request: \$274,028; 10.00 MSY; 20 AmeriCorps Members
  - Moved by Smith, seconded by Soeder to accept the recommendation to not fund the application in the amount of \$274,028. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.
- Ohio University
  - o Request: \$256,449; 10.00 MSY; 10 AmeriCorps Members
  - o Moved by Lusheck, seconded by Kucsma to accept the recommendation to not fund the application in the amount of \$256,449. Motion carried on voice vote with no abstentions.

#### Renewal Applications

- Mercy Health Cincinnati LLC
  - o Request: \$248,597; 10.00 MSY; 14 AmeriCorps Members
  - Moved by Lusheck, seconded by Smith to accept the recommendation to fund the application in the amount of \$248,597. Motion carried on voice vote with 1 abstention (Kucsma).

#### Continuation Applications (No Action Required)

- Baldwin Wallace University
  - o Request: \$206,531; 7.65 MSY; 21 AmeriCorps Members
- Breakthrough Cincinnati
  - o Request: \$382,816; 14.18 MSY; 67 AmeriCorps Members
- Educational Service Center of Central Ohio

- o Reguest: \$1,350,000; 50.00 MSY; 100 AmeriCorps Members
- Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District
  - o Request: \$375,295; 12.00 MSY; 12 AmeriCorps Members
- Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association
  - o Request: \$530,637; 20.70 MSY; 29 AmeriCorps Members
- Hamilton County
  - o Request: \$161,448; 6.00 MSY; 6 AmeriCorps Members
- HealthCorps
  - o Request: \$115,544; 4.28 MSY; 15 AmeriCorps Members
- Horizon Education Centers
  - o Request: \$286,886; 10.79 MSY; 21 AmeriCorps Members
- Miami University
  - o Request: \$1,125,065; 41.67 MSY; 200 AmeriCorps Members
- Ohio Campus Compact
  - o Request: \$283,894; 10.51 MSY; 21 AmeriCorps Members
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
  - o Request: \$335,410; 12.25 MSY; 37 AmeriCorps Members
- Ohio Historical Society
  - o Request: \$230,365; 10 MSY; 10 AmeriCorps Members
- Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital
  - o Request: \$193,075; 5 MSY; 5 AmeriCorps Members
- Shawnee State University
  - o Request: \$823,055; 31.06 MSY; 74 AmeriCorps Members
- Teach for America
  - Request: \$88,000; 72 MSY; 72 AmeriCorps Members
- Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners
  - o Request: \$766,443; 30.50 MSY; 32 AmeriCorps Members
- University Settlement
  - o Request: \$121,713; 7.00 MSY; 9 AmeriCorps Members
- Zoological Society of Cincinnati
  - o Request: \$319,742; 15 MSY; 15 AmeriCorps Members

#### **Upcoming Opportunities**

- 2023 Financial Disclosure Filing: May 15, 2024
  - o https://disclosure.ethics.ohio.gov
- 2024 Ethics Training: December 31, 2024
  - E-Course: "The Ohio Ethics Law 2024: 50 Years of Promoting Governmental Ethics"

#### **Announcements/Other Business**

 Next Commission Meeting 10/10/2024 at the JoAnn Davidson Theatre for the AmeriCorps 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:39 PM.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

Rebeccah Verhoff-Kiss

Director of Strategic Engagement

Certified by:

Chair

Approval Date: 10/10/24

### COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES Index to Attachments



#### Attachment 1:

- ServeOhio Commission Meeting 5/9/2024 Agenda
- FY2024-Q3 Financials
- Commission Meeting Presentation
- AmeriCorps Member Survey Presentation
- Grant Applications
  - o Family Scholar House, Inc.
  - o Lake Erie College
  - Ohio Association of Foodbanks
  - o Omega Community Development Corporation
  - Xavier University
  - o Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
  - ArtistYear
  - Catholic Social Services
  - o Renounce Denounce Gang Intervention Program
  - Ohio University
  - Mercy Health Cincinnati LLC

#### ServeOhio Commission Meeting – 5/9/24

State Library of Ohio, 274 East First Avenue, Columbus, OH 43201

1PM CALL TO ORDER					
IPIVI I CALL IO UNDEN					
New Business					
Roll Call					
<ul> <li>Approval of 1/11/24 Commission Meeting Minutes</li> </ul>					
Public Comment (5-minute limit)					
Administration					
Fiscal Report – FY24 Q3					
Federal Budget – Final FY24 Appropriations					
AmeriCorps Compliance Monitoring – 21ACCOH003	1 & 22CACOH001				
State of Ohio Mentoring Initiative					
Sunset Committee Testimony					
Volunteer Engagement					
National Volunteer Week					
ServeOhio Awards					
National Days of Service					
Youth Service					
<ul> <li>Mott Grant</li> </ul>					
<ul> <li>Service Certificates</li> </ul>					
Professional Development					
<ul> <li>Volunteer Engagement Fundamentals</li> </ul>					
<ul> <li>2025 Ohio Conference on Service and Volur</li> </ul>	nteerism				
AmeriCorps					
<ul> <li>Member Survey – Beth Laux, President &amp; CEO, Que</li> </ul>	st Cultural Solutions				
30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update					
AmeriCorps Overview					
Competitive Results					
Formula Review & Submission	Formula Review & Suhmission				
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#### **Renewal Applications**

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Request: \$248,597; 10.00 MSY; 14 AmeriCorps Members

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• University Settlement

Request: \$121,713; 7.00 MSY; 9 AmeriCorps Members

Zoological Society of Cincinnati

	Request: \$319,742; 15 MSY; 15 AmeriCorps Members					
4PM	ADJOURN (Next ServeOhio Commission Meeting – 10/10/24 @ Riffe Center)					







### CALL TO ORDER

- Roll Call
- Approval of 1/11/24 ServeOhio Commission Minutes
- Commission Officer Nominating Committee
- Public Comment (5-Minute Limit)





## Fiscal Report

Fiscal Year 2024
Third Quarter





## Final FY24 Federal Appropriations

CNCS PROGRAM	FY22 Enacted	FY23 Enacted	FY24 PBR*	FY24 ASC Request	FY24 Enacted
AmeriCorps State and National	466.75M	557.1M	650.83M	784.4M	557.1M
AmeriCorps VISTA	100.29M	103.3M	141.62M	137M	103.3M
AmeriCorps NCCC	34.51M	37.73M	43.3M	43M	37.7M
National Service Trust	190.55M	230M	213M	230M	180M (-\$50M FY23)
AmeriCorps Seniors	230.77M	236.9M	262.4M	272M	236.9M
RSVP	53.96M	55.10M	55.10M	63M	55.10M
Foster Grandparents	122.36M	125.36M	143.45M	147M	125.3M
Senior Companions	54.45M	56.44M	63.80M	62M	56.44M
Volunteer Generation Fund	6.56M	8.6M	8.6M	30M	8.6M
State Commission Support Grants	19.09M	19.54M	19.54M	21M	19.54M
Days of Service	3.33M	6.14M	6.14M	6.15M	6.14M
Evaluation	4.12M	6.25M	6.25M	6.25M	6.25M
CNCS Salaries and Expenses	88.08M	99.7M	118.43M	114.7M	99.7M
Inspector General	6.595M	7.6M	8.57M	7.6M	7.6M
TOTAL CNCS	1.151B	1.313B	1.478B	1.652B	1.262B





## **AmeriCorps Compliance Monitoring**

- Conducted by the AmeriCorps Office of Monitoring
- Process started late January; Onsite Visit 4/30 5/2
- Assessment Period: 4/1/23 12/31/23
- Two Grants Reviewed
  - 21ACCOHoo1/AmeriCorps Competitive Grant
    - Review of Commission Support to Grantees & Select NSCHC
  - 22CACOH001/Commission Support Grant
    - Financial & Operational Fitness Assessment
- Report/Recommendations to be issued later in the month.





## State of Ohio Mentoring Initiative

- ServeOhio continues to work with Governor DeWine's Office and the Department of Administrative Services on Executive Order 2023-02D which allows state employees to take leave (one hour per pay period) to mentor and/or support Ohio youth in local communities.
- ServeOhio is focusing on GetConnected expansion to include more opportunities; working with regional and local mentoring organizations to promote opportunities to state employees.





### **Sunset Committee Testimony**

- The Sunset Committee is a joint committee of House and Senate members; plus, non-legislative members appointed by the governor. This joint committee will be reviewing the performance, usefulness, and effectiveness of 169 entities that by law are subject to the sunset review process.
- ServeOhio will testify the week of June 10<sup>th</sup> with other commissions focused on human services and issues impacting youth.
- Testimony is scheduled to continue through September with a committee report to be issued later in the year.





## AmeriCorps Week: March 10-16

- 17 grantee projects; 350+ volunteers
- 13 additional LeaderCorps projects











## National Volunteer Week: April 21-27



### **Volunteers in Ohio**



Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism





### ServeOhio Awards

### 2024 ServeOhio Award Recipients

- Susan Kochheiser, Mansfield
- Ginger Leonard, Cleveland
- Nestle Cares, South Euclid
- Cindy Bench, *Toledo*
- John Eisenhart, Toledo
- Robert West, *Athens*
- Anna Eberhart, Cincinnati
- Darryl Mehaffie, Greenville







## Commissioner Engagement

#### ServeOhio Award Reviewers

- Meghan Kaskoun
- Jason Kucsma
- Kimberly Poma
- Morna Smith
- Pam Steurer

#### **ServeOhio Award Presenters**

- Kevin Corey, Anna Eberhart
- Jason Kucsma, Cindy Bench & John Eisenhart
- Chris Shaffer, Robert West
- Ron Soeder, Nestle Cares

Thank you!





### Commissioner Engagement







## ServeOhio Awards Recognition

- WTOL11, *Toledo*: <a href="https://www.wtol.com/article/news/local/good-news/local-serveohio-volunteer-award-winner/512-f159cb02-bfac-4164-a2f5-99091e89fb5f">https://www.wtol.com/article/news/local/good-news/local-serveohio-volunteer-award-winner/512-f159cb02-bfac-4164-a2f5-99091e89fb5f</a>
- Toledo Blade, *Toledo*: <a href="https://www.toledoblade.com/local/community-eyents/2024/04/30/local-volunteers-recognized-community-efforts/stories/20240429101">https://www.toledoblade.com/local/community-eyents/2024/04/30/local-volunteers-recognized-community-efforts/stories/20240429101</a>
- 13 ABC, Toledo: https://www.13abc.com/video/2024/04/29/bright-side-april-29-2024/
- 13 ABC, Toledo: <a href="https://www.13abc.com/video/2024/04/18/bright-side-april-18-2024/">https://www.13abc.com/video/2024/04/18/bright-side-april-18-2024/</a>
- Athens Messenger, Athens: <a href="https://www.athensmessenger.com/connect/serveohio-awards-will-honor-robert-west-for-dedication-to-service/article\_e26b6694-fb34-11ee-bf06-2b3c03ae73a4.html">https://www.athensmessenger.com/connect/serveohio-awards-will-honor-robert-west-for-dedication-to-service/article\_e26b6694-fb34-11ee-bf06-2b3c03ae73a4.html</a>
- Richland Source, Richland County: <a href="https://www.richlandsource.com/2024/04/28/susan-kochheiser-shelter-volunteer-receives-serveohio-award/">https://www.richlandsource.com/2024/04/28/susan-kochheiser-shelter-volunteer-receives-serveohio-award/</a>
- **Legislative Commendations:** Rep. Isaacsohn (*Eberhart*), Sen. Dolan (*Leonard*), Sen. Hicks-Hudson (*Bench & Eisenhart*), Sen. Huffman (*Mehaffie*), Rep. King (*Mehaffie*)





### National Days of Service Grants

- Global Youth Service Day
  - 17 grants; 1,300 volunteers; 15 cities
- ServeOhio Day
  - 25 grants; 1,400 volunteers, 20 cities







## Youth Service: Community Impact Awards

- 2,550 Community Impact Awards distributed to High School Students across Ohio!
- 8% increase from last year

We Are Celebrating
High School Volunteers
Across Ohio.

#### 2023-24 School Year

Earn recognition for

- 20 Community Service Hours
- 4 Service Activities
- Receive a Free Service Impact Resume

Submit your Service at my.InnerView.org









### Youth Service: Mott Grant

• \$30,000 grant from ASC (sourced from the Mott Foundation) to support a Service-Learning Institute.

### **Service-Learning Institute Components:**

- 1. Summer Training July 17-18, 2024 conducted by NYLC
- 2. \$5,000 to support service-learning activities in 2024-25
- 3. Professional Learning Community





## **Professional Development**

#### Volunteer Engagement Fundamentals

- Spring Cohort March 7 April 11
  - 150 participants
- Fall Application opens June 17
  - Fall cohort: August 22 September 26

### 2025 Ohio Conference on Service & Volunteerism

#### SAVE THE DATE

- March 7, 2025
- Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center, *Lewis Center*





### Outreach

### 2024 Speaking Engagements

- 2024 Ohio Museums Association Conference
- 2024 Ohio Afterschool Network Conference
- 2024 National Service Training
- 2024 School Success Conference
- Ohio School Counselors Association PD Meeting
- Tri County ESC PD Meeting
- Northpoint ESC PD Meeting





### **AmeriCorps Member Survey Presentation**

Beth M. Laux, EdD
President & CEO
Quest Cultural Solutions, LLC





## AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary Event

- October 10, 2024
- Ohio Statehouse/JoAnn Davidson Theatre
- 500+ AmeriCorps members, program staff, alums
  - Service Projects
  - Poster Session
  - Remarks & Swearing-In







## **AmeriCorps Competitive Funding Results**

### <u>Funded</u>

- College Now Greater Cleveland/\$776,561/31.5 MSY/32 AmeriCorps Members
- Rural Action/\$1,164,754/50.77 MSY/74 AmeriCorps Members
- City Year Columbus/\$1,075,000/43 MSY/43 AmeriCorps Members
- City Year Cleveland/\$1,263,644/53.5 MSY/55 AmeriCorps Members
- Ohio University/\$575,000/23 MSY/23 AmeriCorps Members

### Not Funded

Catholic Social Services





## Purpose of AmeriCorps Funding

- AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations engaged in evidence-based or evidence-informed (e.g. performance data, research, theory of change) interventions that use AmeriCorps members to strengthen communities.
- An AmeriCorps member is an individual who engages in community service through an approved national service position. Members may receive a living allowance and other benefits while serving. Upon successful completion of their service, members receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award from the National Service Trust.





## **AmeriCorps State Funding Cycles**

- Competitive (winter NOFO)
  - ServeOhio makes/approves recommendations for funding to CNCS in January
  - Vetted by CNCS at a national level
  - Allows ServeOhio to secure additional resources
  - Notified in Spring
- Formula (spring NOFO)
  - Annual allocation that allows ServeOhio to address state-specific needs
  - ServeOhio selects/votes for programs to receive funding in May
  - Notified after May commission meeting





### AmeriCorps Grant Types

- Cost Reimbursement
  - Maximum request level
  - Program expenses submitted for reimbursement
  - Flexibility to access entire grant award
- Fixed Award
  - Maximum request level
  - Grant amount based on member enrollment and retention





# Funding Considerations and Indicators of Success







### **Indicators of Success**

- Solid theory of change with a strong program design supported by evidence focused on a compelling community need.
- High-quality applications that are complete, well-written and follow the guidelines.
- Geographic distribution of resources across Ohio.
- Past performance and success with a focus on impact and evaluation.
- Organizational capacity including fiscal, administrative and leadership.
- Staff and peer review feedback and scores.
- Commitment to National Service as a solution.
- · Established ServeOhio and CNCS priorities and focus areas.





### **Conflict of Interest**

- **3.02** Conflict of interest as related to administration of AmeriCorps grants in Ohio is governed by federal regulations issued by the Corporation for National and Community Service at 45 CFR 2550.110 in addition to Ohio ethics laws. The federal regulation makes no distinction between voting and ex officio members in defining conflict of interest.
- a. A Commission member is considered to have a conflict of interest if the member is currently or was within one year of the submission of a grant application to the Commission, an officer, director, trustee, full-time volunteer or employee of an organization submitting an AmeriCorps grant application.
- b. Restrictions for such individuals are as follows:
  - (1) They may not participate in the development of an application for AmeriCorps funding that will be considered, reviewed, or administered by the Commission.
  - (2) They must recuse themselves from all discussions and decisions regarding all AmeriCorps funding passed through the Commission under the same federal subtitle (Subtitle C-AmeriCorps State & National). Specifically: They may not serve as peer reviewers during the application review process; and must declare the conflict and leave the room at the start of any discussion/deliberation on AmeriCorps funding decisions during a Commission meeting.





### **Conflict of Interest**

- (3)They may not participate in the oversight, evaluation, continuation, suspension or termination of the grant award. Specifically:
  - They may not participate in the management or operation of any AmeriCorps project funded by the Commission; and
  - They may not be a member of any Commission standing or ad hoc committee charged with developing or reviewing agency policies and procedures relative to AmeriCorps grant administration or evaluation.
- **3.03** Prior to the start of any discussion or deliberation on AmeriCorps funding during a Commission meeting the Chair will provide opportunity for Commission members to declare conflicts and recuse themselves. Declared conflicts of interest and recusals will be recorded in the official minutes of the meeting.
- **3.04** Commissioners who do not have a conflict of interest as defined above but who wish to avoid any possibility of perceived conflicts may participate in discussion but abstain from voting on funding for specific projects, at their discretion. Such abstentions will be recorded in the official minutes of the meeting.





# **AmeriCorps Planning Grants**

### Recommended for Funding

- Lake Erie College/\$55,406
- Ohio Association of Foodbanks/\$70,781
- Omega Development Corporation/\$75,000
- Xavier University/\$73,174

### Not recommended for Funding

Family Scholar House





## **New Operational Grants**

### Recommended for Funding

Artist Year/\$350,000/14 MSY/20 AmeriCorps Members

### Not Recommended for Funding

- Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
- Catholic Social Services
- Renounce Denounce Gang Intervention Program
- Ohio University





# Recompeting/Renewal Grant

### Recommended for Funding

• Mercy Health Cincinnati LLC/\$248,597/10 MSY/14 AmeriCorps Members





# Things to Complete

### 2023 Financial Disclosure Filing

May 15, 2024

https://disclosure.ethics.ohio.gov

### **2024 Ethics Training**

December 31, 2024

E-Course: "The Ohio Ethics Law 2024:

50 Years of Promoting Governmental Ethics"





### **ADJOURN**

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING 10/10/24





	FY2024-Q3	FEDERAL GRANTS					STATE GRF					OTHER SOURCES						ALL FUNDS					
	DESCRIPTION		BUDGET		ACTUAL		REMAINING		BUDGET	ACTUAL	R	EMAINING	В	UDGET	ACTUAL	REM	IAINING		BUDGET		ACTUAL	REI	MAINING
CSV1100	SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$	722,859	\$	541,169.48	\$	181,689.52	\$	427,691	\$309,117.52	\$1	118,573.48	\$	-		\$	-	\$	1,150,550.00	\$	850,287.00	\$	300,263.00
CSV1300	CONTRACT SERVICES	\$	284,625	\$	155,495.19	\$	129,129.81	\$	26,823	\$ 5,400.00	\$	21,423.00	\$	-		\$		\$	311,448.00	\$	160,895.19	\$	150,552.81
CSV1400	FISCAL & AUDIT SERVICES	\$	6,256	\$	195.90	\$	6,060.10	\$	12,325	\$ 15,724.27	\$	(3,399.27)	\$	-		\$		\$	18,581.00	\$	15,920.17	\$	2,660.83
CSV2100	TRAVEL - STAFF	\$	34,442	\$	15,412.76	\$	19,029.24	\$	-	\$ 740.59	\$	(740.59)	\$	-		\$		\$	34,442.00	\$	16,153.35	\$	18,288.65
CSV2200	TRAVEL - COMMISSIONERS	\$	3,175	\$	491.84	\$	2,683.16	\$	6,009	\$ 1,944.34	\$	4,064.66	\$	-		\$		\$	9,184.00	\$	2,436.18	\$	6,747.82
CSV2300	VOLUNTEER TRAVEL	\$	-			\$	-	\$	-		\$		\$	-		\$		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
CSV3100	SUPPLIES	\$	3,740	\$	803.62	\$	2,936.38	\$	30,000	\$ 1,011.14	\$	28,988.86	\$	-		\$		\$	33,740.00	\$	1,814.76	\$	31,925.24
CSV3200	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$	-			\$	-	\$	-		\$		\$	-		\$		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
CSV3300	POSTAGE & SHIPPING	\$	800	\$	36.77	\$	763.23	\$	-		\$	-	\$	-		\$	-	\$	800.00	\$	36.77	\$	763.23
CSV3400	TELEPHONE & DATA NETWORKING	\$	17,032	\$	9,139.79	\$	7,892.21	\$	-	\$ 6,536.42	\$	(6,536.42)	\$	-		\$		\$	17,032.00	\$	15,676.21	\$	1,355.79
CSV3500	OFFICE SPACE RENTAL	\$	17,035	\$	16,811.71	\$	223.29	\$	35,904	\$ 18,446.84	\$	17,457.16	\$	-		\$	-	\$	52,939.00	\$	35,258.55	\$	17,680.45
CSV3600	COPYING PRINTING & GRAPHICS	\$	5,212	\$	2,789.42	\$	2,422.58	\$	400	\$ 747.06	\$	(347.06)	\$	-		\$	-	\$	5,612.00	\$	3,536.48	\$	2,075.52
CSV3700	MEDIA & PUBLIC INFORMATION	\$	1,218	\$	1,218.00	\$	-	\$	-		\$	-	\$	-		\$	-	\$	1,218.00	\$	1,218.00	\$	-
CSV3800	SUBSCRIPTIONS DUES & FEES	\$	48,884	\$	44,076.00	\$	4,808.00	\$	848	\$ 13,672.96	\$	(12,824.96)	\$	-		\$	-	\$	49,732.00	\$	57,748.96	\$	(8,016.96)
CSV3900	MISC. OPERATING COSTS (ARP)	\$	201,348			\$	201,348.00	\$	-		\$		\$	-		\$		\$	201,348.00	\$	-	\$	201,348.00
CSV4000	MEETINGS & TRAININGS	\$	15,636	\$	12,879.04	\$	2,756.96	\$	15,000	\$ 7,771.01	\$	7,228.99	\$	-		\$		\$	30,636.00	\$	20,650.05	\$	9,985.95
CSV4500	MEETINGS ATTENDANCE SUPPORT	\$	-			\$	-	\$	-	\$ 9,800.00	\$	(9,800.00)	\$	-		\$		\$	-	\$	9,800.00	\$	(9,800.00)
CSV5000	AWARDS & RECOGNITION	\$	-			\$	-	\$	-		\$		\$	13,000	\$3,000.00	\$10,	,000.000,	\$	13,000.00	\$	3,000.00	\$	10,000.00
CSV6000	CONFERENCE SUBSIDIES	\$	-			\$	-	\$	-		\$		\$	-		\$		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
CSV7000	SERVICE PROJECT SUPPORT	\$	-			\$	-	\$	130,000	\$ 54,222.06	\$	75,777.94	\$	-		\$	-	\$	130,000.00	\$	54,222.06	\$	75,777.94
CSV8000	FEDERAL SUBGRANTS	\$	15,771,124	\$7	7,748,053.07	\$	8,023,070.93	\$	-		\$	-	\$	-		\$	-	\$1	5,771,124.00	\$7	,748,053.07	\$ 8	8,023,070.93
CSV8900	SUBGRANTEE REFUNDS	\$	-			\$	-	\$	-	\$ 8,556.80	\$	(8,556.80)	\$	-		\$	-	\$	-	\$	8,556.80	\$	(8,556.80)
CSV9000	IN-KIND EXPENSE (PSA)	\$	-			\$	-	\$	-		\$	-	\$	-		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
_	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	17,133,386.00	\$8	3,548,572.59	\$	8,584,813.41	\$6	685,000.00	\$453,691.01	\$2	231,308.99	\$1:	3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$10	,000.00	\$1	7,831,386.00	\$9	,005,263.60	\$ 8	8,826,122.40

- The 3800 category overage is because the grants management system budgeted was not approved by they Information Technology Security team and we went with a higher cost vendor.
- The 4500 category overage was not included in the initial budget phase, this is the amount of registration fees paid for LeaderCorps members, Staff and Commissioners to attend the ServeOhio Conference.
- The 8900 category overage is the Payment Integrity Information Act (PIIA) assessment finding for the Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODNV), it will zero out if ODVN pays the disallowance invoice in the current fiscal year.

2024

AmeriCorps Member Experience Survey

ServeOhio Commission Meeting



### AGENDA

- 1 ABOUT QCS
  - 2 PROJECT OVERVIEW
    - 3 PRELIMINARY FINDINGS
      - 4 Q & A









### **ABOUT QCS**



With 20+ years of experience, QCS empowers our partners to

**UNDERSTAND NEEDS** 

**IMPROVE PROGRAMS** 

**EXPAND IMPACT** 

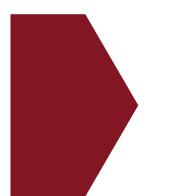
**BUILD RELATIONSHIPS** 





### **OUR TEAM**











### WHAT WE DO

- Consulting
- Research & Program Evaluation
- Workforce Training
- Project Management
- Cultural Expertise





### **OUR COMMITMENTS**

- Small Business
- Women's Empowerment
- Inclusion
- Sustainability

Learn More at https://bit.ly/30jZPyu













Develop a simplified, accessible, and streamlined AmeriCorps Member Experience Survey for ServeOhio resulting in effective, actionable data





### RESEARCH GOALS



- 1. Understand the demographics of AmeriCorps members
- 2. Explore members' perspectives about different aspects of their experience
- 3. Describe the impact of an AmeriCorps experience on volunteers' life journeys and goals



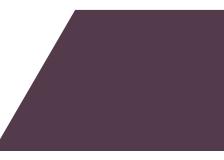
### APPROACH

- ONLINE DATA COLLECTION
  - 2 MIXED METHODS
    - 3 QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL
      - 4 STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE









### SURVEY FAST FACTS

**Number of Respondents: 264** 

**Overall Response Rate: 39.9%** 

**Completion Rate: 89%** 







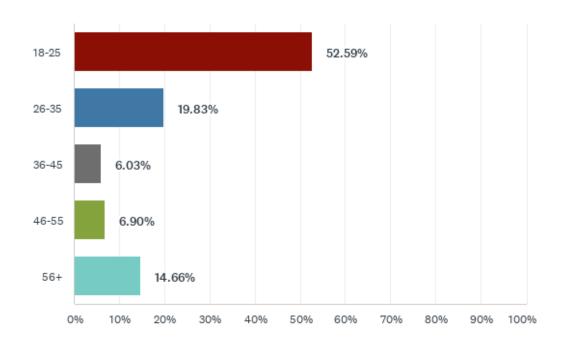
### FINDING #1

Who are AmeriCorps Members?





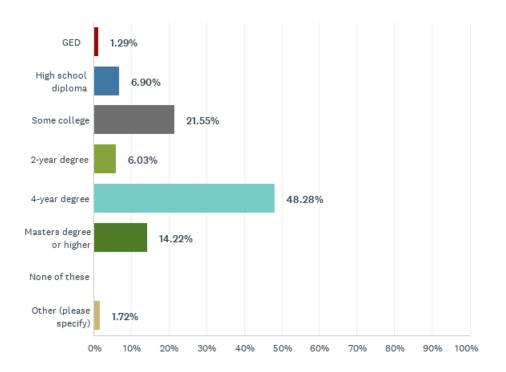
### Q29 What is your age?







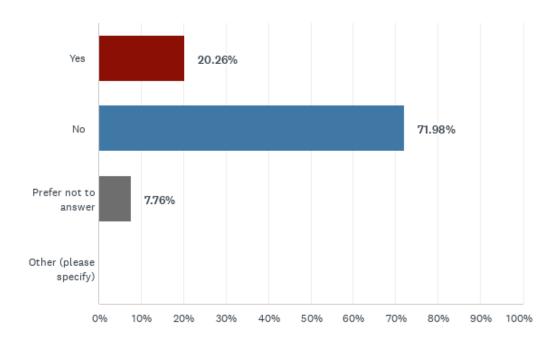
Q30 What is the highest level of education that you have completed?







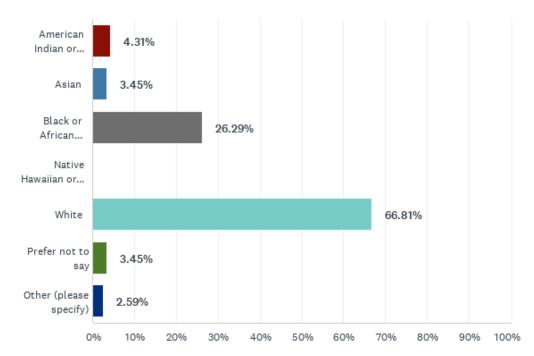
### Q28 Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community?







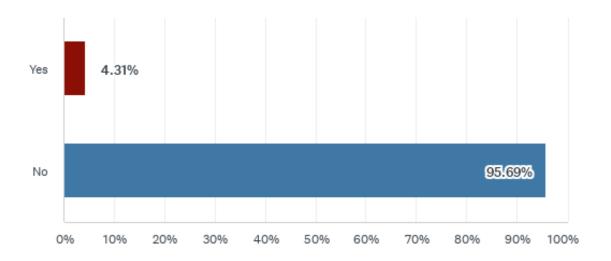
Q26 How do you identify your race or ethnicity? Check all that apply.







### Q27 Are you of Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish origin?







### FINDING #2

More than 82% of respondents said that they achieved all or most of their goals for their AmeriCorps experience



"When I joined AmeriCorps, my main goals were to develop my in professional skills and prepare myself for the environmental field." AmeriCorps has been great for both goals. I'm happy to be a part of it."

"I wanted to give back to the community and help others. [AmeriCorps] absolutely made me meet those goals."

"I was a single mom of two. I didn't know what was next for me. Now I'm active with a new certification and thriving as a community health worker with hope for my future."





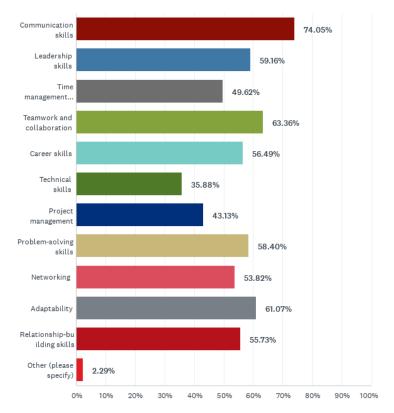
### FINDING #3

Over 85% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their AmeriCorps experience improved their career or technical skills





Q5 Which skills did you improve during your experience? Select all that apply.







"If you'd asked me when I started my service term if I had any interest in being an addiction counselor, I would've laughed. However, serving has given me an entirely new perspective. I am now a certified Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant and aim to take the exam [to be a] Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor next year."

"AmeriCorps brought out the 'Leader' in me that I never knew existed.
[It] taught me priceless skills such as Project Management, Leadership,
& Innovation. In the future, I will be enlisting in the Peace Corps to
expand my horizons."

"AmeriCorps helped me to discover career paths I didn't know were possible. All the training and learning opportunities I've received from AmeriCorps have shined a light on paths I didn't know I could take."





### FINDING #4

Respondents who participated in <u>any</u> ServeOhio program reported better outcomes in the following areas:

- Explaining the AmeriCorps experience to others\*
- Understanding different perspectives
- Working effectively with people who are different\*
- Building relationships with people who are different
- Having confidence in their ability to perform their service work





"Service Speaks changed my life. To be in a space with so many people from different walks of life and try to come to a resolution with others is a blessing. We all have a goal in service, and that's to make sure we are doing the best we can with what we know."

"I loved going to ServeOhio conferences. I was able to meet different people and hear their stories. This was the most transformational because I got to see how a group of individuals with many backgrounds can come together and achieve a common goal - helping those in our community."

"I'm really happy with my LeaderCorps experience because I gained confidence through our projects."





### FINDING #5

Nearly 60% of respondents intend to stay in Ohio after completing their service, and 39% intend to serve another AmeriCorps term in the state





"I've applied for a third year [of service] and I'm hoping to move to a full-time position [at my service site]."

"AmeriCorps profoundly influenced my post-service career aspirations. Initially, I intended to seek a remote position near my hometown, but the networking opportunities opened my eyes to the possibilities in my current community. This inspired me to remain here to serve with organizations that align with my passion for legal advocacy. This shift underscores how my AmeriCorps experience has not only shaped my immediate career trajectory but also instilled a deeper commitment to serving my local community in the long-term."



# Q&A







### THANK YOU

- +1.419.318.9035
- www.questcultural.com
- blaux@questcultural.com







APPLICATION FOI  Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/0		TYPE OF SUBMISSION:     Application X Non-Construction								
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):	3. DATE RECEI	VED BY STATE:	,	IDENTIFIER:						
2b. APPLICATION ID: 24AC265757	4. DATE RECEI	IVED BY FEDERAL AGE	ENCY:	FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:	R:					
5. A PPLICATION INFORMATION	I			<u> </u>						
LEGAL NAME: Family Scholar House, UEI NUMBER: DBT8G6VQ6EN5	Inc		NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes):  NAME: Sarah Brady							
ADDRESS (give street address, city, st 403 Reg Smith Cir Louisville KY 40208 - 2746 County: Jefferson	ate, zip code and county	·):	TELEPHONE NUMBER: (502) 653-2836  FAX NUMBER: INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: sbrady@familyscholarhouse.org							
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 611285124	R (EIN):		7. TY PE OF A PPLICANT: 7a. Non-Profit 7b.							
CONTINUATION A	T REVISION  Specify below):  IC ASSISTANCE NUMBER  ist Cities, Counties, State	R: 94.006	9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY:  Corporation for National and Community Service  11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Family Scholar House Planning Grant OH  11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):							
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DA	TE: 08/01/24 FND	DATE: 07/31/25	14 CONGRESSIO	DNAL DISTRICT OF:	a.Applicant KY 03 b.Program KY 03					
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: 1	_	DATE. SITE II Z	16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE							
a. FEDERAL	)	ORDER 12372 PROCESS?  YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR								
b. APPLICANT	\$ 58,718.00	,	REVIEW							
c. STATE	\$ 0.00	1	DATE:							
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00	1	X NO. PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372							
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00	1	47 IO THE ADDITIONAL DELINOUENE ON ANY SECTION DELINOUENE							
f. PROGRAM INCOME	\$ 0.00	1	17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?  ☐ YES if "Yes," attach an explanation.  ☐ NO							
g. TOTAL  18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNII IS AWARDED.		IN THIS APPLICATION/F	PREAPPLICATION A	ARE TRUE AND CORRE	CT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN					
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPF	RESENTATIVE:	b. TITLE:		c. TELEPHONE NUMBER:						
Sarah Brady					(502) 653-2836					
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPR	ESENTATIVE:				e. DATE SIGNED: 04/03/24					



#### **Narratives**

#### **Executive Summary**

Family Scholar House (FSH) proposes to develop an AmeriCorps program serving Appalachian Ohio (OH) that will focus primarily on the Funding Priority of Workforce Pathways for AmeriCorps Members. The program will also have some overlapping focus on the Funding priorities of serving communities with concentrated poverty/rural communities, and educational opportunity and economic mobility for communities experiencing persistent unemployment/underemployment. The Ohio AmeriCorps investment of \$74,985 will be matched with \$58,718, \$0 in public funding and \$58,718 in private funding. No AmeriCorps members will be needed to execute this plan.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

#### Community Need

OH grapples with significant healthcare challenges, manifesting in poor health outcomes, especially for its most vulnerable citizens, including the elderly, individuals with chronic diseases, the medically fragile, and those battling severe mental health issues. These systemic issues are reflected in the state's health rankings and statistics. According to the United Health Foundations Americas Health Rankings 2023, OH is ranked 36th overall in the nation for health. In another ranking by US News in 2022, the State is ranked 29th in the nation on health care. Unsurprisingly, USAFACTS reports that in 2021, OH had the 10th highest death rate by state in the US, with life expectancy being 75.3 years, lower than life expectancy in the US overall. This is explained, among other things, by the high chronic and mental health disease burden among residents in the state versus other US states. Heart disease continues to be the leading cause of death in OH, according to 2021 data from the National Vital Statistics System. Although these statistics are daunting, the numbers for Appalachian Ohio, the 32 counties across eastern and southern Ohio, show an even greater need for resources. The Appalachian Regional Commissions comprehensive "Health Disparities in Appalachia" (2017), found that Appalachia has higher mortality rates than the rest of the nation in seven of the nation's leading causes of death: heart disease, cancer, COPD, injury, stroke, diabetes, and suicide. The Covid-19 pandemic has amplified those statistics.

In the state of OH, more than half of the counties are rated by the CDC as having Medium-High or High Social Vulnerability Index (SVI). Appalachian OH counties encompass nearly all of those vulnerable counties, a fact that underscores the significant inequalities in healthcare access and quality. The disparity is a direct result of the historically overarching socioeconomic problems that



#### **Narratives**

have prevented the region from seeing the same levels of growth as other parts of the country, compounded by the fact that many in Appalachian OH live in remote areas, isolated from urban growth centers and beneficial resources that exist in cities. The rural towns and counties in which many Appalachian people live have not had the ability to maintain the public infrastructure, furnish the business opportunities, or provide the medical services that are necessary to sustain populations. (University of Alabama Birmingham's Institute for Human Rights, 2021). Residents, particularly the economically disadvantaged, racial and ethnic minorities, and specific gender groups, face numerous challenges, including a shortage of healthcare workers, an overstretched system, and a scarcity of tailored healthcare resources. These issues lead to unequal economic and healthcare experiences and outcomes. According to recent US Census data, 13.4 percent of OH residents live in poverty, with higher rates in Appalachian OH. Only 30% of residents of OH have earned a bachelor's degree or higher, according to the latest US Census data. In January of 2024, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported the unemployment rate of OH was 3.7%, keeping pace with the national rate. However, the economic progress for Appalachian Oh falls behind. The situation calls for focused interventions to address these disparities and promote equitable educational, economic, and healthcare access and outcomes.

OH is also currently facing critical healthcare workforce shortages that remains a significant threat to the already dire healthcare delivery challenges in the State. Nursing home direct care staff turnover in OH was found to be 58.1% as of March 2023, much higher than the national average of 53%. Notably, the problem of high staff turnover was further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused high burnout, frustration, and exhaustion among staff. It has been projected that OH will have a 9% increase in additional nursing assistants needed to be hired by 2030 to meet the growing demands of the aging OH population according an analysis by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 50% of nurses in the United States are over 50 and nearing retirement and nursing school enrollment in the state is not growing fast enough to meet the projected demand for nursing services. Additional consequences of these healthcare workforce shortages aside from poorer health outcomes for OH citizens include delayed care, increased healthcare costs, and increased burnout among existing the workforce.

AmeriCorps Members as an effective tool to address the need:



FSH is proposing to implement the HealthCorps Program which will train AmeriCorps members and deploy them to healthcare settings in Appalachian OH. The HealthCorps Program aims to:

- Augment the OH healthcare workforce, providing immediate relief to strained facilities.
- Offer training and professional development to AmeriCorps members,
- creating a pipeline of skilled healthcare workers in OH.
- Enhance the capacity of OH healthcare facilities, especially in underserved areas, ensuring that vulnerable populations have better access to quality care.

To effectively engage and meet the needs of the target service population, FSH will build a comprehensive plan for the HealthCorps Program that includes several key steps. FSH will begin by hiring a Member Coordinator to help plan, design, and ultimately serve as the key staff person guiding the implementation of the HealthCorps program. Concurrently, FSH will conduct a needs assessment to identify the specific needs and challenges of the potential HealthCorps Members and the state of the healthcare workforce in the communities and institutions that these Members will serve. The needs assessment will also explore issues that may contribute to unemployment, lack of workforce training, and barriers to education among the target population. The needs assessment will be done through surveys, questionnaires, and one-on-one interviews with the target population. In order to provide the proper intervention methods to help potential Members overcome these barriers uncovered in the needs assessment, FSH will identify key treatment partners in the region. FSH will actively engage the community by gathering input through various methods such as town hall meetings, focus groups, surveys, and one-on-one interviews. Using this data, FSH and the Member Coordinator will begin the preparations for implementation, including (1) plans for identification, recruitment, and enrollment of HealthCorps Members; (2) preparing training and communications for future Members; and (3) working with host sites and their supervisors to ensure effective program compliance, reporting, and member experience.

For Implementation of the HealthCorps Program, FSH will train AmeriCorps Members and deploy them to healthcare facilities where they're most needed in OH, alleviating healthcare workforce shortages and the resultant burden on healthcare facilities, especially in areas with poor health outcomes. The HealthCorps Program augments the OH healthcare workforce, providing immediate relief to strained facilities. The HealthCorps Program enhances the capacity of OH healthcare facilities, especially in underserved areas, ensuring that vulnerable populations have better access to quality care. HealthCorps prepares Members for the workplace by providing educational pathways to



new career opportunities. Wrap-around support services keep members on track while completing certification programs. FSH addresses the complexities of poverty, empowering Members with economic mobility through education and career success. At the same time, Members will be supported with any identified barriers to success in the program such as housing or food insecurity while they participate in the program. FSH staff oversight and mentoring will ensure Members maintain positive relationships with colleagues and employers, develop as leaders through training and mentoring, and exit the program armed with skills enabling them to change their economic status and quality of life. HealthCorps will focus primarily on the Funding Priority of Workforce Pathways for AmeriCorps Members, however, as you will see below, the program will also have some overlapping focus on the Funding priorities of serving communities with concentrated poverty/rural communities, and educational opportunity and economic mobility for communities experiencing persistent unemployment/underemployment.

Each HealthCorps Member will be enrolled in a healthcare registered apprentice program that will provide the opportunity to earn industry-recognized certifications that will increase their skills and marketability within the healthcare sector. During their training, members will have access to a Career Coach who will assist them to navigate and challenges to ensure successful course completion. Our program has a well-defined plan to recruit HealthCorps Members from regional partners, including high schools, community colleges, other educational institutions, Job Corps, Workforce Investment Boards, and other community organizations. FSH already has strong relationships with many of these organizations, especially the Galen College of Nursing, an established FSH partner. Many of our sites have relationships with their local high schools to provide shadowing and clinical experiences that can be extended into the HealthCorps Program.

FSH is currently partnering with AmeriCorps in FSH's Public Heath AmeriCorps (PHA) Program which was awarded and currently ongoing in KY. With 25 healthcare host sites featuring prominent hospitals and long-term care facilities throughout KY, as well as more than 30 participating educational partners encompassing various high schools and most universities in KY, the PHA Program is built on a strong and extensive network of partnerships. With the HealthCorps Program, we are aiming to replicate this in OH. Unsurprisingly, the PHA Program has attracted strong interest from the community. With a budgeted 200 AmeriCorps member spots, a total of 327 applicants have been received as of October 1st, 2023. In the first year of the PHA Program, 123 members were



recruited, 79% of which earned a credential or degree. Initial participation surveys showed strong program satisfaction and reported enthusiasm for year two of the Program. Currently, 120 of the 200 positions have been filled. All these speak to the success of the KY PHA Program and provide a strong pre-preliminary evidence base for implementation of the OH HealthCorps Program. In order to provide the proper intervention methods to help potential Members overcome barriers to economic opportunity uncovered in the needs assessment, FSH will identify key partners in the region. FSH will actively engage the community by gathering input through various methods such as town hall meetings, focus groups, surveys, and one-on-one interviews. FSH's experience with the PHA program in KY, described above, will provide an excellent model for this work. Being able to follow a plan while at the same time having the time to tailor that plan to a new community will position FSH for a successful OH HealthCorps Program. This program will be completely new to the state of OH and not integrate with any other part of the state.

After the Planning Grant has ended and the implementation of the HealthCorps Program is funded, FSH will train HealthCorps Members and deploy them to partner healthcare facilities where they're most needed in OH. In addition to gaining certifications, HealthCorps Members will begin their new careers with hands-on clinical experience working at partner sites in memory care, senior living, skilled nursing, assisted living, hospitals, hospice, and other healthcare related environments. Members will support their patients with basic clinical assistance, activities, infection control, dietary needs, and patient services. After their year of service, HealthCorps Members will pursue future engagement in the healthcare sector.

Per CNCS classification, HealthCorps is an Evidence-informed Program. The Program is designed to lean on several evidence-based principles and practices as discussed below.

- Training and Credentialing: A well-trained healthcare workforce leads to better patient outcomes. Credentialing ensures that healthcare providers meet the required standards of practice and have the necessary skills and knowledge. Studies have shown that healthcare organizations that prioritize continuous training and education for their staff see improvements in patient safety, decreased morbidity and mortality rates, and better overall patient outcomes (Manser, 2009). In a classic study, inpatient mortality rates for a variety of surgical patients in hospitals were lower with more trained and educated nurses (Aiken et al., 2003). In the long-term care setting, nursing homes whose direct care staff have enhanced knowledge and skills in areas such as geriatrics and dementia perform better



in quality metrics (Gaugler et al., 2014). In a systematic review, interventions targeted at caregivers in long-term facilities were found to show promise in improving dementia care (Sefcik et al., 2022).

- Focus on Vulnerable Populations: Addressing the healthcare needs of vulnerable populations, such as the elderly and medically fragile individuals, is crucial for reducing health disparities. Research has indicated that tailored healthcare interventions for vulnerable groups can lead to better health outcomes, improved quality of life, and reduced healthcare costs (Shi and Stevens, 2021). In a randomized trial, tailored interventions were found to improve clinical outcomes in older adults (Golas et al., 2021). In a systematic review, interventions focused on long-term care residents were found to improve quality of care and patient safety culture (Switalski et al., 2022).
- Capacity Building for Healthcare Facilities: Strengthening the capacities of healthcare facilities enhances their resilience, adaptability, and efficiency, leading to improved patient outcomes and health equity. Capacity-building initiatives have been shown to enhance healthcare facility effectiveness, optimize resource utilization, and improve patient care quality (WHO, 2007). In a systematic review, some interventions aimed at organizational capacity building in nursing homes were found to promote resident mobility and hence quality of life (Rommerskirch-Manietta et al., 2021).
- Addressing Workforce Shortages: Filling workforce gaps, especially in underserved areas, directly impacts patient access to care, reduces wait times, and improves overall healthcare outcomes. In a classic study, surgical patients in hospitals with high patient-to-nurse ratios experienced higher risk adjusted 30-day mortality and failure-to-rescue rates, with nurses being more likely to experience burnout and job dissatisfaction (Aiken et al., 2002). Similarly, another key study found that staffing of registered nurses below target levels was associated with increased hospital mortality (Needleman et al., 2011). In the long-term care setting, residents in well-staffed nursing homes have generally been associated with better outcomes and an improved quality of life vs. those in poorly staffed facilities (Clemens et al., 2021). Notwithstanding, turnover among nursing home direct care staff continues to increase, with the national rate currently at ~53% and OH's being 54% (Carelistings, 2023). Therefore, interventions targeting the nursing workforce shortages are key for better patient/resident outcomes, lower hospital readmission rates, and improved patient/resident satisfaction. Overall, the interventions proposed in HealthCorps align well with established evidence-based practices in the healthcare sector. Implementing these strategies in OH will enhance the state's healthcare landscape, especially in addressing workforce shortages and improving care for vulnerable populations.



FSH currently partners with with LeadingAge National and will use the relationship to connect with the OH chapter and as part of the planning process we will conduct outreach to Community Colleges, Higher Education, Other AmeriCorps programs, Family Health Centers, and nonprofit healthcare organizations. We have recognized partners in Galen College of Nursing who have a campus in Cincinnati and offer online classes as well. FSH prides itself with the relationship with the Kentucky Community & Technical College system. This relationship has shown us the importance of developing relationships with community college systems to best serve our mission's target population and we will prioritize this relationship in OH with the state Community College system. HealthCorps prepares Members for the workplace by providing educational pathways to new career opportunities. Wraparound support services keep members on track while completing certification programs. FSH addresses the complexities of poverty, empowering Members with economic mobility through education and career success. At the same time, Members will be supported with any identified barriers to success in the program such as housing or food insecurity while they participate in the program. FSH staff oversight and mentoring will ensure Members maintain positive relationships with colleagues and employers, develop as leaders through training and mentoring, and exit the program armed with skills enabling them to change their economic status and quality of life.

#### **Organizational Capability**

Organizational Background and Staffing

Formal program supervision for the HealthCorps Program will be provided by Sarah Brady, the VP of Workforce Development at FSH, who will oversee the implementation and execution of the Program, helping to design and tailor the program to meet the needs of the service communities, and building relationships with employer partners and support organizations in the area. Ms. Brady currently oversees the apprenticeship and career services programs. In addition to the VP of Workforce Development and the HealthCorps Member Coordinator, the Program Development will also have frequent informal support and supervision by all of the following FSH staff:

- Kate Brackett, MSSW, Chief Operating Officer at Family Scholar House, leads the implementation of Family Scholar House's direct services, overseeing programs staff, community engagement activities, and building and maintaining relationships with board Members, community partners, and volunteers. Ms. Brackett's federal grant experience includes recruiting, developing, supervising, and retaining AmeriCorps Members for the past 10 years.
- Jeff Spurlock, Vice President at Family Scholar House, holds extensive procurement, project



management, contract management, and account management experience. At FSH, Jeff is responsible for financial management, provision of mentoring supervision, and oversight of all assigned FSH staff and third-party vendors. Jeff also oversees financial aspects of all grant management and support, whether the grant funding be from federal, state, or private funding.

- Kristie Adams, M.Ed., Chief Learning Officer at Family Scholar House, has over 20 years of

- Kristie Adams, M.Ed., Chief Learning Officer at Family Scholar House, has over 20 years of experience in providing case management and counseling services to disadvantaged families and 15 years in supervising and mentoring staff and interns.

#### Resource Development

FSH has 20 years of experience working with single parents and young adults in career development. FSH uses its original program framework for the apprenticeship realm to not only develop individuals and prepare them for enrollment but also create partnerships with employers. FSH's partnerships include a variety of career fields, including nursing, culinary arts, and hospitality. FSH's existing relationships with key organizations in the communities we serve will be vital in the success of the HealthCorps AmeriCorps Program. Partner organizations in the State of OH will include various renowned healthcare host sites and educational institutions. FSH's experience includes recruiting apprentices, assisting with apprenticeship program development, and providing wrap-around support services to apprentices and entry-level employees.

Family Scholar House recognizes the importance of diversity and equity and provides equal opportunity to all qualified Members, officers, directors, committee Members, employees, and all participants seeking services without regard to race, color, national or ethnic origin, age, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law, statute, or ordinance. Further, we seek to create an inclusive environment that respects the diversity of thought and experience that enrich our work while also providing a positive community experience for participant families, staff, AmeriCorps Members, community volunteers, and all who encounter our organization. As supporters of historically underrepresented individuals and families seeking to achieve self-sufficiency, we have the opportunity to inform our participants' understanding of the value of inclusion. By providing global literacy and training on workplace ethics and crucial conversations for diverse workforces, we support personal and professional development for all. Further, by demonstrating our commitment to welcoming all and encouraging everyone to bring their whole selves to work, we serve as models for the behaviors we believe promote teamwork and success.



In addition to the current successful Kentucky AmeriCorps Public Health Corps grant and other AmeriCorps grants received in the past decade, FSH has additional federal grant experience through multiple Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grants that have been integral to the organization's successful expansion. FSH began as a single campus in Louisville, KY, and has built four additional campuses in Louisville, one in Elizabethtown, KY, one in Sellersburg, IN, and the newest campus in Houston, TX. FSH's monitoring and oversight procedures ensure compliance with laws and regulations governing our work. We have written policies for financial/internal controls, Sub-award and/or Service Site monitoring and oversight, timekeeping procedures, travel guidance, standards for use of federal funds, and code of conduct/ethics. FSH has trainings in the areas of Personnel/HR issues, Financial Accounting, Risk Management, Cyber-Security, Fraud, Waste, and Abuse. All financial reports (profit and loss, budgets vs actual) are provided to and reviewed by leadership level staff quarterly. Our accounting system separates the receipts and payments of a federal grant from the receipts and payments of other activities supported by separate funding streams. We use an automated payroll system for all employees and are familiar with AmericaLearns and AmeriCorps timekeeping standards. FSH has regular audits for our organization and the opinion of our last 2022 audit was unmodified.

#### **Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy**

See Budget

**Evaluation Summary or Plan** 

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 

N/A

**Clarification Summary** 

N/A

**Continuation Changes** 

N/A

**Grant Characteristics** 



#### Performance Measures

#### MSYs by Focus Area

#### MSYs by Objective

The data is of zero or negative value and cannot be displayed

The data is of zero or negative value and cannot be displayed

Other Community Priorities:0

Other:0

Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs
Other Community Priorities	0%

Table2: MSYs by Obje	ectives
----------------------	---------

Objectives	%MSYs
Other	0%

#### % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

The data is of zero or negative value and cannot be displayed

Applicant:0 National:0 Not in ANY:0

Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

0/ MCVc	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
% MSYs	0%	0%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
Other	0.00	0
Total	0.00	0

Primary Focus Area: Other Community Priorities

Primary Intervention: Other

Secondary Focus Area: Secondary Intervention:

# DRAFT

Performance Measure: Plan an AmeriCorps program to successfully apply for an AmeriCorps

Focus Other Community

Objective: Other

No of MSY's: 0.00

No of Members:

0

Area:

Priorities

**Problem Statement:** 

planning an AmeriCorps program

Selected Interventions:

Capacity Building

Describe Interventions:

Frequency- Daily

Intensity - one- on- one

Duration - up to 12 months

OUTPT91869 Output:

Planning timeline is completed

Target: 1 Other

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Other

OUTCM91870 Outcome:

Operational Grant Submission

Target: 1 Other

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Other



# **Program Information**

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration

Underrepresented communities, underserved people, Workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

None of the grant characteristics



# Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	0
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	0
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	0



# **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Not Applicable
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Other Documents	Sent

# Logic Model

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.

# Budget Narrative: Family Scholar House Planning Grant OH for Family Scholar House, Inc. **Section I. Program Operating Costs**

## A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Program Director: - 1 person(s) at 65000 each x 50 % usage	28,500	4,000	32,500
VP of Workforce Development: - 1 person(s) at 120000 each x 10 % usage	0	12,000	12,000
Category Totals	28,500	16,000	44,500

# **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Fringe Benefits - Program Director: 7.65% +15% Health Insurance = 22.65% of Annual Salary	6,455	0	6,455
Fringe Benefits - VP of Workforce: 7.65% FICA + 15% Health Insurance = 22.65% of Annual Salary	0	2,718	2,718
Category Totals	6,455	2,718	9,173

#### C. Travel

#### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings: 2500 Miles of Travel for Sponsored Meetings with OH AmeriCorps at federal mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.65	1,625	0	1,625
Staff Travel for site visits, project material distribution: Federal Reimbursement rate at \$0.65 for 7500 miles of travel.	4,875	0	4,875
Per Diem for Staff: Per Diem for 2 staff members at \$35 per day for 10 days.	700	0	700
Lodging for Staff: Hotel Lodging for overnight travel for staff - \$125/night x 2 people x 5 nights over the one year of the grant.	1,250	0	1,250
Category Totals	8,450	0	8,450

#### **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

# E. Supplies

ltem -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

#### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Healthcare Apprentice Program Development/Oversight: Contract with Healthcare Workforce Agency to develop and oversee pre-apprentice training program with educational partners, nonprofit partner employers and AmeriCorps Reporting. \$5,000/month x 12 months- Daily Rate of 164	20,000	40,000	60,000
Category Totals	20,000	40,000	60,000

# **G.** Training

# **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

# **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

# I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Computer and Cellphone: \$50 a month for phone, \$50 a month for at-home wifi, \$500 for a computer for 1 staff member	1,700	0	1,700
Office & Meeting Space: Monthly Rate of \$750 for 10 Months	7,500	0	7,500
NSCHC (Background Checks): \$80 per staff member (1 staff member)	80	0	80
Category Totals	9,280	0	9,280
Section Totals	72,685	58,718	131,403
PERCENTAGE	55.31%	44.69%	

## **Section II. Member Costs**

# A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members:	0	0	0
Worker's Compensation:	0	0	0
Health Care:	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	0	0	0
PERCENTAGE	0.00%	0.00%	

#### Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

# A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount: .0526% of total Section I budget equals to \$3,823.24. Only claiming \$2,300.	2,300	0	2,300
Commission Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Category Totals	2,300	0	2,300

# **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	2,300	0	2,300
PERCENTAGE	100.00%	0.00%	

Budget Totals	74,985	58,718	133,703
PERCENTAGE	56.08%	43.92%	
Required Match		0.00%	

# **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source
Source of Funds	Family Scholar House will be the full private match for the AmeriCorps Planning Grant Request In-Kind through staff time and contracted Consultant Group.	58,717	In Kind	Private
Total Source of Funds		58,717		



APPLICATION FO	R FEDERAL	ASSISTAN	CE	1. TYPE OF SUBMISS	SION:	
Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to confirm to the Corporation's eGrants System)		Application X Nor	n-Construction			
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION	ON 3. DATE RECEI	VED BY STATE:		STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:	
FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS): 03-APR-24			N/A			
02.000/.	00 /11 11 24			1471		
2b. APPLICATION ID:	4. DATE RECEI	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY:		FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:		
24AC265704						
5. A PPLICATION INFORMATION						
LEGAL NAME: Lake Erie College UEI NUMBER: 777482750000			CONTAICTED ON MAITTE	tion X Non-Construction  PPLICATION IDENTIFIER:  DENTIFIER:  DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER: DENTIFIER:		
ADDRESS (give street address, city, s 391 W Washington St Painesville OH 44077 - 3389 County: Lake	tate, zip code and county	):	FAX NUMBER:	/IBER: (440) 375-7352		
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBE 340733165	R (EIN):		_	ation Organization - Priv	/ate	
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check appr	opriate box).		7b. 4-year colleg	je		
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check appropriate box).  X NEW NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTEE CONTINUATION AMENDMENT  If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es):  A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION		E				
C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER	(specify below):		9. NAME OF FED  Corporati		and Community	Service
<ul><li>10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMEST</li><li>10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State</li></ul>	TIC A SSISTA NCE NUMBER	2: 94.006	11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF A PPLICANT'S PROJECT:  Lake Erie College Planning Grant			
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (I OH Lake County, OH	ist Cities, Counties, State	s, etc):	11.b. CNCS PRO	PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):		
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DA	ATE: 08/01/24 END	DATE: 07/21/25	14. CONGRESSIC	NAL DISTRICT OF:	a.Applicant OH 14	b.Program OH 14
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #:	1		16. IS APPLICATION ORDER 12372 PR	DON FOR NATIONAL AND STATE EXECUTIVE DOCESS?  REAPPLICATIONAL PPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR		
a. FEDERAL	\$ 55,406.00		YES. THIS PI	REA PPLICATION/A PPLIC		
b. APPLICANT	\$ 26,203.00	)	REVIEW		(DER 12372 PROCESS F	-OR
c. STATE	\$ 0.00		DATE:			
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00		X NO. PROGR	AM IS NOT COVERED E	BY E.O. 12372	
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00					
f. PROGRAM INCOME	\$ 0.00					NO
g. TOTAL \$ 81,609.00  18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLIC IS AWARDED.		IN THIS APPLICATION/F	PREAPPLICATION A	ARE TRUE AND CORRE	CT, THE DOCUMENT HA	AS BEEN
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REP Christine Kohls	RESENTATIVE:	b. TITLE:				ER:
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPF	RESENTATIVE:				e. DATE SIGNED: 04/03/24	



#### **Executive Summary**

The Lake Erie College proposes to develop an AmeriCorps program serving in Lake County, Ohio, that will focus on the 1) workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members, including deliberate training and certification; 2) communities with concentrated poverty, and organizations serving historically underrepresented and underserved individuals; and 3) mentoring initiatives. The Ohio AmeriCorps investment of \$55,406 will be matched with \$0 in public funding and \$26,202 in private funding. No AmeriCorps members will be needed to execute this plan.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

1. Community Need. Lake Erie College (LEC), founded in 1856, provides an inclusive and highly personalized education grounded in the liberal arts tradition. The College resides in Lake County, in the City of Painesville, that boasts a 24.3% Hispanic population according to recent Census data, over 5% higher than the national number, and a median household income nearly \$25,000 per year below the national average.

Lake County, per the 2023 US Census American Community Survey, is home to 231,640 people; 49% are working-age adults ages 19-64. Labor force participation (2018-2022) is 65.4% with slightly lower participation among women (61%) while they comprise 50.8% of the population. Most residents earn a high school diploma (93.6%). Residents aged 25+ with a college degree are the minority (29.9%). Lake County is connected -- 94% of households own a computer; 90.6% have a broadband subscription. Among residents the largest BIPOC populations self-identify as Black (5.6%) or Hispanic/Latino/a/x (5.2%). Poverty affects 8.9% of residents.

Of the 4,142 employer-owned firms situated throughout Lake County, few are owned by women (n=608/14.7%) and minorities (n=226/5.4%). A critical gap exists between women-owned firms vs. county population. Additionally, a clear need exists for career pathways for families served by HOLA, our community center for Hispanic/Latinx residents. Anecdotally, a majority are migrants working in the agricultural industry who travel out-of-state to harvest crops from November -- March each year.

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) reports that Hispanics account for just 15 percent of all STEM bachelor's degrees earned in the United States and just 8 percent of all certificates and degrees in STEM-related fields. Further, the 6-year degree completion rate for Hispanic aspirants of STEM degrees is just 29 percent. Finally, the Hispanic workforce has grown more than six-fold over the past forty years according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. One key piece of data pertinent to this



issue is that Ohio, among many other states, has an established truancy issue, particularly for low-income and Hispanic demographics. As such, the Hispanic population is under-represented in our local healthcare systems and other STEM-related careers and there is a clear need to improve their presence.

When coupled with the well-established under-representation of women and other minorities in STEM fields, it is clear that current models are not working well. To that end, LEC seeks funding to host information sessions that will address the needs, questions, and concerns specific to Lake County's Hispanic population. LEC is perfectly situated to recruit and prepare students from low-income and Hispanic backgrounds and has well-respected programs in our School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

LEC is applying for a planning grant to fully develop a project that addresses our community needs and AmeriCorps funding priorities. As part of our planning process, we will establish an advisory committee, including members of manufacturing community/AWT, local K-12 education partners, and the College's STEM and education faculty.

#### 2. AmeriCorps Members as an effective tool to address the need.

Service activities and member training activities: LEC proposes to engage pre-service teachers/undergraduates pursuing a baccalaureate degree in education, with licensure endorsements in reading or STEM, as AmeriCorps members. In this role, the AmeriCorps members attain a welding certification offered by LEC as a benefit of participating. Additionally, they will earn academic credit toward their teaching degree; our school partners will serve as pre-service learning sites. AmeriCorps members will serve as near-peer mentors to high-school age students/mentees enrolled at Painesville's two schools (service sites), with a focus on BIPOC students and family outreach. AmeriCorps members will be hired in January with orientation/onboarding in February. From March -- May, AmeriCorps members will work with teachers in classroom settings with high student truancy rates. In June -- July, AmeriCorps members will tutor students weekly to support gains in literacy and math achievement. We envision that each MSY would participate in 1700 hours/year per person. Oncampus living with room/board of at least \$18,700/year/MSY would be provided. AmeriCorps members would engage with student's families through quarterly meetings at HOLA, Painesville's community center for Hispanic/Latinx residents since parents play an important role in their student's education.

Our service sites and service area focus on Lake County and the City of Painesville. From the State of



Ohio Report Cards, Painesville's Harvey High School students identify as Hispanic (57%); Black or multi-racial (24.4%). Over 95% are economically-disadvantaged. 17.7 are English Learners. At Riverside Jr/Sr School, 9.7% students identify as Hispanic and 3.2% identify as Black. English Learners represent 2.3% of students. Slightly less than a quarter (24.1%) are economically-disadvantaged.

Near-peer mentoring is an evidence-based best practice. Dr. Debra Yourick, currently director of science education and fellowship programs at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR), piloted a near-peer STEM mentoring research study for underserved students in the early 2000s. What she learned is that "by pairing students with someone just slightly ahead them and often from the same backgrounds, near-peer mentors were listened to and respected because they had recently had the same experiences. The students felt at home and that they could talk to the near-peer mentors. And we found that they really learned science!"

Near-peer mentoring can have significant benefits for mentees and mentors, including workplace satisfaction, career development, leadership skill development, and employee retention. According to Forbes, "Recent graduates often bring energy and enthusiasm because they are open to learning, are ready to work and can quickly acquire new skills or adopt new technologies. As they grow within your company, you can guide and develop them based on your business needs." The author goes on to say, "Mentorships are proven to further the professional development of the mentee, enhance the leadership skills of the mentor and improve employee engagement, retention and overall business productivity." A CNBC study on the connections between mentoring and workplace reinforces the Forbes' findings. CNBC's 2019 study found that 9 out of 10 employees with a mentor report being happy in their jobs and that "Seventy-one percent of employees with a mentor say their company provides them with excellent or good opportunities to advance their career, while just 47% of those without a mentor say the same."

Community Partners: Hispanic and Latino/a/x residents find support and community at HOLA. Lake Erie College has a long-standing relationship with HOLA, regularly providing tutoring and mentoring to K-12 students. Other established community partners include our local business chamber (Downtown Painesville), Alliance for Working Together (AWT) for manufacturing, Choose Ohio First (STEM scholarships/workforce development funded by the State of Ohio), and individual manufacturing employers that need skilled welders (Lincoln Electric). We see opportunity to partner more intentionally with the State of Ohio and schools funded through its Career Technical Education Equipment Grant Program in Lake County. Our planning grant would explore our partnerships and



ways to collaborate. We would reach our Painesville and Lake County audience using face-to-face meetings, e-newsletters, printed postcards distributed through our partners, and flyers shared with parents and school students.

Our planning grant aligns with three Ohio AmeriCorps funding priorities. First, we create workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members. We would accomplish this by 1) providing pre-service education opportunities for students that meets degree requirements and earns academic credit; 2) offering a welding certification for these AmeriCorps members as a value-added credential, specifically at a time when the State of Ohio is investing in career technical education at high schools. Second, our program serves students living in communities with concentrated poverty and historically underrepresented and underserved BIPOC populations, including migrant families where Spanish is the primary language spoken at home. Because these students often move with their families during the harvesting season, they fall behind in learning achievement. Our proposed program partners AmeriCorps members with these students to mitigate those deficits and support career pathways for high school students. Third, our AmeriCorps members are near-peer mentors, incorporating an evidence-based practice that increases leadership skills among AmeriCorps members as mentors and achievement among mentees.

#### **Organizational Capability**

1. Organizational Background and Staffing.

Our project co-director's time equals a .5 FTE.

Co-director John Tedesco, Ph.D. is dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and Associate Professor of Chemistry. In this role, he leads development and accreditation of the College's STEM degree programs, pre-professional STEM degrees, and welding and HVACR certificate programs. Dr. Tedesco serves as the College's primary point of contact for experiential learning and engagement with HOLA and our STEM partners, including the Alliance for Working Together; Lake County manufacturers, including Lincoln Electric; the Nature Conservancy; and Small World Initiative, an undergraduate research experience focusing on antibiotic resistance. Dr. Tedesco is the project director for the College's Choose Ohio First Scholarship program that recruits and educates STEM students from Ohio. Many are first generation Pell-eligible BIPOC students; the first year cohort (2021) was 100% women. Dr. Tedesco joined Lake Erie College in 2010 as assistant professor. He earned his B.S. in chemistry from Ashland University and Ph.D. in chemistry from Case Western Reserve University.



Co-director Greg Rothwell, Ph.D. is the program director for the Lake Erie College department of education and an Assistant Professor of Education. Previously, he has served as assistant and head principal of Follansbee Middle School and Brooke High School, in Brooke County, West Virginia. Before his career in administrative positions, Greg taught history at Brooke High School. During his tenure at Brooke High School, Greg served on numerous committees including groups focusing on curriculum and technology, establishing many Advanced Placement courses and academic-based competition teams. As a leader, Greg has established an emphasis on STEM education at the district level, working with curriculum directors and faculty. After receiving grant money, Greg and his team traveled throughout the country to learn about STEM-related educational techniques and technologies. Greg earned his Ph.D. from Robert Morris University in Moon Township, Pennsylvania, studying Instructional Management and Leadership. His dissertation title is "An Updated Look at Adopters and Non-Adopters of Educational Technology Among Teachers in a Rural Setting". He has also earned an M.A in Teaching and Learning with Technology from Ashford University (IA), an M.A in Educational Leadership from Wheeling Jesuit University (WV) and a B.A. in Secondary Education with an emphasis on social studies from West Liberty University (WV). Dr. Rothwell and his colleague, Dr. Jennifer Miller, are co-directors on a 2023-2025 State of Ohio grant to Teach CS (Computer Science) aimed to credential 24 educators/year to teach these concepts. Project Support Specialist Rachel Hanni (.10 FTE) serves as the College's executive director of human resources and operations. She is a leader with a knack for bringing people together, specializing in creating engaged workplace cultures. In her project role, Ms. Hanni would be responsible for background checks for project staff and AmeriCorps members. Additionally, she would support AmeriCorps member recruiting, hiring, onboarding, and professional development (in coordination with the project co-directors). Previously Ms. Hanni has served as a board member for the Youngstown City School District, a middle school teacher with Catholic Charities Diocese of Youngstown, and an educator with Hope Academy. As a civic leader, she serves as an HR Advisory Committee Member with Intergenerational Schools in Cleveland. Ms. Hanni earned a B.A. in political science and government from Youngstown State University and is pursuing a Master of professional studies from Lake Erie College.

Lake Erie College respects the breadth of diversity, which includes, but is not limited to, race, gender, age, disability, background, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status. We strive to ensure that all within the campus community hold themselves accountable for contributing positively to a culture of inclusion and empowerment. We recognize that we must have an environment where stakeholders



may express opinions, thoughts, or ideas freely and openly, and in such a way that embraces differences with acceptance and respect as part of our growth and sustainability strategy. We welcome students and scholars from around the world who contribute to our mission of inclusiveness and ethic of hope and care. In alignment with our institutional commitment to diversity and inclusion, the College is proud to affirm our commitment to undocumented and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students and enroll, educate, and support all students without regard to their immigration status.

#### 2. Resource Development

Organization's Experience: Lake Erie College's Board of Directors named Jennifer N. Schuller as president, effective July 1, 2023. Prior to her appointment, she served as the College's vice president for advancement. Schuller has more than 20 years of experience in higher education with expertise in the areas of advancement and enrollment. Schuller is the first woman president in 75 years to lead the institution.

Under Schuller's leadership as vice president for advancement, Lake Erie College experienced significant growth in donor support including record-breaking fundraising years and the launch of the Now & Forever Campaign, the most comprehensive fundraising campaign in the College's history. In support of the campaign, Schuller brought in multiple million-dollar gifts to the College and expanded program support from public funds with the receipt of several significant state grants, including \$4.0 million to support STEM initiatives through the Choose Ohio First Program.

The project co-directors serve or have served as project leaders for recent Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) grants, including Teach CS, Each Child Reads, and a 2022 grant for scholarships to support Black, indigenous people of color (BIPOC) teacher candidates in special education and high school math. In AY2023, Lake Erie College received gifts and pledges totaling \$9,284,598.

Potential Resources to Support an Operational AmeriCorps Program: The College would leverage our Choose Ohio First grant for STEM Scholars to recruit AmeriCorps members. Eligible students receive up to almost \$9,000/year for tuition and meals. Painesville students are eligible for four-year tuition scholarships through the Painesville Promise, an innovative public-private collaboration between the City of Painesville and Lake Erie College. A combination of these two scholarships provides Painesville students with little/no out-of-pocket costs to attend college. A significant population of Painesville students who enroll self-identify as Hispanic, Black, or another underrepresented minority group. The Promise scholarships would be available to AmeriCorps members and graduating high-school students to foster STEM degrees, including welding certification or an applied technology minor.



Lake Erie College will establish an advisory committee during this planning grant. The proposed committee will include members of manufacturing community/AWT, local K-12 education partners, and STEM and education faculty from the College.

**Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy** 

See budget

**Evaluation Summary or Plan** 

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 

N/A

**Clarification Summary** 

N/A

**Continuation Changes** 

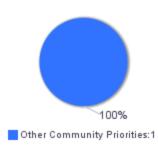
N/A

**Grant Characteristics** 

# DRAFT

#### Performance Measures

MSYs by Focus Area



MSYs by Objective

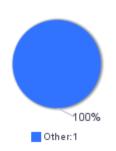


Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs
Other Community Priorities	100%

Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
Other	100%

## % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

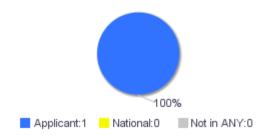


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
% MSYs	0%	100%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
Other	1.00	1
Total	1.00	1

Primary Focus Area: Other Community Priorities

Primary Intervention: Other

Secondary Focus Area: Secondary Intervention:

# DRAFT

Performance Measure: Plan an AmeriCorps program and develop organization capacity to

Focus Other Community Objective: Other Msy's: No of Msy's: No of Msy's:

Area: Priorities

Problem Statement:

planning an AmeriCorps program

Selected Interventions:

Capacity Building

Describe Interventions:

Frequency - Daily

Intensity - one- on- one

Duration - up to 12 months

OUTPT91850 Output:

Planning timeline is completed

Target: 1 One Unit

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Planning Grant Objectives

OUTCM91851 Outcome:

Operational Grant Submission

Target: 1 One Unit

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Application submission



# **Program Information**

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration

Underrepresented communities, underserved people, Programs providing additional benefits, Workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

STEM Program, Innovative Community Strategies



# Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	0
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	0
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	0



# **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Not Applicable
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Other Documents	Sent

# Logic Model

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.

# Budget Narrative: Lake Erie College Planning Grant for Lake Erie College Section I. Program Operating Costs

## A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Project Co-Director: - 1 person(s) at 116875 each x 25 % usage	21,914	7,305	29,219
Project Co-Director: - 1 person(s) at 67500 each x 25 % usage	12,656	4,219	16,875
Project Support Specialist/HR: - 1 person(s) at 50000 each x 10 % usage	5,000	0	5,000
Category Totals	39,570	11,524	51,094

## **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Fringe benefits for project personnel: 25% calculated on AmeriCorps share (\$39,570) to be requested. And 25% calculated on grantee share (\$11,524).	9,893	2,881	12,774
Category Totals	9,893	2,881	12,774

#### C. Travel

#### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings:	0	0	0
10/10/2024 30th Anniversary - Columbus, OH: Federal per diem rates for 2 codirectors to Columbus, OH used for hotel (\$122/person/1 night in-kind); mileage (.67/mi *338 miles), parking (\$20), food (\$48/person) requested for 1 day.	342	244	586
January/February 2025 Program Director Training: Federal per diem rates for 2 co-directors to Columbus, OH (hotel, \$122/person for 1 night in-kind); mileage (.67/mi *338 miles), parking (\$20), food (\$48/person), hotel (\$122/person) requested for 1 day.	586	244	830
Spring 2025 National Service Regional Conference - Chicago, IL: Federal per diem rates for 2 people to Chicago: hotel (\$216*3 nights* 2 people), airfare (\$250/person*2), airport parking (\$30/day*2 people), mileage to/from airport (82 *.67), CTA 3-day pass (\$15*2), food (\$59.25*2, \$75*1) requested for 3 days.	2,264	0	2,264
Category Totals	3,192	488	3,680

## **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

# D. Equipment

Б				
	Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount

	Category Totals	0	0	0	l
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## E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Promotional materials (flyers, postcards, pens): Promotional materials & graphic design for flyers, postcards, and printing by JakPrints at .25/piece; pens or other promo item @ .50/each	1,500	0	1,500
Category Totals	1,500	0	1,500

#### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Background checks for co-directors: Requested 2 co-director background checks at \$55/each- Daily Rate of 110	110	0	110
Category Totals	110	0	110

# **G.** Training

# **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

# **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

# I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Community Outreach Quarterly Planning Meetings: In-kind: \$1,250/quarter for community planning meetings at HOLA	0	5,000	5,000
Category Totals	0	5,000	5,000
Section Totals	54,265	19,893	74,158
PERCENTAGE	73.17%	26.83%	

#### **Section II. Member Costs**

## A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

# **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members:	0	0	0
Worker's Compensation:	0	0	0
Health Care:	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	0	0	0
PERCENTAGE	0.00%	0.00%	

#### Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

# A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Commission Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

# **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Predetermined: Total Direct Costs: CSNS administrative funds on total direct costs (10% minus 2% CSNS share); calculated using RFP calculator provided. College does not have a federally approved rate with a rate of 10 and a rate claimed of 8	1,141	6,310	7,451
Category Totals	1,141	6,310	7,451
Section Totals	1,141	6,310	7,451
PERCENTAGE	15.31%	84.69%	

Budget Totals	55,406	26,203	81,609
PERCENTAGE	67.89%	32.11%	
Required Match		0.00%	-

## **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source
Source of Funds	Operating funds and in-kind donations	19,892	Cash	Private
Total Source of Funds		19,892		



APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE		1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION:				
Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to confirm to the Corporation's eGrants System)			m)	Application X Non-Construction		
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):	ON 3. DATE RECEI	ATE RECEIVED BY STATE:		STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER:		
2b. APPLICATION ID:	4. DATE RECEI	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY:		FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:		
24AC265151						
5. A PPLICATION INFORMATION						
LEGAL NAME: Ohio Association of Foodbanks UEI NUMBER: QLBLUBLMC539			NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes):  NAME: Maureen Allen			
ADDRESS (give street address, city, state, zip code and county): 100 E Broad St Columbus OH 43215 - 3607 County: Franklin			TELEPHONE NUMBER: (614) 221-4336 274  FAX NUMBER: INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS:			
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 341677838			7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: 7a. Non-Profit			
8 TYPE OF A PPI ICATION (Chook coor	onriate hov\		7b. Statew ide A	ssociation		
CONTINUATION // If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(	NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTE AMENDMENT s) in box(es): T REVISION	E				
C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (	specify below).					
			9. NAME OF FED			
			Corporati	on for National	and Community Service	
10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 94.006 10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State		11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF A PPLICANT'S PROJECT: Ohio Association of Foodbanks "planning grant"				
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (L Proposed project would serve at le Feeding America foodbank territoric	ast one location in each o	of Ohio's 12 regional	11.b. CNCS PRO	GRAM INITIATIVE (IF AN	NY):	
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DATE: 08/01/24 END DATE: 07/31/25		14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF: a.Applicant OH 15 b.Program OH 15				
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: 1		16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?				
a. FEDERAL b. APPLICANT	\$ 70,781.00 \$ 23,070.00		YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR			
c. STATE	\$ 0.00		REVIEW	V ON:		
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00		i	DATE:  NO. PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372		
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00					
f. PROGRAM INCOME	\$ 0.00		17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?			
g. TOTAL	\$ 93.851.00	\$ 93,851.00		☐ YES if "Yes," attach an explanation. ☐ NO		
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNII IS AWARDED.	AND BELIEF, ALL DATA	IN THIS APPLICATION/F			· ·	
a. TY PED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: b. TITLE:					c. TELEPHONE NUMBER:	
Maureen F. Allen					(614) 221-4336	
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPR	ESENTATIVE:				e. DATE SIGNED: 04/01/24	



#### **Executive Summary**

The Ohio Association of Foodbanks proposes to develop an AmeriCorps program serving in at least one location in each of Ohio¿s 12 regional Feeding America foodbank territories that will focus on supporting programs that increase access to health information, knowledge, resources, and/or services to improve individual and/or community health conditions with a focus on service-to-career pathways through AmeriCorps programs into the behavioral health field. The Ohio AmeriCorps investment of \$70,781 will be matched with \$0 in public funding and \$23,070 in private funding. No AmeriCorps members will be needed to execute this plan.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

Food security and health are closely linked. In March 2020, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation released the Healthy Eating Research Nutrition Guidelines for the Charitable Food System. The report was compiled by a panel of dieticians, physicians, public health experts, and community-based organizations ¿to create clear, specific recommendations for evidence-based nutrition guidelines tailored to the unique needs and capacity of the charitable food system. ¿ The panel was convened because people who experience food insecurity are more likely to live with diet-related chronic diseases, such as diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease. In fact, food insecurity has been linked with increased prevalence of more than 40 serious health conditions in children, adults, and seniors. Demand for hunger relief in Ohio is higher now than ever. Nationally, rates of food insecurity increased by 31 percent overall and by 44 percent for children in 2022, as compared to the previous year; that represents the largest single-year increase since 2008. These population estimates based on survey data are consistent with the experience of Ohio¿s hunger relief network. In 2023, the Ohio network of food banks, food pantries, soup kitchens, and other hunger relief agencies, served more than 1.2 million food pantry visitors each month, about 25 percent more than an average month prepandemic. Ohio households visited emergency food pantries more times in 2023 than during any year in the 33-year history of the Ohio Association of Foodbanks, including during the Great Recession and in 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The link between food insecurity and health was highlighted in the 2023 Statewide Study of Hunger in Ohio. This survey, administered by OAF, collected responses from over 2,000 households who utilized the emergency food network during the spring of 2023. While population-level comparison data is not available, this study found that the prevalence of diet-related chronic diseases among households that use the emergency food network in Ohio is disturbingly high. For example, among survey respondent



#### households:

- ¿ Nearly 4 in 10 had a household member with high blood pressure.
- ¿ More than 1 in 4 had a household member with diabetes.
- ¿ More than 1 in 7 had a household member with heart disease and/or who had experienced a stroke. Research finds that coping strategies for food insecurity, including food budget adjustments, such as tradeoffs between food purchases and other necessities, reduced food intake, such as reducing portion size or skipping meals, and changing the types of food served, such as by decreasing food variety and increasing consumption of energy-dense, low nutritional-value foods, contribute to poor health outcomes. Data from the 2023 Statewide Study of Hunger in Ohio provides some sobering data on coping strategies. For example, among respondent households:
- ¿ Nearly 2 in 3 (65.5%) have adults in their household that have cut the size of meals or skipped meals because there wasn¿t enough money for food in the last 12 months, including more than 1 in 3 (36.6%) that did so almost every month over the last year.
- ¿ 55% reported choosing between paying for food and paying for medicine/health care in the last 2-3 months.

This data suggests that evidence-informed Food Is Medicine strategies to mitigate the harmful impacts food insecurity on health should be implemented in Ohio. Given our more than 30 years of experience as Ohio¿s largest charitable response to hunger, and our 18-year history of administering successful AmeriCorps programs, the Ohio Association of Foodbanks is eager to utilize AmeriCorps funding to carry out this work.

Deploying AmeriCorps direct service members at local and regional hunger relief agencies will support a coordinated statewide effort to prioritize investments in scaling and sustaining food as medicine initiatives. Like many nonprofit endeavors, time and resources are limited to support cutting-edge work in its early implementation phases. To expand implementation and revenue models and equitably integrate them throughout Ohio¿s statewide hunger relief network, dedicated AmeriCorps members would provide the necessary human capital and commitment to nutrition and healthy food access as an integral part of behavioral health for advancing this strategic work. Local hunger relief providers want to implement the HER guidelines and integrate food as medicine within their operations, but lack the capacity required to implement and maintain this new system while relying on an aging and deteriorating volunteer base strained by high demand. AmeriCorps members will make this migration possible through the support outlined below.

Members will support new, emerging, and expanding services that address hunger as a social



determinant of health. OAF anticipates that members will support three types of evidence-based approaches: (1) Provide staffing to implement and maintain the research-based HER guidelines for the Charitable Food System at emergency food distribution sites. (2) Support referral partnerships to connect healthcare providers and their patients to emergency food providers. (3) Implement evidence-based pre-packaged food box and/or meals models.

Activities will target Ohioans experiencing food insecurity and seeking help from Ohio¿s charitable hunger relief network. While some activities may support any person at risk of hunger who is seeking help with access to adequate, nutritious food in order to prevent the downstream health-related consequences of hunger, some food as medicine initiatives will more specifically target interventions to food insecure Ohioans with specific dietary needs, such as those diagnosed with chronic diet-related diseases.

Proposed service sites would include our 12 member foodbank locations: Toledo Northwestern Ohio Foodbank (Toledo); West Ohio Foodbank (Lima); Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio (Lorain); Greater Cleveland Food Bank (Cleveland); Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank (Akron); Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley (Youngstown); Mid-Ohio Food Collective (Grove City); SE Ohio Foodbank and Kitchen (Logan); Freestore Foodbank (Cincinnati); The Foodbank Inc (Dayton); Shared Harvest Foodbank (Fairfield); Second Harvest Food Bank of Clark, Champaign, and Logan Counties (Springfield). In addition, those foodbanks would help to encourage their collective statewide network of 3,600 local hunger relief agencies to adopt evidence-based strategies, like HER quidelines, through direct and indirect training, capacity building, and responsive food sourcing. Members will be able to test, implement, and refine these new systems and guidelines, making their implementation and replication within local hunger relief agencies more accessible and streamlined. Extensive orientation, training, and support will be provided to the AmeriCorps cohort. OAF has a successful model with its VISTA program that will provide a roadmap for shaping ASN programming, ensuring ASN members receive the same level of ongoing support and guidance. Specific projectrelated training will be developed in this planning grant period, to support readiness to successfully onboard members once the operational grant begins.

This proposed AmeriCorps program aligns with the FY24 AmeriCorps funding priority area: Programs that increase access to health information, knowledge, resources, and/or services to improve individual and/or community health conditions with a focus on service-to-career pathways through AmeriCorps programs into the behavioral health field. Additionally, this aligns with AmeriCorps desire to have a diverse portfolio representing a state-wide geographic region and distribution of resources.



In the past 18 years OAF has partnered with a variety of AmeriCorps programs to address emerging needs for vulnerable Ohioans. OAF has successfully administered VISTA, NCCC, ASN, and SeniorCorps programming. Both OAF and its member foodbanks embrace national service as a solution to address pressing needs and achieve meaningful, systemic change. AmeriCorps projects OAF has sponsored have continued to support new, innovative projects that have been successfully executed by national service members and allowed food banks and other hunger and poverty relief organizations to build capacity at their agency. OAF currently has a 25% hire rate within its VISTA program at host sites post service. The network of host sites OAF partners with values the dedication national service members provide to their organizations and the future nonprofit leaders the program provides. Many AmeriCorps alumni remain on staff at the food banks and OAF, providing a unique level of support to new national service members entering the program.

#### **Organizational Capability**

The OAF has served as an intermediary AmeriCorps VISTA program sponsor since 2009. In addition, OAF currently operates a SeniorCorps Demonstration Project and has previously sponsored AmeriCorps NCCC and AmeriCorps State members. OAF operates as Ohio¿s largest Affordable Care Act Navigator grantee and a Connecting Kids to Coverage grantee through Cooperative Agreements with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. OAF has contracted as a lead partner on the State of Ohio¿s SNAP Outreach plan since 2005, managing project outcomes and pass-through funding in partnership with eight regional foodbanks, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, and the USDA Food and Nutrition Service. Beyond these specific federal grants and cooperative agreements, OAF is in contract with the State of Ohio to procure tens of millions of pounds of food for foodbanks to store, handle, and distribute to Ohioans facing hunger in all 88 counties in Ohio, including as lead public-private partners on Ohio¿s USDA-funded Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) Cooperative Agreement.

OAF takes seriously its responsibility as effective, efficient stewards of public investments; in addition to its executive director, its team includes an internal affairs department made up of a director of finance, finance manager, and accounting coordinator, as well as a controller who assists in further ensuring compliance with fiscal and programmatic regulations and expectations. The association is also deeply committed to the value of diversity, equity, and inclusion within its workplace, its network, and the broader health and human services and nonprofit sector. The populations OAF serves have diverse needs and face unique challenges, and driving equity requires that everything from nonprofit programming to public policy acknowledges and, where possible, addresses root causes of poverty.



Food insecurity is almost always driven by poverty, wage inequity, income disparity, and/or wealth gaps. And poverty, wage inequity, income disparity, and wealth gaps are the unfair consequences of unjust policies, systems and societal constructs. Some meaningful ways OAF strives to embed this perspective within its staff is to convene and provide a program budget for its staff-led Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee, to educate, inform, and foster meaningful discussion and tools for growth and reform. Externally, OAF is committed to including the perspectives and wisdom of people with lived and living experience with poverty and food insecurity in its work.

The association has structured its team to integrate national service initiatives within its strategic initiatives department, directly linking AmeriCorps staff, members, and projects with its statewide hunger relief network¿s most cutting-edge work. This planning grant will be undertaken by: Maureen Allen, director of community services, who is an AmeriCorps VISTA alum and who has provided leadership for a variety of AmeriCorps programming for 13 years; Zach Reat, senior director, strategic initiatives, who is an AmeriCorps VISTA alum and who provides statewide and national leadership on models for integrating food as medicine interventions within the health care and social services delivery systems; and with the support of OAF¿s development manager and data and systems manager, who will assist with identifying potential funders, developing a logic model, and building an evidence-based implementation plan, respectively. Maureen Allen will lead the engagement with regional foodbank staff and program design, including research review, stakeholder convenings and planning conversations, and logic model development. Zach Reat will provide subject matter expertise as it relates to evidence-based food as medicine interventions and will help to build an implementation plan in consultation with the statewide hunger relief network that incorporates AmeriCorps resources for the most strategic impact.

The Ohio Association of Foodbanks was incorporated by the 12 Feeding America foodbanks serving food insecure Ohioans in all 88 counties in Ohio in 1991. Throughout the association; 33-year history, it has worked in partnership with its member foodbanks to leverage public and private support for its mission to provide food and other resources to people in need and to pursue areas of common interest for the benefit of people in need.

OAF has successfully secured private/philanthropic grants and donations that have permitted the organization to begin providing housing stipends to members to supplement the living stipend and make access to service more equitable and attainable for a diverse pool of candidates for service. Previously, OAF was also able to leverage state general revenue funding to match the federal AmeriCorps investment in its national service programs. Given the particular focus of the project that



will be developed through this planning grant, OAF anticipates that it will partner with managed care organizations and other partners in the health care delivery system to fund this cutting-edge work. In addition, OAF has continuously refined its model for host site cost sharing to ensure that AmeriCorps resources are entrusted to organizations committed to the success of members and the project¿s intent, while remaining equitable and accessible. Host site cost sharing will provide an additional revenue source for the AmeriCorps project, not only to fund needed components of project implementation, but to garner commitment to the project¿s success by organizations that are individually invested in its model. Its member foodbanks are highly committed to the success of AmeriCorps members and deeply believe in their value to fuel positive change, as AmeriCorps has been a critical resource for the expansion and advancement of multiple innovations within Ohio¿s hunger relief network.

**Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy** 

"see budget"

**Evaluation Summary or Plan** 

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 

N/A

**Clarification Summary** 

N/A

**Continuation Changes** 

N/A

**Grant Characteristics** 

#### Performance Measures

#### MSYs by Focus Area

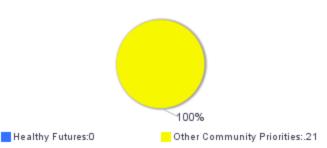


Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs
Healthy Futures	0%
Other Community Priorities	100%

#### MSYs by Objective

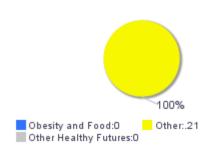


Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
Obesity and Food	0%
Other	100%
Other Healthy Futures	0%

#### % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

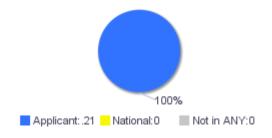


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

0/ <b>MC</b> Vo	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
% MSYs	0%	100%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
Obesity and Food	0.00	0
Other	0.21	1
Other Healthy Futures	0.00	0
Total	0.21	1

Primary Focus Area: Other Community Priorities

Primary Intervention: Other

Secondary Focus Area: Healthy Futures

Secondary Intervention: Referrals

Performance Measure: Plan an AmeriCorps program and develop network capacity to apply for

Focus Other Community Objective: Other MSY's: No of MSY's: No of MSY's:

Area: Priorities

Problem Statement:

Planning an AmeriCorps program

Selected Interventions:

capacity building

Describe Interventions:

Other

OUTPT91774 Output:

planning timeline is completed

Target: 1 other

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Planning Grant Objectives

OUTCM91775 Outcome:

Operational Grant Submission

Target: 1 other

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Application submission



## **Program Information**

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration

Underrepresented communities, underserved people, Evidence- based Interventions

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

Innovative Community
Strategies



## Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	0
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	0
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	0



## **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Not Applicable
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Other Documents	Sent

## Logic Model

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.

## Budget Narrative: Ohio Association of Foodbanks "planning grant" for Ohio Association of Foodbanks

## **Section I. Program Operating Costs**

## A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Director of Community Services: - 1 person(s) at 108500 each x 25 % usage	27,125	0	27,125
Development Manager: - 1 person(s) at 75000 each x 15 % usage	11,250	0	11,250
Data Analyst: - 1 person(s) at 75000 each x 10 % usage	7,500	0	7,500
Senior Director, Strategic Initiatives: - 1 person(s) at 127088 each x 10 % usage	0	12,709	12,709
Category Totals	45,875	12,709	58,584

## **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA: Director of Community Services (\$8,300 X .25= \$2,075); Development Manager (\$5,738 X .15= \$861); Data Analyst (\$5,738 X .10= \$574); Senior Director (\$9,722 X .10= \$972)	3,510	972	4,482
Retirement: Director of Community Services (\$8,138 X .25= \$2,035); Senior Director (\$9,532 X .10= \$953	2,035	953	2,988
Life Insurance: Director of Community Services (\$170 X .25= \$43); Development Manager (\$128 X .15= \$19); Data Analyst (\$128 X .10= \$13); Senior Director (216 X .10= \$22)	75	22	97
Health Insurance: Director of Community Services (\$31,824 X .25= \$7,956); Development Manager (\$22,844 X .15= \$3,427); Data Analyst (\$22,844 X .10= \$2,284); Senior Director (\$31,824 X .10= \$3,182)	13,667	3,182	16,849
State Unemployment Insurance: Director of Community Services (\$450 X .25= \$113); Development Manager (\$819 X .15= \$123); Data Analyst \$819 X .10= \$82); Senior Director (\$450 X .10= \$45)	318	45	363
Parking: Director of Community Services (\$2,080 X .25= \$520); Development Manager (\$2,080 X .15= \$312); Data Analyst and Senior Director (\$2,080 X .10 X 2= \$416)	0	1,248	1,248
Category Totals	19,605	6,422	26,027

#### C. Travel

#### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings: 2 staff member to Serve Ohio Conference 2024 mileage to attend local Columbus: 30 miles at .67 per mile; \$20 (per staffer)	40	0	40
Travel to Program Director Training Jan/Feb: Travel for 2 day required program director meetings for two staff members to attend. Locally in Columbus. Estimated at 20 miles per meeting day at .67 per mile; 40X.67; \$27 per employee	54	0	54

Travel to 2025 National Service Regional Training: Travel for 2 staff to attend training in Chicago. Flight (\$300) + Hotel for 2 nights (\$450 per night)+ Airport Parking (3 days at \$7 per day) X 2	1,221	1,221	2,442
AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary Event: Travel for 2 employees to attend event. Local attendance, 20 miles at .67 per mile, for each staffer	27	0	27
In-person planning grant meeting with Serve Ohio: 2 staff members attend in person meeting, local in Columbus. Estimated 20 miles at .67 per mile (x2)	27	0	27
Starting Strong orientation: Travel for two employees to attend 3 day orientation locally. 20 miles X .67 mile X 3 days= \$40 per staffer	0	80	80
Travel to project sites for planning sessions: Travel to 12 food bank locations across Ohio for planning sessions and technical assistance needs. Estimated at 1,564 miles total at .67 per mile.	1,048	0	1,048
Category Totals	2,417	1,301	3,718

### **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

### D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

#### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **G.** Training

## **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Serve Ohio Conference on Volunteerism: Registration for staff member to attend Fall Serve Ohio Conference- \$200 per attendee- Daily Rate of 400	400	0	400
2025 National Service Regional Training: 2 staff member to attend training \$400 per attendee- Daily Rate of 400	800	0	800
Category Totals	1,200	0	1,200

## **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
NSCHC Background Checks: Conducting criminal history checks for up to 3 staff employees at \$75 per check.	225	0	225
Food Bank Champions Team Convening: Lunch provided for attendees estimated at \$15 per attendee with estimated 30 attendees= \$450	0	450	450
Category Totals	225	450	675
Section Totals	69,322	20,882	90,204
PERCENTAGE	76.85%	23.15%	

#### **Section II. Member Costs**

## A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): 0 Member(s) at a rate of 0 each Members W/O allowance 0	0	0	0
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): 0 Member(s) at a rate of 0 each Members W/O allowance 0	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members:	0	0	0
Worker's Compensation:	0	0	0
Health Care:	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	0	0	0
PERCENTAGE	0.00%	0.00%	

#### Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

## A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount: \$69322 X .0526 X .6	0	2,188	2,188
Commission Fixed Amount: \$69322 X .0526 X.4	1,459	0	1,459
Category Totals	1,459	2,188	3,647

## **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	1,459	2,188	3,647
PERCENTAGE	40.01%	59.99%	

Budget Totals	70,781	23,070	93,851
PERCENTAGE	75.42%	24.58%	
Required Match		0.00%	

#### **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source



ADDI ICATION EO	D EEDEDAL	ACCICTAN	ICE	4 TVPE OF CUIDANICO	NONE	
APPLICATION FO				1. TYPE OF SUBMISS  Application X Nor		
Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02)			em)	STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER:		
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATI FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY	ON 3. DATE RECE	VED BY STATE:		STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:	
SERVICE (CNCS):	01-APR-24	01-APR-24		N/A		
2b. APPLICATION ID:	4. DATE RECE	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY:		   FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:		
24AC264709						
5. APPLICATION INFORMATION	l			1		
LEGAL NAME: Omega Community De	velopment Corporation				OR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER	
UEI NUMBER: DLCRM317UKG3			PERSON TO BE ( area codes):  NAME: Rachel V		ERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give	
ADDRESS (give street address, city, s	state, zip code and county	·):			A 222	
1800 Harvard Blvd.			TELEPHONE NUM	MBER: (937) 723-825	4 323	
Dayton OH 45406 - 4539 County: Montgomery			FAX NUMBER:	I ADDDESS, racholy	v ard@omogaede org	
ocum, momgomor,			INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: rachel.ward@omegacdc.org			
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	ER (EIN):		7. TYPE OF APPL 7a. Non-Profit	LICANT:		
311561713						
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check app	ropriate box).		_ 7b.			
X NEW	NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTE	:E				
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CONTINUATION  If Amendment, enter appropriate letter	A MENDMENT					
A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGI	ET REVISION					
C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER	(specify below):					
			9. NAME OF FED	DERAL AGENCY:		
			Corporati	on for National	and Community Service	
10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMES	TIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER	R: 94.006	11.a. DESCRIPTIV	/E TITLE OF APPLICAN	T'S PROJECT:	
10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State			Omega Comm	nunity Development Cor	poration AmeriCorps Planning	
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (	List Cities, Counties, State	es, etc):	11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):			
Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio						
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START D	ATE: 08/01/24 END	DATE: 07/21/25	14. CONGRESSIO	ONAL DISTRICT OF:	a.Applicant OH 10 b.Program OH 10	
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #:					EW BY STATE EXECUTIVE	
			ORDER 12372 PR			
a. FEDERAL	\$ 75,000.00	)	-		CATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE	
b. APPLICANT	\$ 23,685.00	)	TO THE REVIEW		RDER 12372 PROCESS FOR	
c. STATE	\$ 0.00		DATE:			
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00		X NO. PROGR	AM IS NOT COVERED E	BY E.O. 12372	
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00					
f. PROGRAM INCOME	\$ 0.00			CANT DELINQUENT ON		
g. TOTAL	\$ 98,685.00	)	YE	ES if "Yes," attach an	explanation. 🛛 NO	
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDG DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERN IS AWARDED.					· ·	
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REF	PRESENTATIVE:	b. TITLE:			c. TELEPHONE NUMBER:	
Rachel Ward					(937) 723-8254 323	
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REP	RESENTATIVE:				e. DATE SIGNED:	
					04/01/24	



#### **Executive Summary**

The Omega Community Development Corporation (Omega CDC) proposes to develop an AmeriCorps program serving in Dayton, Ohio that will focus on the funding priority of mentoring initiatives. The Ohio AmeriCorps investment of \$75,000 will be matched with \$23, 685, \$0 in public funding and \$23,685 in private funding. No AmeriCorps members will be needed to execute this plan.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

Community Need: Dayton, Ohio was once a vibrant, nationally recognized hub for innovation and patent activity in the 20th century, but in recent decades has suffered tremendous loss of bedrock industry and civic infrastructure, catalyzed by racialized segregation and disinvestment in neighborhoods predominantly inhabited by Black, Indigenous and People of Color, including immigrating families fleeing areas of war and oppression worldwide. The confluence of discriminatory housing policies and broader economic instability has created a dangerous and traumatizing environment for young people and their families in Dayton. The 2018 closure of a major employer and anchor institution, Good Samaritan Hospital, sparked a renewed sense of collective action and place-based investment that had not been seen in a decade, emanating from hope and seeds of community resiliency that have sprouted from the amassed, shared trauma. Recently, Omega Community Development Corporation (Omega CDC) and its partners elicited, assembled, and analyzed numerous sources of data in order to conduct a robust needs assessment and segmentation analysis to inform the strategies to be detailed in its ongoing strategic efforts. During the summer of 2021, Omega CDC administered a social determinants of health survey with Dayton Children's Hospital, gathering insights from 475 Dayton resident stakeholders. Additionally, in the Fall of 2021, supported by a catalytic grant from the Blue Meridian Partners, the Dayton neighborhoods were part of door-to-door canvassing and meetings with 170 residents and 11 business owners, resulting in ideas and relationship-building. In February of 2022, community conversations with 75 residents and partner organizations occurred, and in April, workgroups with 69 residents generated a call to action for development of a pipeline of services to address prenatal to age 5 years, K-12 and college, and social, healthcare, and culturally responsive needs. Most recently, a Promise Neighborhoods door-todoor survey of 91 households with children helped to further inform the needs and gaps for services available to children and their families in Northwest Dayton. As as result of these activities, the following data and anecdotes were identified: Evidence of the magnitude of distress and disinvestment in Dayton are verified by the Ohio Opportunity Index and predicated upon 34 neighborhood



conditions and 53 youth-specific conditions associated with health and well-being, across a variety of domains, into a single index score that can be used to assess overall neighborhood conditions, target interventions, and adjust evaluations for neighborhood-level risk. The Ohio Opportunity Index helps us understand where we need to target resources aimed at improving conditions for Ohioans who are the most vulnerable. The data shows the opportunity level from very high to very low measuring seven factors that impact health and well-being. The higher the level in the index, the better the opportunities to thrive. The highest opportunity scores are Employment (88.1), Transportation (78.6), Access to Healthcare (78.3), Housing (58.2), Health (53.1), Crime (50.1), and Education (42.4). Indicators of distress in the context of poverty, unemployment, household income, and overarching educational attainment, compared with Montgomery County and the State demonstrate overall need in the target area including: a. High unemployment rate (12.3%) compared to the State (5.3%). b. 39.2% of families with related children of the householder under 18 years of age had income in the last 12 months below the poverty level compared to the state average at 16.1%. c. 17.2% of the population aged 25 years and over have a bachelor's degree compared to 28.9% for the State. Approximately 1363 school-age youth in the area primarily attend Fairview Elementary, EJ Brown Middle, and Thurgood Marshall High School which the Ohio Department of Education has classified as the lowest performing 5% of schools in the state. Evidence of low performance includes the factors of 3rd grade reading, 8th grade math, and high school graduation rates, as measured by the Department of Education and school districts. As such, the indicators noted at Fairview Elementary results in students falling further and further behind. These reading outcomes were complicated by staggering rates of 51.9% chronic absences, defined as more than 10% missed days, during the 2021-22 year. Due to the high level of reported absenteeism, low level of proficiency, language and cultural diversity, influx of refugee and immigrant populations, and presence of disabilities, all of which has been exacerbated by school disruptions caused by COVID-19, students and parents in the area are in need of responsive orientation and interpretation in order to navigate through and overcome barriers and gain access to available educational resources and services at all ages and grade levels, including the path to post-secondary advancement and career opportunities. In response to the array of identified persistent and emerging needs, Omega CDC proposes to develop and activate an AmeriCorps program fueled by a vibrant and engaged AmeriCorps Member team that will work with community stakeholders in forming strategies and solutions as Student Success Navigator, the overarching purpose of which is to increase academic outcomes.

AmeriCorps Members as an effective tool to address the need: As a proactive action step, Omega



CDC, together with partners, parents, community members and youth have collectively identified 12 components which represent the greatest need and gaps within the area, including Student Success Planning, which will be the focus of Omega CDC's AmeriCorps initiative. Motivated by the absolute necessity of change premised in racial equity, informed by community engagement, and vitalized by continuous identification, assessment, and analyses of gaps and barriers, the Omega CDC's initiatives are focused on strengthening, enhancing and sustaining a measurably impactful system of responsive, multi-generational services and resources. An accessible navigator system is the missing connection between social determinants of health and families in need and at risk in our neighborhood schools. Navigators can assist in identification of family strengthening resources and services, and as a trusted, long-term point-of-contact to assure access to affordable, safe housing, mental health and medical home, postsecondary financial assistance to assure enrollment, retention, and completion of degrees and certifications. Successful connections to these supports can lead to self-sufficiency and decisionmaking for each phase of life and civic engagement for change. Omega CDC will utilize the support of AmeriCorps members to deliver evidence-based navigation and tutoring services that will lead to improvements in school readiness, math and reading proficiency, high school graduation, and equitable and optimal access to college enrollment, financial assistance support for completion and career-readiness. To address disparities in outcomes, including family instability that interferes with student attendance and academic success, a two-generational, placed-based approach will be deployed through the Student Success model. This approach will address educational evidence-based solutions in conjunction with housing, employment, income, food insecurity, physical and behavioral healthcare equity, neighborhood safety, parent or guardian educational attainment, and legal supports, focusing on historically underrepresented and marginalized populations in Dayton.

Additionally, please describe what activities you see AmeriCorps Members engaging in and how such interventions may lead to positive outcomes: Omega CDC will plan a process to engage AmeriCorps Members who have the desire to join its mission, which will also connect AmeriCorps Members to community leadership and be involved in changemaking. Omega CDC believes children should see people from their own communities as the real heroes, and develop trust in proactive, stakeholder-guided systems. While plans will be finalized during the planning process, Omega CDC anticipates AmeriCorps Members will serve as Student Success Navigators, who are adults who form individual relationships with a child and, ideally, their family, developing an understanding of the child's needs and interests in order to co-design individualized student success plans. Omega CDC is currently implementing success planning as part of its recent Department of Education Promise



Neighborhoods grant, and the AmeriCorps planning funding will assist the organization in determining how to scale and sustain the core component of Student Success Planning and the role of Navigators. A Student Success Navigator is a relationship builder who forges and connects partnerships that align community resources to help their students (and their families) access necessary support and achieve their goals. Student Success Navigators will work closely with partner schools and other community organizations and systems. Student Success Navigators will also remove barriers related to food insecurity, transportation, childcare, legal issues, housing and related services, including working closely with family coaches that are implementing a two-generational success model. The Student Success Navigators will carry a caseload of 30-60 children, documenting and tracking progress against the child's success plan by fulfill the following duties: a. Co-design individualized student success plans with all children and their families, in adherence with Student Success Planning standards. b. Document and track progress against the plan, including monthly updates to the plan regarding student attendance, behavior, academic, referrals/resources, and interventions. c. Offer high dosage tutoring services for students not meeting academic targets. d. Complete regular check-ins with children, including face-to-face meetings at school or home, text messages, e-mails, and video calls, via appropriate platforms and tools. e. Facilitate communication and relationship-building with faculty, staff, students and other key stakeholders connected to the long-term success of students. Ultimately, each child would have a success team of caring adults, professionals, and community assets to support their post-secondary completion and career success. f. Serve as a mentor and guide for students, sharing relevant information and making critical social connections in alignment with student goals and aspirations, g. Serve as a key advocate for students and their families regarding academic, social, and familial concerns. h. Engage families and the community in partnerships that meet the critical needs of students and support student achievement. i. Collaborate with neighborhood associations, organizations, residents, and community leaders to share resources that would be beneficial to the students, their families, and the community. j. Participate in relevant workgroups and events, engaging students and their families to ensure a community-centered approach to programming and the initiative. k. Support the Omega CDC Outof-School time programming at Edwin Joel Brown Middle and Fairview Elementary Schools (Scholars of H.O.P.E. and Camp H.O.P.E.). With Student Success Planning, a method for ensuring the continuum of solutions closes gaps and seamlessly allows for longitudinal data planning, and educator-community-family support around individualized student needs, as the golden thread, services will become accessible and utilization of services among underserved populations will increase



across the area.

Potential partners, service sites/locations, service area(s), service activities and member training opportunities: Omega CDC proposes to partner with Dayton Public Schools (DPS), Learn to Earn Dayton, and the Hope Zone Collaborative, composed of 33 collaborators of the Department of Education Promise Neighborhoods grant. These entities will assume responsibility for developing a plan to utilize AmeriCorps members as Student Success Navigators to advance the work of the partners with youth in Northwest Dayton. DPS: an urban district with more than 12,000 students in pre-kindergarten through high school. The district has an early learning center, 16 elementary schools, 4 middle schools and 7 high schools. The project team expects AmeriCorps members will deliver student success planning and high dosage tutoring during the school year to DPS students. As such, the school district will be involved in the planning process. It is expected DPS will be the site of services delivered by AmeriCorps members. Learn to Earn Dayton: Learn to Earn Dayton is a member of StriveTogether, a national network of nearly 70 communities committed to a theory of action to get better results for kids. Learn to Earn Dayton tracks and analyzes key metrics along the cradle-tocareer education continuum that research shows support student success in school and ultimately in life. By leveraging data, focusing on equity, and working in collaboration, Learn to Earn Dayton is one of three communities across the nation that has earned the Systems Transformation designation in recognition of our work to successfully advance educational outcomes. Learn to Earn Dayton will support the planning project through development of a plan to examine real-time data for shared discussions regarding achievement of milestones and key performance indicators. Hope Zone Promise Neighborhood Collaborative: In 2023, Omega CDC, in partnership with over 33 agencies in Dayton, was awarded a Department of Education Promise Neighborhoods grant. This grant is serving as the catalyst for significantly improving the academic and developmental outcomes of children and youth living in Dayton, including ensuring school readiness, high school graduation, and access to a community-based continuum of high-quality services. As the Promise Neighborhoods partners are currently and actively engaged in designing and implementing efforts to directly address these conditions, this group will participate in the AmeriCorps planning process to determine effective and non-duplicative ways to utilize AmeriCorps members to further the team's work with youth. Service Area: The community of focus is 17 neighborhoods Northwest Dayton, Ohio in which 6,700 children and 3,400 families live, work, and attend school. Service Activities: Student Success Services: by designing individualized student success plans with all children and their families. This will involve a process in which the AmeriCorps member serves as a mentor and guide for students, sharing relevant



information and making critical social connections in alignment with student goals and aspirations, and serve as a key advocate for students and their families regarding academic, social, and familial concerns. In partnership with DPS, Omega CDC will also prepare AmeriCorps members to deliver high dosage tutoring in literacy and numeracy. High dosage teaching is a powerful tool for enhancing student learning and the program is being sustained and maintained. AmeriCorps members are expected to provide one-to-one high dosage reading and math tutoring for k-12th graders with members of Hope Zone partner churches volunteering as reading buddies. Member Training Opportunities: While Omega CDC expects to finalize member training opportunities during the planning period, it is expected AmeriCorps members will receive training on the Promise Neighborhoods Student Success Planning process including: a. Customized training conducted by staff from Harvard Graduate School of Education's EdRedesign Lab - Institute for Success Planning in our local community. b. Coaching and mentoring from Omega CDC's Managing Director of Education Programs. c. Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services trainings including Mental Health First Aid; Trauma 101; and QPR. d. Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Program. e. Conscious Discipline, f. Economic Mobility Pathways Mobility Mentoring Training, g. Motivational Interviewing. h. Mandated reporter training

AmeriCorps Focus Areas or Funding Priorities as outlined on pages 2-3: Omega CDC will focus its planning project on building and aligning a program with the AmeriCorps Funding Priorities of mentoring initiatives.

#### **Organizational Capability**

Describe how the organization has the experience, staffing, and management structure necessary to plan and implement the proposed project: Omega CDC has over 25 years of experience in the design and implementation of educational, human services, housing, and community programs. The Omega CDC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established by the Omega Baptist Church in 1997 with a mission to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty by catalyzing change in Northwest Dayton. Omega CDC equips individuals, families, and children with resources, tools, and opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency through education, workforce development, and advocacy. With over 25 years of active involvement in the community, Omega CDC has developed a strong presence in Northwest Dayton and built a unique level of trust and familiarity with thousands of local residents and numerous community organizations. In FY 2022, Omega CDC was awarded a \$29 million grant for the Department of Education's Promise Neighborhoods initiative to strengthen and impact a system of multi-generational services to lead to improvement in births, school readiness, math and reading



proficiency, high school graduation within Northwest Dayton. Omega CDC serves as developer and owner of the Hope Center for Families, a facility that co-locates family services with Mini University's five-star childcare center, Dayton Children's pediatric clinic, and Sinclair College's adult education and allied health certificate programs. Omega CDC works with residents in surrounding neighborhoods, public housing authorities, local public officials, private institutions, foundations, developers, property managers and other community stakeholders to build comprehensive plans around neighborhood conditions and human service needs. Omega CDC's Board of Trustees demonstrates representation and expertise from the community, business, social impact, higher education, healthcare, human resources, nonprofit management, faith-based organizations, government, finance, and other fields. As a Black-led organization, Omega CDC employs individuals with lived experience and critical professional credentials. Rev. Vanessa Ward is the President and founder of the Omega CDC and has quided the organization through the last 8 years of growth in providing educational, youth, and community services. An ordained minister, Rev. Ward founded and operated The Omega School of Excellence, a charter school that served children, grades 5-8 from 2000-2008. Rev. Ward earned the 2006 Woman of Influence Award from the YWCA and was also honored as the recipient of the 2022 YWCA Lifetime Achievement Award. She is a graduate with a master's in philosophy in Judaic, Hebrew Language & Cognate Studies, Hebrew Union College; Master's in theological studies from United Theological Seminary; and Bachelors in Spanish, The College of Wooster. She is also a 2018 recipient of the Brother Ray Fitz award given by Montgomery County for exceptional community services. She has served as a Lecturer in Old Testament for the United Theological Seminary and the Urban Leadership Academy. She is a community activist, volunteer, and professional speaker, including the 2020 Dayton TedX., where she spoke on the life of the late Rev. Dr. Prathia Hall: "One Woman, Woman Voice", a former preacher, civil rights activist, and Freedom Rider. Jonathan Williams serves as the Chief Financial Officer for Omega CDC and previously served as the Senior Finance Analyst, for Bon Secours Mercy Health, Finance and Contract Analyst for Grandview Medical Center System, and Accountant Analyst for Kettering Health Systems. He obtained his master's in business administration from Indiana Wesleyan University and bachelor's in accounting from the Washington Adventist University. Mr. Williams oversees fiscal stewardship of resources and ensures effective and efficient administration of grants, contributions, contracts, and purchasing. Jonathan has led the Omega CDC in increasing capacity through standardized systems, policies, and practices that have supported growth from six full-time staff to over 60 full-time and approximately 35 parttime staff by March 2024. Rachel Ward works as the Vice President for Omega CDC and previously



served as the Manager of Community Programming for Montgomery County where she managed all fiscal contracts distributing county tax levy, state, and federally appropriated funding for the local delivery of human services. Rachel's management portfolio also included the coordination of a 13county regional council for child abuse and neglect prevention, and the contract management for countywide early intervention services for children (0-2) with suspected or diagnosed developmental disabilities. Prior to her time at Montgomery County, Rachel served as Director of Family Connections for Family Matters Chicago, worked as grant writer for South Suburban Family Shelter in Chicago, IL, and directed and developed youth programs for Community Development for All People in Columbus, Ohio. She has a master's in public service management from DePaul University and a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Spelman College. Rachel was recognized as one of Dayton's top Forty Under 40 in 2020 and completed Leadership Dayton, the fourth oldest continuously operating community leadership program in the U.S., in 2022. Jasper Person is the Managing Director of Education Programs and Omega CDC Person has extensive experience with Performance Consulting Services, focusing on areas such as diversity, equity, and inclusion. He is the founder of Tailored Fit Consulting, where he integrates inspiration, navigation, motivation, and education to offer solutions for families, teachers, schools, and communities. Additionally, he is dedicated to addressing K-12 mental health, equity in behavioral health, and closing the digital divide. He is a proud member of the 2021 Leadership Ohio class and founder of Lock In 2 Build Up, and The Village 2.0. These organizations focus on providing educational empowerment and strategies for youth to successfully graduate high school and college, especially in urban settings. At the Omega CDC, Jasper supervises the Scholars of HOPE afterschool, Camp HOPE CDF Freedom Schools, Prevention with a Purpose, Family Resource Coordination, and Student Success Planning programs. The project will be staffed by a Project Director (PD) at 100% effort. The PD will quide the day-to-day operation of the grant; facilitate collaborative input and engagement by communicating expectations, leveraging strengths, and fostering cohesion; communicate deliverables to partners effectively; work with partners to ensure core activities are completed; report updates during regular meetings with Omega CDC's leadership and the project team. The Project Director will report to the Managing Director of Education Programs.

Additionally, describe how the organization is culturally responsive of staff, beneficiaries, and community: Omega prioritizes recruiting, hiring and retaining talent that is diverse in background, education, experience and knowledge. Omega further promotes a work culture to assure that staff and volunteers feel a sense of belonging and attachment to the mission, are embraced by colleagues, and



develop a sense of empowerment to actively engage with children of all ages and families in need. Therefore, the creation of a work environment that promotes respect and appreciation for accomplishments and positive outcomes for clients creates conditions that increase retention. Omega has an employee engagement committee which includes all levels of staff, supporting input, suggestions, and concerns when planning events and deemed appropriate review of policies prior to enforcement. This committee strengthens and cultivates Omega's commitment to an inclusive culture. Innovation is encouraged, differences of opinions are discussed respectfully, problem solving skills are applied, and tough decisions are made for presentation to leadership. This committee provides non-management level staff opportunity to contribute to the strategic plan and decision-making, learn to communicate effectively, and gain leadership skills. In addition, all staff are required to attend diversity and inclusion training that includes challenging unconscious biases, disability awareness, and learning how to engage in positive discussion.

Include how the organization and/or program prioritizes diversity, equity, and inclusion to diversify its members, staff and board and create a supportive and safe environment as well as ensure that its programming is culturally and community appropriate. Omega's board of directors serves as its DEI Council to promote DEI activities to raise awareness and develop actions such as utilizing speakers, seminars or workshops to introduce new models and strategies for achieving DEI, coordinating diversity training programs to enable professionals at all levels to engage in DEI specific to their work, or sponsoring or featuring DEI at conferences or annual meetings. For example, utilizing social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter, Omega promotes DEI with real life program successes. The leadership team also ensures all curricula and practices are age-appropriate and devoid of bias

Describe the organization's experience in securing outside cash and in-kind contributions: Omega CDC and community stakeholders, and partners spanning the cradle-to-career continuum (early childhood, intermediate, secondary, postsecondary education and workforce training), social justice, neighborhood leadership, healthcare, mental and behavioral health services, community and economic development, city and county government, completed a rigorous process of assessment of human capital, tangible assets, in kind contributions, and available funding streams, including an indepth analysis of how the existing resources and identification of sources of untapped funding can be innovatively and effectively braided to better support area initiatives. As a result of this effort, and to strengthen and expand its impact, the Omega CDC has developed a multi-phased strategic plan to redevelop a 30-acre property in Northwest Dayton in collaboration with government, education,



healthcare, and other nonprofit and social service agencies in Dayton and across Miami Valley. The multi-phase plan entailed building a community center, the Hope Center for Families, which opened in November 2021; a senior housing facility, the Omega Senior Lofts, which opened May 30, 2020; dedicated space for outdoor recreation; an amphitheater; and a worship center for Omega Baptist Church. In FY2022, Omega CDC received a nearly \$29 million dollar award from the US Department of Education for a Promise Neighborhoods project. The synergistic services involve the collaboration of 33 cross-sector partners who have committed matching funding and or in-kind services in the amount of \$96,991,309, which denotes their unwavering support in the work performed by Omega CDC, and will serve as a source for AmeriCorps match during its implementation application.

Additionally, describe the resources that could potentially be utilized/secured to assist the organization in supporting an operational AmeriCorps program: Omega CDC intends to utilize the partnerships already engaged in the Promise Neighborhoods initiative to secure the assistance needed for operation of an AmeriCorps program. As such, it will utilize non-federal funds as part of its Promise Neighborhood funding for navigators, training, and incentives; Montgomery County ESC & DPS data sharing through the Learning Circle Platform; 21st Century Grants for afterschool programs; Montgomery County Human Services Levy funds for afterschool programs and family coaching for caregivers; Montgomery County ADAMHS funds for prevention services; alignment with the Montgomery County 2 Generation Collaborative.

#### **Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy**

See budget

**Evaluation Summary or Plan** 

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 

N/A

**Clarification Summary** 

N/A

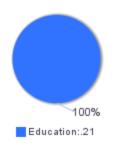
**Continuation Changes** 

N/A

**Grant Characteristics** 

#### Performance Measures

MSYs by Focus Area



MSYs by Objective

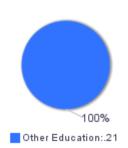


Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs
Education	100%

Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
Other Education	100%

## % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

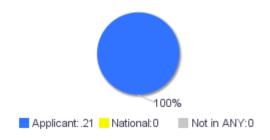


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

0/ 1/02/	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
% MSYs	0%	100%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
Other Education	0.21	1
Total	0.21	1

Primary Focus Area: Education

Primary Intervention: Other

Secondary Focus Area: Secondary Intervention:

Performance Measure: Plan an AmeriCorps program/develop org. capacity to successfully apply

Focus Education

Area:

Objective: Other Education No of 0.21 MSY's:

No of

1 Members:

**Problem Statement:** 

Planning an AmeriCorps program

Selected Interventions:

Capacity Building

Describe Interventions:

Capacity building planning grant

Per RFP:

Frequency - Daily

Intensity - one- on- one

Duration – up to 12 months

OUTPT91838 Output:

Planning timeline is completed.

Other Target: 1

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Other

OUTCM91839 Outcome:

Operational Grant Submission

Other Target: 1

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Other



## **Program Information**

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration

Underrepresented communities, underserved people, Evidence- based Interventions

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

Innovative Community Strategies, Geographic Focus Urban



## Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	0
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	0
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	0



## **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Not Applicable
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Other Documents	Sent

## Logic Model

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.

## **Budget Narrative: Omega Community Development Corporation AmeriCorps Planning for Omega Community Development Corporation**

### **Section I. Program Operating Costs**

### A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Project Director: - 1 person(s) at 85000 each x 100 % usage	75,000	10,000	85,000
Category Totals	75,000	10,000	85,000

## **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Fringe Benefits for Project Director: \$85,000 in request x 11.5% fringe rate 7.65% FICA 3.85% Worker's Compensation & Employee Benefits	0	9,775	9,775
Category Totals	0	9,775	9,775

#### C. Travel

#### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings: National Service Regional Conference attendance to include the Project Director and VP or CEO. Airfare = \$750 round trip x 2 attendees Hotel = \$233 x 3 nights x 2 attendees Meals = \$79 per day x 3 days x 2 attendees	0	3,372	3,372
Mileage for: Mileage to ServeOhio meeting in Columbus = 142 miles x \$.67 Local travel to meetings and events to develop AmeriCorps implementation plan with partners = 661 miles x \$.67	0	538	538
Category Totals	0	3,910	3,910

#### **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

#### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate		CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
	Category Totals	0	0	0

## **G.** Training

## **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	75,000	23,685	98,685
PERCENTAGE	76.00%	24.00%	

#### **Section II. Member Costs**

## A. Living Allowance

CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0
	0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members:	0	0	0
Worker's Compensation:	0	0	0
Health Care:	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	0	0	0
PERCENTAGE	0.00%	0.00%	

## **Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs**

## A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Commission Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	0	0	0
PERCENTAGE	0.00%	0.00%	

Budget Totals	75,000	23,685	98,685
PERCENTAGE	76.00%	24.00%	
Required Match		0.00%	

## **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source
Source of Funds	Montgomery County Human Services Levy funds	23,685	Cash	State/Local
Total Source of Funds		23,685		



APPLICATION FOR Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07)				TYPE OF SUBMISS     Application X Nor	
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION	3. DATE RECEI	VED BY STATE:		STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:
FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):	02-APR-24	02-APR-24		N/A	
2b. A PPLICATION ID: 24A C265436	4. DATE RECEI	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY:		FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:	
A PPLICATION INFORMATION			<u> </u>		
LEGAL NAME: Xavier University UEI NUMBER: UD14C86YPN55				CONTACTED ON MATTI	OR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER ERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give
ADDRESS (give street address, city, state 3800 Victory Parkway Cincinnati OH 45207 - 1110 County: Hamilton	e, zip code and county	):	FAX NUMBER:	MBER: (513) 745-190 _ ADDRESS: mcelroy	
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (I 310537516	EIN):		7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: 7a. Higher Education Organization - Private  7b. 4-year college		
X NEW NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTEE  CONTINUATION AMENDMENT  If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es):  A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION  C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (specify below):		9. NAME OF FED Corporati		and Community Service	
10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC A	A SSISTANCE NUMBER	2: 94.006		ETITLE OF APPLICAN sity- Planning Grant	T'S PROJECT:
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (List Ohio Hamilton County	Cities, Counties, State	s, etc):	11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):		
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DATE	: 08/01/24 END	DATE: 07/21/25	14. CONGRESSIC	DNAL DISTRICT OF:	a.Applicant OH 01 b.Program OH 01
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: 1			16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?		
a. FEDERAL	\$ 73,174.00 \$ 40,875.00				CATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE RDER 12372 PROCESS FOR
b. APPLICANT	,		REVIEW	/ ON:	
c. STATE	\$ 0.00 \$ 0.00		DATE:  X NO. PROGR	AM IS NOT COVERED E	BY E.O. 12372
d. LOCAL e. OTHER	\$ 0.00				
f. PROGRAM INCOME	\$ 0.00		17. IS THE APPLIC	CANT DELINQUENT ON	ANY FEDERAL DEBT?
	·		YE	ES if "Yes," attach an	explanation. NO
g. TOTAL \$ 114,049.00  18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLIC IS AWARDED.		IN THIS APPLICATION			
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: b. TITLE: Cheryl Mcelroy		b. TITLE:			c. TELEPHONE NUMBER: (513) 745-1909
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRES	ENTATIVE:	1			e. DATE SIGNED: 04/02/24



#### **Executive Summary**

Xavier University Planning Grant

The Xavier University Center for Population Health proposes to develop an AmeriCorps program serving in Greater Cincinnati region that will focus on underrepresented communities, underserved populations. The Ohio AmeriCorps investment of \$73,174 will be matched with \$40,874, \$0 in public funding and \$40,874 in private funding. No AmeriCorps members will be needed to execute this plan.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

#### 1. Community Needs

According to the 2022 census data from censusreporter.org (2024), the population in the Cincinnati metropolitan statistical area was 2,268,393, encompassing eighteen counties across Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana. Of those, 825,037 reside in Hamilton County, with 309,536 living within the city of Cincinnati. The most recent Hamilton County Health Equity report (2022) indicates that 25% of county residents are non-Hispanic black, with a growing number being foreign-born immigrants and refugees (Boeshart et al., 2022). Over 23% of children in Hamilton County are born into poverty, and 37.4% in the city of Cincinnati (Boeshart et al., 2022; City of Cincinnati Community Health Needs Assessment, 2023).

The regional Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) conducted by The Health Collaborative in 2021 (THC, 2022) identified disparities in meeting healthcare needs among underserved populations. Significant unmet needs across various health domains, were influenced by economic instability and other social determinants of health (THC, 2022). Specifically, medical conditions such as heart and lung diseases, obesity-related diabetes, were overrepresented in these communities (THC, 2022). For example, Black/African American individuals, relative to White individuals, were significantly more likely to have unmet health needs for dental (1.3 times as likely) and allergy-related concerns (1.6 times as likely), as well as mental health (1.6 times as likely).

Challenges included: difficulty in accessing healthcare due to lack of centralized and up-to-date information, obtaining timely appointments because service availability and inconvenient appointment times (THC, 2022). One Social Service provider reported that: "People don't know what is available, what their options are. I don't know how to find a good family doctor that will listen. I



don't know where I need to go or where I need to point myself." -

Limited experience navigating healthcare and insurance systems was also cited frequently. The CHNA report (THC, 2022) suggests that not only are the systems complicated but that lack of price transparency is frequently associated with frustration and negative experience: "I would like to have a little more education about how the health system works here. I thought I was a healthy young person and didn't think I needed a doctor then I got shingles and had to go to the ER doctor. I didn't have a PC and I had pain and needed ongoing help but it was taking over a month to get to a PC as a new patient," said one Asian community member.

#### Workforce Shortage:

Workforce shortages further strain the healthcare system, particularly in social work and community case worker roles. Despite a slight increase in the number of social workers in recent years, there remains a significant gap between supply and demand, resulting in a 9.8% vacancy in the region (THC, 2024; JobsEQ, 2024). This shortage impacts patient care quality and exacerbates existing disparities, particularly in hospital readmission rates.

#### Hospital Readmission Rates:

Hospital readmission rates, particularly among Medicaid and Medicare patients, remain a concern, with workforce shortages and limited follow-up contributing to higher rates of readmission.

Disproportionate impacts are observed among vulnerable populations, including those of low socioeconomic status, non-English speakers, and individuals with lower health literacy (Jiang & Hensche, 2023; Linton et al., 2015; Balaban et al., 2015). In 2012 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS, cms.gov) instituted the Hospital Readmission Reduction Program (HRRP), to improve discharge planning for Medicaid and Medicare patients. Since, reimbursement for readmission for conditions like Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) are adjusted down (https://qualitynet.cms.gov/inpatient/hrrp/methodology). While HRRP resulted in reduction in readmission rates, it disproportionally affects safety-net hospitals like the University of Cincinnati Medical Center (Balaban, 2015). In response, new regulations from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) require hospitals to screen for social determinants of health (SDOH), presenting an opportunity to integrate patient navigation services into the healthcare system (CMS). The development of patient navigation programs, facilitated by AmeriCorps members, presents a



promising solution to address health disparities and improve patient outcomes.

2. AmeriCorps Members as an Effective Tool to Address the Need

Several disciplines can provide care navigation, such as nursing and social work (Fillion et al., 2012). According to Pedersen and Hack (2010), PNs work to reduce financial, language, and cultural barriers as well as help patients manage system complexities, transportation issues, and fear. PNs responsibility is to facilitate access to care, providing information and education, and providing links to resources (Pedersen & Hack, 2010). Responsibilities may include assessing patient needs, providing education, and coordinating care (Fillion et al., 2012). Pedersen and Hack (2010) conclude that PNs should be a trained individual, a skilled communicator, with a wholistic approach to care, and knowledge of the system (Pedersen and Hack, 2010). In a hospital setting, it is often the job of the social worker to plan patient discharge (Linton et al., 2015). In a 2010 article, Judd and Sheffield reported a case load of 60 patients per social worker. This puts an enormous pressure to conduct speedy discharges, resulting in a single session with the client (Linton et al., 2015).

## Students as Patient/Care Navigators:

The current application, in partnership with the Cincinnati Health Collaborative (THC), is to plan a patient navigation program utilizing University students. The idea of using students is inspired by the work of Rebecca Onie (Prina, 2013) founder of Health Leads (https://healthleadsusa.org/), a Boston based program using students to address SDOH.

The program we envision would support one or more hospital systems, and federally qualified health centers (FHQCs). College students, trained and supervised by a professional, would receive referrals form hospital systems or federally funded outpatient clinics for navigation of social and medical needs for patients from vulnerable populations. A technology solution as part of the overall programming is envisioned also. Such a solution, would require internal and external partnerships, for example:

#### External:

- \* Between Healthcare Provider(s) and University
- \* Between Healthcare Providers and technology provider
- \* Between University and technology provider

#### Internal:

\* Between different program within the university



\* Between Center for Population Health and different University Programs

Among the challenges to address is the development of a technologically integrated workflow, and adopting a referral technology solution such as software applications as Re-Assist (https://re-assistme.com/). Other challenges include establishing processes and procedures to address training, liability, information protection, data sharing, cost sharing, etc. During the planning grant, Xavier University will develop plans to identify qualified students, the training curriculum required, and with the help of THC, processes and relationships between Xavier University, the regional Healthcare providers, and Federally Qualified Health Centers. Utilizing students as patient navigators, presents a scalable and sustainable approach to address social determinants of health and improve health outcomes.

#### AmeriCorps Fit

Serving as a Community Patient Navigator within the AmeriCorps program offers students from major programs, such as Social Work, Nursing, Health Services Administration, Counseling, Psychology, Occupational Therapy, Exercise Science, and several pre-medical programs a unique opportunity to develop a diverse set of skills while making a meaningful impact in their communities.

We propose to develop a curriculum, that will include training in navigation of the healthcare system, as well as hard and soft relevant skills. Such curriculum will help AmeriCorps members learn about the complexity of the healthcare system, the mechanisms of how it operates, the technologies, such as Electronic Medical Records (EMR systems) used, and about the impact of social determinants of health on medical outcomes and quality of life. In addition, AmeriCorps members will develop knowledge of the community and government resources available to address patient needs, and such soft skills, as how to effectively advocate for individuals' needs, foster empathy, and cultural competency, enhancing their ability to connect with diverse populations.

The skills cultivated during their service will prepare members for careers in healthcare, such as nursing, social work, mental health counseling, and health services administration, but also extend beyond the realm of healthcare, empowering members with transferable abilities applicable to various career paths. From time management and teamwork to leadership and critical thinking, AmeriCorps participants can acquire a versatile skill set that enhances their employability and prepares them for



future endeavors. Moreover, the program fosters a sense of civic responsibility and community engagement, instilling a lifelong commitment to service and social responsibility in the volunteer.

Utilizing AmeriCorps members for a Community Patient Navigator program provides a sustainable solution for the program by leveraging the enthusiasm and dedication of AmeriCorps members to fill crucial roles within the healthcare system. By recruiting and training AmeriCorps members from diverse backgrounds, AmeriCorps ensures a steady pipeline of skilled individuals who are committed to supporting patients and navigating the complexities of the healthcare system. This sustainable model not only addresses staffing shortages but also fosters a sense of ownership and investment in the program among AmeriCorps members, leading to greater continuity and consistency in patient care. Additionally, AmeriCorps members often develop strong connections with the communities they serve, facilitating ongoing engagement and support long after their service term ends. Through this collaborative approach, the program can achieve lasting impact and effectiveness, ensuring that patients continue to receive the assistance they need to navigate the healthcare system with confidence and dignity. Ultimately, working as Community Patient Navigators in AmeriCorps not only transforms the lives of AmeriCorps members, but also enhances the well-being of the communities and patients they serve, creating a ripple effect of positive impact for years to come.

## **Organizational Capability**

1. Organizational Capability Narrative

Xavier University:

Founded in 1831, Xavier University is a private, coeducational institution. Xavier is the third largest independent institution in Ohio, the sixth oldest Catholic university in the nation, and one of 28 Jesuit colleges and universities nationwide. The University offers 94 undergraduate majors, 82 undergraduate minors, 47 masters' programs, three doctoral programs and 14 certificate programs. These degree programs are offered within three colleges: Arts and Sciences; Professional Sciences; and the Williams College of Business. In the 2023 Spring semester, Xavier has an enrollment of 4,561 undergraduates and 1,198 graduate students. Our student body, including graduate students, is drawn from 47 states and 2 territories, as well as 39 different countries. Xavier University transforms lives through education, community service, and research. Committed to advancing programs through academic degrees, certifications and thought leader collaboration, Xavier University seeks to meet the immediate needs of the local Tri-State community and responds to those needs by providing population-based strategies that will elevate the issues and highlight the opportunities and provide



solutions to improve outcomes.

Xavier University, is a Jesuit Catholic university. Using students as care navigators aligns perfectly with university's mission of "educating the whole person, promoting the common good, and serving others." With an enrollment of over 4,500 students from diverse backgrounds, Xavier University provides a pool of talent from various disciplines, including nursing, social work, counseling, psychology, and health services administration, essential for the success of the AmeriCorps patient navigation program.

#### Xavier Center for Population Health:

Xavier University began establishing the Center for Population in July 2018. The Center for Population Health is responsible for supporting faculty scholarship, engaging local and regional stakeholders in Population Health initiatives, obtaining grants to support Population Health initiatives, guiding student education on population health and personal wellness, and conducting conferences and continuing education events. The Center provides opportunities for partnerships with the community, public health sector, health care organizations, and business. Furthermore, it will offer a model of evidence-based practice for promoting health and disease prevention interventions and population health metrics, data registries, and reporting. It will provide organizational and fiscal scaffolding for our current and future work in this important area and will help us more effectively promote and influence the health and wellness of our community.

The Center for Population Health leads in development and implementation of training programs in population health, including a minor in population health, an internship, and an internship in healthcare policy and advocacy. The center manages dozens of students in research and implementation projects, and manages funding for multiple projects, and established community relationships with healthcare, public health, and social services entities, such as Catholic Charities/ Su Casa, Hamilton County, and Norwood Health Departments, Children's Hospital Medical Center, and TriHealth. Among the most valuable partnerships, instrumental for this project, is the partnership with the Cincinnati Health Collaborative (THC), a Healthcare Providers umbrella organization, dedicated to reducing health disparities. This relationship consists of partnership in multiple projects, intern placements, and grant applications. Xavier undergraduate and graduate programs in nursing, social work, counseling, psychology, health services administration, and occupational therapy all



require hands on clinical experiences with diverse populations, making Xavier a great fit to host an AmeriCorps program.

#### Computing Resources:

Dr. Ronis-Tobin has a dedicated computer work station running SPSS software. Another work station is dedicated to the use of research assistants.

Xavier University, with its rich academic programs and commitment to community service, is well-positioned to lead the development of a patient navigation program in partnership with The Health Collaborative (THC).

#### The Health Collaborative (THC):

THC is the region's leading healthcare organization, brings extensive experience in convening stakeholders and addressing health disparities. THC's Health Equity committee and partnerships with healthcare providers and community organizations will be instrumental in supporting the development and implementation of the patient navigation program.

The Health Collaborative (THC) is the region's only organization that convenes all the health systems and healthcare stakeholders, acting as a coalescing organization, connecting data, expertise, and the community. The Health Collaborative's mission is to unite and empower healthcare stakeholders and community partners to address critical issues that are best solved together. Collectively, we recognize that multi-sector partnership can accomplish more together than alone.

THC leads the region's community health needs assessment (CHNA), coordinating input from over 90 partners. The CHNA identifies the most pressing health needs in the region, including cardiovascular disease, behavioral health, and addressing social drivers of health. To respond to the CHNA, THC also leads the regional Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). THC brought together a diverse group of experts from healthcare systems, public health, community-based non-profits, and those with lived experience to develop an actionable roadmap of evidence-based, cross sector strategies to address the health needs identified in the CHNA.

Funded by a Federal Cooperative Agreement with the Innovation Center at CMS (CMMI), from 2017



to 2023, THC lead the Accountable Health Communities (AHC) grant for the region. AHC was community demonstration project to address Health Related Social Needs (HRSNs) for residents seeking care, including transportation, food insecurity, utilities, housing, and interpersonal violence. The program electronically connects high-risk populations seeking care at the region's emergency rooms, inpatient psych, and labor and delivery sites to local community-based organizations.

Building off the foundation of AHC, THC convenes the Health Equity leaders from each healthcare system to collectively work on the social determinants of health screening requirements outlined by Joint Commission and CMS. Together the Health Equity leaders are assessing the appropriate screening tools, screening workflows, data assessments and most importantly, key referral partners. THC is connecting with key leaders in social services and community care navigation, such as United Way, Council on Aging and our Community Health Work Hub ¿ Health Care Access Now, to come to the table with the health system to envision of regional solution to connect health care to social care.

#### Management Structure:

The planning team will consist of Xavier University Director of Center for Population Health, Dr. Victor Ronis-Tobin, and Dr. Lauren Bartoszek, THC Director of Community Health.

#### Xavier University:

Dr. Victor Ronis-Tobin, Ph.D., Co-Lead (25% effort) will have specific duties with respect to curriculum development, coordination with academic programs within Xavier, management of Information Technology project manager, and operations coordinator and coordination with The Health Collaborative. Dr. Ronis-Tobin will have primary responsibility for planning the development of the training program, operations coordinator hiring, collaborating with academic units within Xavier University, student selection, and coordination with external partners. Dr. Ronis-Tobin will attend all external meetings, including quarterly meeting with AmeriCorps. In addition, Dr. Ronis-Tobin will be responsible for preparation and submission of written reports to AmeriCorps.

#### Other Xavier Personnel:

Information Technology (IT) Project Manager (PM) (12% effort) will help planning by coordinating with external technology vendors, and hospital on the technology integration, data security, and workflow for the patient referral process. The IT project manager will assess the system needs, budget



needs and data security needs of the project.

Operations Coordinator (OC)) (.50 FTE part-time position, 100% effort) will provide administrative support to both teams, at Xavier University and The Health Collaborative. The operations coordinator will plan and coordinate meetings, gather information, and facilitate travel for the project.

#### The Health Collaborative:

Lauren Bartoszek, Ph.D., Co-Lead (7% effort) will have specific duties related to coordination with healthcare providers, such as hospital systems and federally qualified health centers. She will coordinate between Xavier University Center for Population Health and the Health Equity committee of THC, and will work with technology vendors to vet the best technology solutions for Patient Navigation. Dr. Bartoszek will attend all quarterly meetings with AmeriCorps and will contribute to written reports about the project.

#### Other THC personnel:

Deirdre Beluan, CEO (7% effort) will help bridge relationships with healthcare provider organizations, and other no-for profit organizations within the region and will use her position to facilitate this relationship. She will attend meetings with Xavier Center for Population Health, and will contribute to quarterly progress reports.

Administrative assistant (3% effort) will provide administrative support to THC teams, will coordinate with Xavier's operations coordinator, and assist with planning meetings, and facilitate travel for the project.

Information Technology (2% effort) will coordinate with Xavier's project manager, and support the project on behalf of The Health Collaborative.

#### 2. Resource Development

Xavier University is a Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accredited university since 1925. Xavier has multiple accredited programs that could contribute students to the proposed Patient Navigation program, including Social Work, Nursing, Health Services Administration, Counseling, Psychology, Occupational Therapy, Exercise Science, and several pre-medical programs.

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## **Narratives**

Xavier's Office of Grant Services staff (1.5 FTEs) manage federal, state, and private grants for the University. In FY24, Grant Services is overseeing 17 federal and state grants with expenditures over \$2,000,000. The Instructional Technology department of Xavier provides project management support. An IT project manager will support external vendor integration support. The Center for Population Health and Health Collaborative will work to secure additional funding to support an operational AmeriCorps program.

During the planning grant, Xavier will work with the robust career counseling and student employee management program to discuss how in an AmeriCorps program support will be provided to hire students as AmeriCorps members.

Xavier University is partnering with the Cincinnati Health Collaborative, a healthcare management organization (see above) which has h extensive experience managing complex healthcare collaborations, and played a pivotal role in Cincinnati's COVID-19 response. The Health Collaborative (THC) Convenes a Health Equity committee, which includes the Health Equity officers representing the healthcare providers in the region. THC is the perfect partner to support the development of such complex program.

Together, Xavier University and The Health Collaborative have the expertise, resources, and community partnerships necessary to address the complex healthcare needs of underserved populations in the greater Cincinnati region. Through collaborative efforts, the AmeriCorps patient navigation program can make a significant impact on improving health outcomes and reducing health disparities in our community.

#### Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy

See budget

**Evaluation Summary or Plan** 

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 

N/A



**Clarification Summary** 

N/A

**Continuation Changes** 

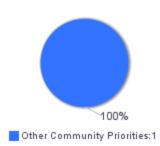
N/A

**Grant Characteristics** 

# DRAFT

#### Performance Measures

MSYs by Focus Area



MSYs by Objective



Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs
Other Community Priorities	100%

Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
Other	100%

## % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

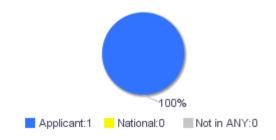


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

% MSYs	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
% IVISYS	0%	100%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
Other	1.00	1
Total	1.00	1

Primary Focus Area: Other Community Priorities

Primary Intervention: Other

Secondary Focus Area: Secondary Intervention:

# DRAFT

Performance Measure: Plan an AmeriCorps program and develop organization capacity to

Focus Other Community Objective: Other Msy's: No of Msy's: No of Msy's:

Area: Priorities

Problem Statement:

Planning an AmeriCorps program

Selected Interventions:

Capacity Building

Describe Interventions:

Capacity Building

OUTPT91858 Output:

Planning timeline is completed.

Target: 1 Other

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Planning Grant Objectives

OUTCM91859 Outcome:

Operational Grant Submission

Target: 1 Other

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Application submission



## **Program Information**

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration

Underrepresented communities, underserved people

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

Professional Corp, STEM
Program, Innovative
Community Strategies,
Geographic Focus Urban



## Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	0
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	0
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	0



## **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Other Documents	Not Applicable
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Sent

## Logic Model

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.

# Budget Narrative: Xavier University- Planning Grant for Xavier University Section I. Program Operating Costs

## A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Xavier University (XU) Director, Center for Population Health, Co-Lead: - 1 person(s) at 72000 each x 25 % usage	4,500	13,500	18,000
XU Operations Coordinator, AmeriCorp planning grant (part-time): - 1 person(s) at 18834 each x 100 % usage	18,834	0	18,834
XU, IT Project Manager: - 1 person(s) at 72791 each x 12 % usage	8,735	0	8,735
Director, Community Health, THC, Co-Lead: - 1 person(s) at 97850 each x 7 % usage	6,850	0	6,850
THE, CEO: - 1 person(s) at 225000 each x 7 % usage	15,750	0	15,750
THC, Information Technology Manager: - 1 person(s) at 150000 each x 2 % usage	0	3,000	3,000
THC, Administrative Assistant: - 1 person(s) at 50000 each x 3 % usage	0	1,500	1,500
Category Totals	54,669	18,000	72,669

## **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
XU Director, Ctr Pop Hlth, Fringe Benefits include FICA, retirement, workers' compensation, life insurance, medical, disability, unemployment, and sick leave.: Xavier University standard estimated rate for full-time position is 30%.	1,350	4,050	5,400
XU Operations Coordinator, Fringe Benefits Include FICA, workers' compensation, life insurance, disability, unemployment: Xavier University Average fringe rate for type of part-time position is 17%.	3,202	0	3,202
XU IT Project Manager; Fringe includes: FICA, retirement, workers' compensation, life insurance, medical, disability, unemployment, and sick leave.: Xavier University standard fringe rate for full-time position is 30%.	2,620	0	2,620
THC, CEO; Fringe includes payroll taxes (8%), insurance (7%), and retirement contributions (5%).: The Health Collaborative standard fringe rate is 20%.	3,150	0	3,150
THC Director, Community Health; Fringe includes payroll taxes (8%), insurance (7%), and retirement contributions (5%).: THC standard rate is 20%.	1,370	0	1,370
THC Administrative Assistant, Fringe includes payroll taxes (8%), insurance (7%), and retirement contributions (5%).: THC standard rate is 20%.	0	300	300
THC, IT Manager; Fringe includes payroll taxes (8%), insurance (7%), and retirement contributions (5%).: THC standard fringe rate is 20%.	0	600	600
Category Totals	11,692	4,950	16,642

## C. Travel

## **Staff Travel**

Purpose - Calculation CNCS Share Grantee Share Total Amount	Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share		Total Amount
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Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings: 10/10/24 AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary event, Columbus, Ohio. Mileage (220 miles * .655/mile)	144	0	144
Travel to CNCS Sponsored Event: October Planning Meeting, Columbus, Ohio Mileage (220 miles * .655/mile)	144	0	144
Travel for CNCS Sponsored Event: January/February Program Director Training \$175 Hotel (\$175*1 night) + \$144 mileage (220 miles*.655) + \$50 food*1 day =\$369*2 project directors	738	0	738
Travel to CNCS Sponsored Event: Spring ServeOhio Conference on Service, Columbus, Ohio Mileage (220 miles * .655/mile)	144	0	144
Travel to CNCS Sponsored Event: National Service Regional Conference (Chicago, IL) \$500 Hotel (\$250*2 nights) + \$393 mileage (600 miles*.655) + \$50 food*2 day = \$993*2 project directors	1,986	0	1,986
Category Totals	3,156	0	3,156

## **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **G.** Training

## **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	69,517	22,950	92,467
PERCENTAGE	75.18%	24.82%	

## **Section II. Member Costs**

## A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members:	0	0	0
Worker's Compensation:	0	0	0
Health Care:	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

Section Totals	0	0	0
PERCENTAGE	0.00%	0.00%	

## Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

## A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Commission Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Predetermined: Total Direct Costs: Includes direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel and up to the first \$25,000 of each subaward (regardless of the period of performance of the subawards under the award).with a rate of 36 and a rate claimed of 36	3,657	17,925	21,582
Category Totals	3,657	17,925	21,582
Section Totals	3,657	17,925	21,582
PERCENTAGE	16.94%	83.06%	

Budget Totals	73,174	40,875	114,049
PERCENTAGE	64.16%	35.84%	
Required Match		0.00%	

## **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source
Source of Funds	Xavier University and Health Collaborative	22,950	In Kind	Private
Total Source of Funds		22,950		



APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE  Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to confirm to the Corporation's eGrants System)		TYPE OF SUBMISSION:     Application X Non-Construction			
,			m)	··· —	
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY	3. DATE RECE	IVED BY STATE:		STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:
SERVICE (CNCS):	03-APR-24	03-APR-24		N/A	
2b. A PPLICATION ID:	4. DATE RECE	IVED BY FEDERAL AGE	ENCY:	FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:	
24AC265567					
5. A PPLICATION INFORMATION				I	
LEGAL NAME: Akron Metropolitan Housing A	uthority		NAME AND CON	TACT INFORMATION FO	OR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER
UEI NUMBER: WLNSVKHJF4M8	·		PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes):  NAME: Kellie I. Morehouse		
ADDRESS (give street address, city, state, zip	code and county	·):			
100 West Cedar Street Akron OH 44307 - 2569				MBER: (330) 212-591;	
County: Summit			FAX NUMBER:	ADDRESS kmoreho	ouse@akronhousing.org
			INTERNETE-IVAIL	L ADDRESS: KINDLENC	use@antofficusifig.org
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 346000029			7. TYPE OF APPL 7a. Other	LICANT:	
			7b.		
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check appropriate	box).				
X NEW NEW/PR	REVIOUS GRANTE	Ε			
CONTINUATION AMENDI	MENT				
If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in bo	x(es):				
A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVIS	SION				
C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (specify	below):				
			9. NAME OF FED	ERAL AGENCY:	
					and Community Service
					,
10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSI	STANCE NUMBER	R: 94.006	11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT:		
10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State			AMHA Healthy Tomorrow's AmeriCorps Program		
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (List Citie	s, Counties, State	es, etc):	11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):		
Summit County, OH					
Cities of:					
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DATE: 09	/01/24 FND	DATE: 08/31/25	14 CONGRESSIO	NIA I DISTRICT OF:	a.Applicant OH 13 b.Program OH 13
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: 1	ionzi Lind	DATE. 00/01/20	14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF: a.Applicant OH 13 b.Program OH 13  16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE		
13. ESTIMATED FONDING. FEAT #. 1			ORDER 12372 PR		W BY STATE EXECUTIVE
a. FEDERAL	\$ 150,960.00	0	│ │ │ YES THIS PI	REAPPLICATION/APPLIC	CATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE
b. APPLICANT	\$ 58,040.00	)	TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON:		
c. STATE	\$ 0.00	)	DATE:		
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00	)	X NO. PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372		3Y E.O. 12372
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00	)			
f. PROGRAM INCOME \$ 0.00			CANT DELINQUENT ON		
g. TOTAL \$ 209,000.00			ES if "Yes," attach an	explanation.   NO	
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND B DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BOD IS AWARDED.					The state of the s
a. TY PED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENT	ATIVE:	b. TITLE:			c. TELEPHONE NUMBER:
Kellie I. Morehouse					(330) 212-5913
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTA	\ T\\ / E.	•			e. DATE SIGNED:
G. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTA	7 IIV <b>∟.</b>				04/03/24



#### **Executive Summary**

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority will have eight AmeriCorps members who will assess needs of residents and provide referrals to community resources; conduct health literacy workshops with older residents and those with disabilities; implement CATCH programming (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) to help children improve nutrition and increase physical activity in low income public housing locations in Summit County, OH. At the end of the first program year, the AmeriCorps members will be responsible for an increase in residents' motivation to adopt good health practices. In addition, the AmeriCorps members will leverage 20 volunteers who will be engaged in one-time service projects to be determined by AmeriCorps members.

The AmeriCorps investment will be matched with \$58,040, \$58,040 in public funding and \$0 in private funding.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

The proposed communities to receive services are low-income public housing properties throughout Summit County. Residents living in low-income neighborhoods or communities have an increased risk for mental illness, chronic disease, higher mortality and lower life expectancy. Some population groups living in poverty may have more adverse health outcomes than others. For example, the risk for chronic conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes and obesity, is higher among those with the lowest income and education levels. In addition, older adults who are poor experience higher rates of disability and mortality.

In 2020, Summit County Council, the City of Akron, and Akron Public Schools formally declared racism as a public health crisis. According to the 2022 Summit County Public Health Community Health Assessment (CHA), Black individuals are 3.8 times more likely to have an infant die in the first year after birth than White individuals; 2.9 times more likely to be living in poverty than White individuals; 2.2 times more likely to die of diabetes than White individuals. Per the CHA, more than 75% of Summit County residents identify as White and 14% of the population identify as Black. Of the 22,975 residents receiving housing subsidies through AMHA, 66% identify as Black. In 2023, 388 AMHA families completed a community needs assessment and 73% indicated they have one or more health related needs. The top five primary underlying causes of death in Summit County (not counting COVID-19) from 2016-2021 were heart disease, cancer, chronic lower respiratory disease,



accidental deaths and stroke. Age-adjusted death rates for Black individuals are sharply higher than for White individuals on the two most common causes of death, heart disease and cancer. The rate of heart disease deaths for Black individuals over the last two years was 267.1 per 100,000 people, while the rate for White individuals was 183.2 per 100,000. For cancer deaths, the rates per 100,000 were 207.9 for Black individuals and 165.4 for White individuals.

This need is highlighted by the CDC Social Vulnerability Index. Summit County has a medium to high level of social vulnerability and a high level of racial and ethnic minority vulnerability.

The proposed program design trains AmeriCorps members to become community health coaches, trusted members in their community and a liaison/link to the healthcare systems. Summit County is resource rich, but our residents may have difficulty accessing the resource or mistrust the health system due to historical trauma and inequities. The proposed program will actively recruit residents of AMHA for service as AmeriCorps members. Not only will this provide opportunity for future self-sufficiency, but will be an asset to the program. Members with lived experience and familiarity with the community in which they serve positions them to become trusted by those they will serve. Community health worker training and certification will provide a workforce pathway for future employment for the member.

Members will also be trained in the implementation of CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health), and engage children kindergarten through fifth grade in physical activity and nutrition education. Members will introduce children to healthy habits that can become a way of life and prevent future obesity and chronic disease.

#### **Organizational Capability**

The proposed AMHA Healthy Tomorrows AmeriCorps program will be under the Special Initiatives umbrella within the Resident Services Department of AMHA. The Special Initiatives Manager oversees health initiatives, education initiatives, and digital equity initiatives. The Health Initiatives Coordinator will have the primary role of implementation, oversight, and monitoring of the program. The administrative analyst for data/evaluation will support the program's data collection, analysis and reporting.

AMHA Resident Services has facilitated educational and workforce development programs through



their Early Childhood Initiative, Jobs Plus program, Family Self Sufficiency program, and Service Coordination programs. AMHA's mission statement is "The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority provides quality, affordable housing and services as a platform to develop people, property, and community." The People vision statement is "We envision a community where all have access to health, education and employment opportunities to position themselves out of poverty, and the Community vision statement is "We envision a community where minority and low-income families are treated equitably in their access to housing and services." AMHA has a strategic plan which includes the priority area of health and states "AMHA will provide programming to improve resident health and wellness initiatives, including infant vitality, maternal health, childhood asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease." The action items include programming that promotes infant vitality and maternal health, chronic disease prevention and management, and ensuring seniors and those with disabilities have access to the community resources needed for independent living.

The AmeriCorps members will have access to the Health Initiatives Coordinator (their direct supervisor) for any guidance and support needed throughout the day. There will be a more structured one-on-one coaching session at least monthly and will be an opportunity to review and be provided feedback on performance, review action steps and goals, explore development areas. Members will receive training in implementation of the CATCH program (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) by the Akron Area YMCA. Members will receive community health worker training that will meet the criteria for a certification through the Ohio Board of Nursing. The AmeriCorps supervisor has received training throughout the planning grant phase and will continue to receive in person and virtual training throughout this proposed project.

#### AMHA Diversity Statement:

"Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority is passionate about our commitment to an inclusive workplace that values and promotes diversity. We know that vigilance is required to further staff education, and to continue developing socially conscious hiring and promotion practices, with the ultimate goal of having a workforce that more closely reflects the community we serve. There is strength in our differences, and these differences are crucial to fostering growth in both our organization and our community."

#### **Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy**

The proposed program will prioritize recruitment of AMHA residents via sharing the opportunity via

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## **Narratives**

the resident newsletter, email, phone call/text message, as well as internal staff sharing the opportunity with participants in their programs (such as the family self sufficiency, service coordination, and early childhood initiative programs). Additional outreach strategies will include: sharing the opportunity with area college, community agencies, and on our social media platforms. These outreach strategies do not require budget expenses as they are already accessible through AMHA Resident Services department.

The budget entails member living allowances that are above the minimum. Members will have access to training opportunities and will have the requirements met to become a Certified Community Health Worker through the Ohio Board of Nursing. Members will have opportunity to network with AMHA staff, community partners and agencies within the county. Members will have access to services such as resume building and interviewing preparation as well.

Data collection will not require additional budget expenditures, as structures are already in place for tracking attendance, referrals and their outcomes. The Family Nutrition & Physical Activity Screening tool does not have an associated cost.

The largest budget item is the members' living allowance, a CNCS cost, followed by the staff salary/fringe, a grantee share cost.

**Evaluation Summary or Plan** 

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 

N/A

**Clarification Summary** 

N/A

**Continuation Changes** 

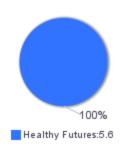
N/A

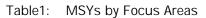
**Grant Characteristics** 

# DRAFT

#### Performance Measures

MSYs by Focus Area





Focus Area	% MSYs
Healthy Futures	100%

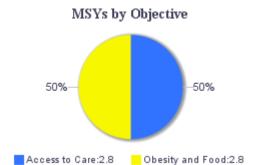


Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
Access to Care	50%
Obesity and Food	50%

## % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

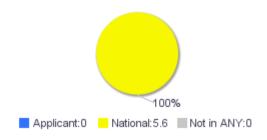


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

0/ 1/2//0	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY	
% MSYs	100%	0%	0%	

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
Access to Care	2.80	4
Obesity and Food	2.80	4
Total	5.60	8

Primary Focus Area: Healthy Futures
Primary Intervention: Education/Training
Secondary Focus Area: Healthy Futures
Secondary Intervention: Education/Training



Performance Measure: AMHA Healthy Tomorrows AmeriCorps program- CATCH (Coordinated

Focus Healthy Futures Objective: Obesity and Food No of 2.80 No of 4 MSY's: No of 4 Members:

Problem Statement:

Children living in poverty often experience health disparities which have short and long-term impacts on their overall health and well-being. CATCH focuses on improving health in under-resourced communities to address health equity where the disparities are greatest.

Selected Interventions:

Education/Training

**Physical Activities** 

Describe Interventions:

AmeriCorps Members will:

Conduct 20 CATCH sessions, one time per week, at three family properties and two times per week at three family properties. Each session will be 1.5 hours and include one half hour of nutrition education and one hour of physical activity.

H4A Output:

H4A: Number of individuals served

Target: 40 Individuals

Measured By: Tracking System

Described Instrument: Daily attendance sheets - tracked in Smartsheets and entered in Efforts to

Outcomes case management software

H18 Outcome:

H18: Number of individuals reporting a change in behavior or intent to change behavior

Target: 40 Individuals

Measured By: Survey

Described Instrument: Family Nutrition & Physical Activity Screening pre- and post- assessment

tracked in SmartSheets.



Performance Measure: AMHA Healthy Tomorrows AmeriCorps program- Community Health

Focus Healthy Futures Objective: Access to Care No of 2.80 No of 4 Area: MSY's: No of 4 Members:

#### **Problem Statement:**

Summit County is a resource rich county, however due to factors such as mistrust, many minorities do not access the health care services, such as screenings, that are available. Trusted individuals in their community (AmeriCorps members trained as community health coaches) can bridge that gap by providing education, referrals and linkages, and removal of barriers.

#### Selected Interventions:

Education/Training

Referrals

#### Describe Interventions:

- 1. Coordinate or facilitate four health literacy sessions or workshops at 14 elderly /disabled buildings. Topics to be determined by resident need and interest, and will include digital literacy/telehealth.
- 2. Provide referrals for resources
- 3. Assess community needs and make connections to alleviate needs.

H4A Output:

H4A: Number of individuals served

Target: 80 Individuals

Measured By: Tracking System

Described Instrument: Attendance sheets at health literacy workshops, tracking in Efforts to Outcomes

case management software system

H20 Outcome:

H20: Number of individuals with improved access to medical care

Target: 50 Individuals

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Number of referrals entered into Efforts to Outcomes case management system,

and service/referral outcome



## **Program Information**

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration

Underrepresented communities, underserved people, Workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

Geographic Focus Urban



## Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	0
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	20
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	0



## **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Not Applicable
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Other Documents	Not Applicable

## Logic Model

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.
Health and wellness related needs were a common theme in 2023. In Quarter four of 2023, 388 Public Housing families completed a community needs assessment on which, 73% of families indicated they have one or more health related needs. These needs included substance abuse services, physical health concerns, mental health concerns, a disability, dental care, health care and screening services. This indicates a high need for health and	Funding  8 three-quarter members (.7) AmeriCorps Members serve as community health coaches 9/1/2024- 8/1/2025  Teams of two members. Each team would be assigned buildings in the same general geographic location and serve residents living in about 900 units (total of 3,553 units served).  Program staff: Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority	AmeriCorps Members will: 1. Conduct 20 CATCH sessions, one time per week during the school year and two times per week during the summer. Each session will be 1.5 hours and include one half hour of nutrition and one hour of physical activity. CATCH will be implemented at six public housing family developments, three during the school year and three during the summer. 2. Coordinate or facilitate four health literacy sessions or	20 weekly sessions of CATCH with one half hour of nutrition and 1 hour of physical activity at: Joy Park Homes (Oct-April) Summit Lake Apartments (Oct-April) Pinewood Gardens (Oct-April) 20 bi-weekly sessions of CATCH with one half hour of nutrition and 1 hour of physical activity at: Valley View Apartments (June-August) Van Buren Homes (June-August) Honey Locust	Increase in residents' motivation to adopt good health practices  Increase in residents' ability to search for and use health information  Members complete CHW training and field experience, gaining valuable employment skills  H18 (outcome) Number of individuals reporting a change in behavior or intent to change behavior to improve their health as	Eight members obtain CHW certification through the Ohio Board of Nursing  Increased physical activity of youth in our developments (as evidenced by attendance and participation in CATCH programming)	Reduced health disparities  Improved health and wellness status and quality of life for AMHA residents  Members utilize new skills and certification to obtain meaningful employment and gain self-sufficiency

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
wellness related services in our developments. Health and Wellness concerns were also reported on our strengths and needs assessments, completed by four of the resident services programs. In 2023, 171 residents had physical health concerns and 148 residents had mental health concerns included on their strengths and needs assessment. This need is highlighted by the CDC Social Vulnerability I ndex. Summit County has a medium to high level of social vulnerability and a high level of racial and ethnic minority vulnerability. We recognize that our residents live in poverty putting them at a higher level of vulnerability to start. This vulnerability to start. This vulnerability leads to more risk factors when looking at our	Health Initiatives Coordinator will provide grant management, reporting, training, and supervision.  Akron Area YMCA Thrive Program staff will provide training for CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) and on-site mentoring/ experiential learning.  Community Health Worker certification training through Health I mpact Ohio (virtual 3 days per week for 2 hours x 12 weeks) plus 130 hours of field experience/service.  Member orientation, trainings (CATCH and Community Health Worker), supplies  AMHA Community Room Space at family developments and senior/disabled properties.	workshops at 14 elderly /disabled buildings. Topics to be determined by resident need and interest, and will include digital literacy/telehealth. 3. Provide referrals for resources 4. Assess community needs and make connections to alleviate needs.  AmeriCorps members administer pre and post surveys, take daily program attendance, and track referrals made.  Target population: Residents of Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority	Gardens (June-August)  Total of 60 hours of CATCH curriculum at 6 different sites totaling 360 hours Provide 4 individual and/or small group health literacy workshop sessions (60 minutes) at each elderly/ disabled property (14), for a minimum total of 56 sessions. Provide residents with referrals/access to community resources (minimum of 50 referrals) Assess community needs as needed (example, connecting with a community partner to address an area of need and inviting them to an event) H4A (output) Number of individuals served 40 unduplicated children served through onsite CATCH programming 80 unduplicated	measured by the Family Nutrition & Physical Activity Screening. Individuals reported in H4A will show an improvement in self-ratings from pre- to post-test on FNPA Screening.  H20: Number of individuals with improved access to medical care. Number of referrals and service/referral status.		
residents social	Evaluation Tools:		adults served			

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
determinants of health, which are conditions in the environments people live and experience that impact their health.	1. Family Nutrition & Physical Activity Screening Tool (preand post-) completed by parents 2. Attendance Tracking for activities on-site at properties 3. Track number of referrals community health coaches make SmartSheets and Efforts To Outcomes case management software will be utilized.		through health workshops or events 50 unduplicated adults or children received referral to community resource or activity			

# **Budget Narrative: AMHA Healthy Tomorrows AmeriCorps Program for Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority**

## **Section I. Program Operating Costs**

### A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Health Initiatives Coordinator: - 1 person(s) at 53976 each x 50 % usage	0	26,988	26,988
Category Totals	0	26,988	26,988

## **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Health Initiatives Coordinator: PERS PU 10%= 5,397.6 PERS 14%= 7,556,64 Workers comp 1.5%= 809.64 Medicare 1.45%= 782.65 Hospitalization = 33,465.84 total 48012 x .5 time= 24,006	0	24,006	24,006
Category Totals	0	24,006	24,006

#### C. Travel

#### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings: July 2024 3-day training \$743 mileage 166 (.67 per mile x 248 miles), meals \$160, hotel \$139 for 3 days) October 2023 fall meeting \$182.00 (mileage 166/lunch \$16) January 2025 winter training \$182.00 mileage 166/lunch \$16	1,107	0	1,107
ServeOhio Conference: mileage and reimbursement for one-day conference; .67 per mile x 124 miles each way = \$166.16	166	0	166
2025 National Service Training Conference: 3 days and 2 nights, used Washington DC as estimate, \$224 meals; flight 393.20; Hilton \$258 night; taxi \$100; airport parking \$80	1,471	0	1,471
Category Totals	2,744	0	2,744

#### **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: mileage .67 per mile X 124 miles each way= \$166.16	166	0	166
LeaderCorps Initiative: Two members participating with a budget of up to \$500 per member	1,000	0	1,000
Two-day Service Speaks civic-reflection training: two members, mileage 166.16 and overnight accommodations \$139 x 2 rooms and meals \$192 total (\$48/day per member)	636	0	636
Statewide all-member AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary training event: all members attend; mileage 166.16 x 3 vehicles= 498.48, \$16 meal reimbursement x 8 members =128	626	0	626

local travel between properties: Average travel of 10 miles per day x 2 days per week x 42 weeks x .67/mile = 562.8 per member x 8 members	4,502	0	4,502
Category Totals	6,930	0	6,930

### D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

### E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
AmeriCorps gear: \$150 per member for gear with the new AmeriCorps logo	800	400	1,200
Consumable supplies and materials: \$40 per CATCH session (40 sessions)	0	1,600	1,600
Technology: \$300 per laptop x 8 laptops so each member will have one	0	2,400	2,400
Category Totals	800	4,400	5,200

### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## G. Training

### **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Registration 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: \$200 for one staff member to attend- Daily Rate of 200	200	0	200
Registration 2025 National Service Conference: \$400 for one staff member to attend- Daily Rate of 400	400	0	400
Category Totals	600	0	600

### **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Registration 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: \$200 each for two members to attend- Daily Rate of 200	400	0	400
CATCH training: \$1500 for CATCH training from the Akron Area YMCA plus \$1500 for on site support and mentoring- Daily Rate of 300	3,000	0	3,000
Category Totals	3,400	0	3,400

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

### I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Criminal History Background Checks for all members and employees: NSOPW, state check, and FBI check for all covered positions \$56/person x 16-8 members and 3 staff	616	0	616
OnCorps: required online reporting system access \$18/member x 8 members	144	0	144
Office space: Office space - AMHA's rate of \$15.00 per square foot and multiplying that by the square footage of office space used, and dividing by the cost per hour used, and then applying the 50% of health initiative coordinator's time for grant usage.	0	1,238	1,238
ADP payroll fees: \$16/month per member x 8 members x 11 months	0	1,408	1,408
Member Assistance Program (MAP): \$10/ memer x 8 members	80	0	80
Category Totals	840	2,646	3,486
Section Totals	15,314	58,040	73,354
PERCENTAGE	20.88%	79.12%	

#### **Section II. Member Costs**

### A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): 8 Member(s) at a rate of 15000 each Members W/O allowance 0	120,000	0	120,000
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	120,000	0	120,000

### **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members: 7.65% of total amount of living allowance (120,000)	9,180	0	9,180
Worker's Compensation: 1.45% of total living allowance (120,000)	1,740	0	1,740
Health Care:	0	0	0
Category Totals	10,920	0	10,920
Section Totals	130,920	0	130,920
PERCENTAGE	100.00%	0.00%	

#### Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

### A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount: used ServeOhio Admin Costs Calculator ([Section I] 58,040 + [Section II] 0 x 0.0562) x (0.60)= program share \$4,615 is max that can be requested	1,649	0	1,649
Commission Fixed Amount: 3076.76 utilizing ServeOhio Admin Costs Calculator Tool ([Section I] 15,314 + [Section II] 130,920 x 0.0562) x (0.40)= 3076.76 commission share	3,077	0	3,077
Category Totals	4,726	0	4,726

## **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	4,726	0	4,726
PERCENTAGE	100.00%	0.00%	

Budget Totals	150,960	58,040	209,000
PERCENTAGE	72.23%	27.77%	
Required Match		0.00%	
Total MSYs	5.60		
Cost/MSY	26,957.14		

### **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source
Source of Funds	Salary and fringe for Health Initiatives Coordinator, supplies and other program operating costs will be paid	58,040	Cash	Other

	by Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority. Funds are proposed as we plan to apply for additional funding.		
Total Source of Funds		58,040	



APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE			1. TYPE OF SUBMISS	ION:	
Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/	Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to confirm to the Corporation's eGrants System)		Application X Non-Construction		
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):	ON 3. DATE RECEI	3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE: 27-FEB-24		STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:
2b. APPLICATION ID: 24AC263554	4. DATE RECEI	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY:		FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:	
5. A PPLICATION INFORMATION				I	
LEGAL NAME: ArtistYear UEI NUMBER: UY35S5FFBN74		NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes):  NAME: Julia E. Durkin			
ADDRESS (give street address, city, s 4431 Main St NO 41041 Philadelphia PA 19127 - 9998 County: Philadelphia	tate, zip code and county	):	TELEPHONE NUMBER: (610) 547-3993  FAX NUMBER:  INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: julia.durkin@artistyear.org		
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBE 811281053	R (EIN):		7. TYPE OF APPL 7a. Non-Profit 7b. Service/Civid		
X NEW NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTEE  CONTINUATION AMENDMENT  If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es):  A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION  C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (specify below):			9. NAME OF FED Corporati		and Community Service
<ul><li>10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMEST</li><li>10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State</li><li>12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (I Cleveland metro area.</li></ul>			11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: ArtistYear OH  11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):		
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DA	ATE: 00/01/24 END	DATE: 06/30/25	14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF: a.Applicant PA 03 b.Program PA 03		
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #:	_	DATE: 00/30/23			
a. FEDERAL	\$ 350,000.00	)	16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?		CATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE
b. APPLICANT	\$ 155,024.00	)	_	STATE EXECUTIVE OR	RDER 12372 PROCESS FOR
c. STATE	\$ 0.00		DATE:		
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00		X NO. PROGR	AM IS NOT COVERED E	BY E.O. 12372
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00				
f. PROGRAM INCOME	\$ 0.00			CANT DELINQUENT ON ES if "Yes," attach an	_
g. TOTAL \$ 505,024.00  18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICA			PREAPPLICATION A	ARE TRUE AND CORRE	ECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: b. TITLE:  Julia E. Durkin					c. TELEPHONE NUMBER: (610) 547-3993
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPE	RESENTATIVE:				e. DATE SIGNED: 02/27/24



#### **Executive Summary**

ArtistYear will have 20 AmeriCorps members who will serve in K-12 schools to expand schools' capacity to offer creative, artistic learning experiences in the Cleveland metro area. At the end of the first program year, AmeriCorps members will be responsible for providing 24,000 hours of arts instruction to approximately 4,000 students. In addition, the AmeriCorps members will leverage approximately 10 volunteers who support members in engaging their communities in the arts.

The AmeriCorps investment of \$350,000 will be matched with \$155,024; \$100,000 in public funding, and \$55,024 in private funding

### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

1-COMMUNITY + LOGIC MODEL - In recent years, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, school budget cuts and economic challenges have caused arts education to decline, and, in some cases, be eliminated entirely from public schools, which has disproportionately impacted highneed communities (American Academy of the Arts & Sciences, 2021). Economically disadvantaged students are far less likely to access quality arts instruction as compared to their more affluent peers. ArtistYear believes that arts education with its many benefits is a fundamental right for every child, regardless of economic status. The need within ArtistYear's partner school district is significant (see data cited in logic model), and all schools ArtistYear partners with are Title I eligible. While economically diverse, Cleveland's population falls in the top quartile of the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index. Without ArtistYear's intervention, many students within our partner district would have limited or no arts education.

2-EVIDENCE BASE - PRELIMINARY EVIDENCE - ArtistYear's evidence base to-date is based on implementation of our program within the School District of Philadelphia, as ArtistYear was founded in Philadelphia and has operated within the community for seven years, generating a wealth of data for analysis. Thus, ArtistYear utilizes data from our Philadelphia implementation to ground our evidence base. The intervention received by these partner schools is the same as the intervention outlined in this proposal: Highly qualified artists were placed as full-time ArtistYear AmeriCorps members in a Title I partner school to use art as a vehicle for positive student and school outcomes. Members delivered arts education via a variety of modalities, including in-classroom instruction, pull-out instruction, and arts clubs during and after school. The type of instruction is based on needs



identified by partner school leaders and teachers and tailored to the student community. Like the schools and students that would be served in Ohio, these partner schools were eligible for Title I funding, served low-income students, and had limited access to arts education. On average, students participating in member-driven arts instruction received two hours of arts instruction on a weekly basis.

Our year-over-year analysis in Philadelphia utilized 2017-18 to 2018-19 School Progress Reports (SPRs) for 29 Title I School District of Philadelphia (SDP) partner schools served by ArtistYear. In Philadelphia, SPRs are released annually and score schools on a variety of performance indicators, including Progress (measuring growth on standardized assessments and for progress towards graduation) and Climate (measuring student engagement and school climate with a focus on attendance, student retention, and disciplinary infractions). Our analysis found that ArtistYear schools are showing growth in areas consistent with our logic model and existing evidence: On average, our partner schools improved 5.1 points in the Climate domain from 2017-2019 and 6.8 points in the Progress domain year-over-year. This growth was widespread as 72% of our partner schools showed increases in the Climate domain and 55% showed increases in the Progress domain. We benchmarked these changes to all other SDP schools. Year over year, SDP schools show growth in the climate domain similar to ArtistYear partner schools with an increase of 5.1 points compared to 5.5 points in our partner schools. ArtistYear partner schools showed increases in the Progress domain to a much larger extent than SDP schools with an increase of 6.8 points compared to a decrease of 1.9 points in all SDP schools. However, these differences conceal meaningful changes in the number of schools showing growth in both domains. Whereas 72.4% of our partner schools saw increases in the Climate domain, only 67.3% of SDP schools show growth. There was a similar pattern in the Progress domain as 55.1% of ArtistYear partner schools saw increases compared to 48.9% of SDP schools. This analysis is consistent with our internally-conducted progress monitoring, which found an average of greater than 2% increase in daily attendance rates for 30% of in-program elementary school students, 33% of in-program middle schoolers, and 41% in-program of high schoolers when compared to the year prior. It is also consistent with findings from our 2018-19 school partner surveys, where 95% of ArtistYear Philadelphia school leaders reported that they believed our programming led to significant impacts on student school engagement and school attachment. We consider this to be promising preliminary evidence worth additional evaluation.

ArtistYear's theory of change is reinforced by a 2019 study by Daniel H. Bowen and Brian Kisida, "Investigating Causal Effect of Arts Education Experiences: Experimental Evidence From Houston's



Arts Access Initiative," (Houston Education Research Consortium 7, no. 4 (2019), as well as a similar study conducted in Boston (Bowen & Kisida, 2021). Both studies provide strong causal evidence to suggest that substantial increases in arts learning opportunities produce significant positive impacts on students' social, emotional and academic outcomes. In the Houston study the researchers conducted a randomized controlled trial with 10,548 students in third through eighth grade who were enrolled across 42 schools in the Houston Independent school district. 86% of students attending these schools were eligible for free or reduced lunch. Participating schools were assigned by lottery to receive substantial influxes of arts education experiences provided through school-community partnerships with local arts organizations, cultural institutions and teaching-artists. Study findings provide strong evidence that arts educational experiences can produce significant positive impacts on student academic and social success, including: a 3.6% point reduction in students receiving disciplinary infractions; increases in ELA achievement; increases in student social-emotional learning; positive impact on school engagement; and positive impacts on college aspiration for elementary students and ELLs. The Boston study, which also provided increased arts access, demonstrated the same results in the areas of student attendance and academic achievement. ArtistYear's proposed intervention is the same in that ArtistYear provides arts resources for schools with limited or no arts offerings to a similar student population, which is primarily low-income. Arts resources provided both in the cited studies and by ArtistYear include: arts specialists (in ArtistYear's case, AmeriCorps members known as Resident Teaching Artists), out-of-school-time arts programs, and arts experiences (such as performances, showcases, field trips, etc. facilitated by arts partnerships). Resources are provided across all artistic disciplines. ArtistYear will also utilize the same data sources to measure outcomes as in the Houston and Boston studies: school attendance and enrollment records, academic achievement scores from state standardized tests, and disciplinary records.

3-NOTICE PRIORITY - ArtistYear's program aligns with the funding priority of leading service in communities with concentrated poverty. Our organization serves historically underrepresented and underserved individuals, including, but not limited to, communities of color, immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities, people who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community, people with arrest and/or conviction records, and religious minorities. Within our proposed partner schools in Ohio, 43% of students live in poverty, and 86% of students are non-white, including ELL students, and all students are eligible for free-and-reduced-price lunch. We exclusively serve students in Title 1 schools where arts education opportunities are limited or unavailable due to school resource constraints.



4-MEMBER EXPERIENCE -- ArtistYear's member experience is grounded in the scope and sequence of our national professional development program, which equips members with leadership skills that will inform members' time in the classroom during their year of service and ready members for postservice careers. ArtistYear recruits highly skilled artists across all disciplines, holding a degree in their field or having comparable combination of education and artistic experience. ArtistYear members begin their service year with a 2-week National Orientation and Training Institute (OTI), focused on laying the groundwork for their year of service and professional growth, followed by a 2 week Local OTI focused on building community, gaining context about their service location, and integrating into their local community via engagement with community partners to provide critical local context and expertise. All training is grounded in ArtistYear's commitment to equity and anti-racism, Trauma Informed Practices, and culturally responsive teaching, designed to ensure that members enter their service sites with curiosity to capitalize on the existing strengths and resources of each site. Members serve 40-hours a week under the mentorship of a Site Supervisor (an existing faculty member at their service site); they receive professional development and additional support within their local and national cohort. ArtistYear then employs a continuum of service to guide members' engagement and work at their placement site. Use of the continuum allows members to identify and move from operating with significant guidance and oversight to autonomy and independence as they grow and develop their professional skills and competence over the course of the service year. Exposure to and experience with critical 21st-century artist skills, including: non-profit strategy, leadership, problem solving and communication skills, and intensive experience in community arts education - are all key professional skills with which ArtistYear equips members to prepare them for post-service employment. ArtistYear employs a robust professional development program, which offers members instruction supporting their year of service in the classroom, as well as professional skills instruction to benefit them beyond their service year. Instructional topics range from relationship building and creating inclusive spaces to group facilitation, to resume and portfolio building. ArtistYear calls upon experts in the field to support member learning on topics such as equity and inclusion, teaching artistry, and job seeking. ArtistYear also provides opportunities for members to participate in Committees based on their personal and professional interests aimed at supporting leadership skill development and sector-specific content knowledge. At the close of the most recent service year, 100% of members agreed or strongly agreed that their year of service impacted their professional goals, and 91% had secured employment by the close of their service year. In addition to



the professional learning opportunities provided by ArtistYear to equip members with the skills needed for professional employment, ArtistYear facilitated external partner relationships and connections for members. Such networking and relationship building opportunities were then leveraged for employment.

#### **Organizational Capability**

1-ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND AND STAFFING - Born out of the traditions of service, dedication to artistic expression, and respect, obligation, and empathy towards our citizenry, ArtistYear is the first national service organization funded by VolunteerNC, Serve Colorado, PennSERVE, and AmeriCorps, the Agency for artists to dedicate a year of service to our nation. ArtistYear's leadership and staff all bring a depth of experience with AmeriCorps, artistry, and education to bear in effectively managing members and facilitating an effective program. ArtistYear's CEO leads organizational strategy, with a focus on evaluation and program efficacy, and provides oversight of all departments. Having previously served as an ArtistYear Program Manager and National Program Director, the CEO brings their experience managing members, designing programs, and ensuring strong compliance to the role. The Chief Financial Officer and Director of Human Resources manages grant and member protocols and policies, including the NSCHC process. The CFO has significant career experience in compliance and manages AmeriCorps financials and compliance across four state commissions. ArtistYear will hire an Ohio-based Program Manager to provide mentorship, professional development, and day-to-day supervision for members. ArtistYear's Recruitment and Alumni Engagement Coordinator facilitates members' entry into their service year and previously served as an ArtistYear AmeriCorps member. Additionally, ArtistYear requires staff members to complete all AmeriCorps compliance certifications, including NSCHC. All staff's experience with AmeriCorps programs allows them to effectively navigate service challenges, ensure strong member retention, and effectively coach members to increased effectiveness within their role. ArtistYear facilitates and participates in educational and workforce development programs for staff on an ongoing basis to ensure that all staff are equipped to support a diverse cohort of members, appropriately address partner needs, and develop their professional skills.

In executing our mission of democratizing access to creative learning, ArtistYear consistently utilizes feedback to implement continuous improvement in executing our program, including the ways in which we recruit members, serve our community partners, and enhance our efficacy and program experience for members. ArtistYear has significantly reduced barriers to our member recruitment process to increase the number and diversity of applicants, resulting in a member corps that more



closely reflects the populations we serve. Qualitative and informal data collection, alongside formal program evaluation, supports program improvements, including mid- and end-of-year member surveys that allow us to assess program efficacy with regard to professional development, skill growth, and career readiness post-service. Such data collection has also led to increased support of our community partners, such as Site Supervisor training and the addition of updated manuals and resources, all communicated in a more efficient and timely manner.

2-MEMBER SUPERVISION - Each MEMBER will be directly SUPERVISED by the local PM, who ensures successful entry into and exit from their service year and assures program expectations are met. The PM oversees all programming aspects including member professional development, training, and ongoing mentorship; maintaining collaborative school and community partnerships; and executing program administrative responsibilities. Each partner school-site will have a certified faculty teacher designated as the member's Site-Supervisor, mentoring, and supporting the member's integration at the school service-site, providing oversight for day-to-day logistics, and ensuring AC compliance and requirements. The PM will always be available to both Site-Supervisors and members for program support. Prior to the school year, ArtistYear will execute formal agreements with the school district, principal (oversees the Site-Supervisor's commitment), and the Site-Supervisor, to ensure the school understands the commitment required. A kick-off meeting with expectation-setting will take place prior to a member starting so that school staff can understand school-site expectations and ArtistYear support structures and learn how best to utilize a member and manage OnCorps timekeeping. Site-Supervisors will attend two trainings designed to equip them with needed supervisor knowledge and skills, focusing on the expectations for members. The PM will conduct a formal observation of each member and meet with their Site-Supervisor once per-semester to assess progress and compliance, members will also have quarterly check-ins to set goals, make plans or adjustments, and troubleshoot obstacles with their Site-Supervisors. The PM will meet twice monthly with members as a cohort for training sessions, feedback, and for 1:1 check-ins. members will post daily updates including activities and areas of challenge and success via Slack, which will be reviewed by the PM to ensure accountability and effective service.

PMs are directly managed by the CEO, who previously served as a PM. PMs participate in bi-weekly check-ins with the CEO and weekly program team meetings with PMs across all ArtistYear regions. Check-ins and team meetings provide space for individual feedback, coaching, and career growth planning, and well as collaborative problem-solving and programmatic planning. All staff providing



member supervision are required to complete an internal AC Training Module to ensure compliance with AC regulations, priorities, and expectations. Our ArtistYear Employee Manual also describes the Program and Service-Site regulations.

3-COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND ACCESSIBILITY - ArtistYear is deeply committed to fostering an inclusive service culture where different backgrounds, talents, and capabilities are welcomed and leveraged for program learning and intended impact. ArtistYear was founded to address the lack of diversity, equity, and inclusion in arts education. Advancing equity and accessibility by honoring and uplifting the lived experience of our community, is core to our mission. ArtistYear's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion occurs through the articulation of our core values -- Curiosity, Community, Creativity, and Service -- across all organizational domains. These values guide decision-making via: shared decision making across stakeholders; collecting and acting upon frequent feedback for leadership from staff, members, and school communities; explicit training from external providers in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; transparent, inclusive processes for staff and member recruitment; and training for our members grounded in cultural responsiveness and trauma-informed practices.

At present, ArtistYear is led by a BIPOC CEO whose lived experience reflects those whom ArtistYear serves. One-third of ArtistYear staff and 50% of the board identify as BIPOC. Our larger national team includes individuals who are from the communities they are serving, as well as former ArtistYear members. The national team is comprised of individuals with a range of identity markers, including individuals of color, individuals with disabilities, immigrants, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community, ensuring that we reflect the diversity of the communities we serve. The ArtistYear team is helmed by a leadership team consisting of the CEO, CFO, and Chief Partnership Officer. The Program Team, which comprises all PMs, reports directly to the CEO. Additional staff include a Recruitment and Alumni Engagement Coordinator and Marketing and Communications Manager.

#### **Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy**

1-MEMBER RECRUITMENT - ArtistYear employs a Recruitment and Alumni Engagement Coordinator to facilitate all recruitment activities and the transition from applicant to member. Utilizing primarily online platforms such as Handshake, service-focused job boards, and social media, ArtistYear's recruitment staff develops and delivers highly targeted recruitment messaging to attract a diverse candidate pool. This includes focusing on institutions located within our service communities,



as well as minority serving institutions, and discipline-specific recruitment of artists to meet the needs of our communities. The Recruitment Coordinator participates in in-person and virtual job fairs and panels, as well as facilitates ArtistYear-run applicant interest sessions and workshops to attract applicants and provides personal support to those interested ArtistYear applicants. In addition to the time and effort of the Recruitment Coordinator, costs associated with use of Handshake (our online recruitment platform) are captured off budget.

2-MEMBER RETENTION - Offering a competitive stipend and structured, responsive member support directly impacts our ability to retain members. ArtistYear's member stipend is well above the minimum, and, as such, allows members greater stability during their year of service. ArtistYear also employs a deliberate cohort model to boost member retention, which is facilitated primarily through our Orientation and Training Institute and ongoing professional development structure, as captured in Member Training Costs. These structures include care teams and bi-weekly regional collaboration and meet-ups facilitated by the PM to offer additional personal benefits and social connections to support members' year of service. ArtistYear is also committed to ensuring that members have the opportunity to continue to develop their personal artistry during their year of service, so through member training in the form of guest speakers, community exploration, and discipline-specific groups, members are able to pursue their artistry alongside their service in schools. All is facilitated by the Program Manager, whose time is accounted for within Personnel costs.

3-DATA COLLECTION - Data collection encompasses all items within the Evaluation costs noted in the budget. ArtistYear utilizes multiple methods of data collection to measure program efficacy and impact. Data collection includes third party data collection from our school district partners (attendance, discipline, academic achievement) and survey data collected from members themselves, those with whom they work at our partner schools (school faculty and administrators), and from students with whom members work. ArtistYear utilizes Survey Monkey to manage all surveys. Those costs are included within the Evaluation section of the budget, as are costs associated with contracting an external evaluator to provide data analysis for the data collected directly from our school district partners and the survey data collected via student surveys. Additional staff time is utilized for member training regarding evaluation procedures.

4-BUDGET ALIGNMENT TO PROGRAM DESIGN - See budget.



**Evaluation Summary or Plan** 

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 

n/a

**Clarification Summary** 

n/a

**Continuation Changes** 

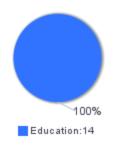
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**Grant Characteristics** 

# DRAFT

#### Performance Measures

MSYs by Focus Area



MSYs by Objective

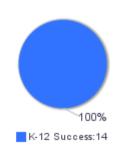


Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs	
Education	100%	

Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
K- 12 Success	100%

### % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

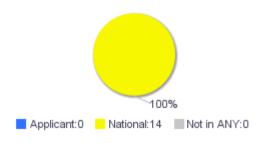


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

% MSYs	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
	100%	0%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
K- 12 Success	14.00	20
Total	14.00	20

Primary Focus Area: Education

Primary Intervention: Other Classroom Support

Secondary Focus Area: Secondary Intervention:



Performance Measure: Arts to improve School Engagement and Social Emotional Learning

Focus Education Objective: K- 12 Success No of 14.00 No of MSY's: Members:

#### **Problem Statement:**

Economically disadvantaged students are far less likely to access quality arts instruction when compared to their more affluent peers, and 4 million youth in the US do not have access to arts education(NEA 2012). This "art education gap" disproportionately affects students of color and English Language Learners (ELLs), who are far more likely to attend low- income public schools (NEA, 2011). However, research shows that vulnerable student populations reap substantial benefits from engaging with the arts, including: improved student engagement and improved social- emotional learning (Catterall and Hampden- Thompson, 2012, Bowen and Kisida, 2019). Integration of arts education leading to improved school climate and culture (Stevenson and Deasy, 2005). The beneficiaries of our programming are K- 12 students, selected based upon economic need, as evidenced by Title I school status.

ArtistYear will focus on Title I schools in the Cleveland metro area. The performance measures ED1A, ED6 and ED27C will provide evidence of the impact of the ArtistYear program on vulnerable student populations in each school district. To generate impact at scale, each member serves approximately 200 students, amounting to a target of 4,000 total students- served across the state.

For students served by ArtistYear members, we expect to see increased school attendance from year to year as a product of increased school engagement due to engagement in the arts (ED6). We also expect to see improvements in social- emotional learning and school attachment for students receiving ArtistYear programming via a pre/post survey administered in the Fall and Spring (ED27C). ArtistYear selected the performance measure targets based upon historical program data from our Philadelphia program outcomes between 2017 - 2019.

#### Selected Interventions:

Classroom Teaching

Mentoring

Other Classroom Support

Out- of- School Time

#### Describe Interventions:

ArtistYear's intervention to increase school engagement includes: 1) Increasing access to and deepening quality of arts education; 2) Curating Community Arts Events to showcase civic and arts learning.

20 ArtistYear AmeriCorps members (higher education arts graduates) serve as full-time members in Title I schools in the metro Cleveland area, reaching K-12 grade economically disadvantaged students, and ELLs. Members deepen the quality of, and exposure to, arts standards via "Push-In" Classes (integrating arts with other subjects), Arts Clubs (during or after-school arts programming linked to school-day curriculum), Arts Interventions (small group sessions for off-track/at risk youth). Members support student socioemotional learning by using culturally-relevant arts education projects to develop core social-emotional competencies, such as Social Belonging, Self-Efficacy, Intrinsic Motivation and Empathy.

The culmination of Member impact is showcased during a "community arts event" to share student artistic



Performance Measure: Arts to improve School Engagement and Social Emotional Learning

Problem Statement:
Selected Intervactings:

Mentoring

Other Classroom Support

Out- of- School Time

and civic learning for students and families. Members lead students in at least one such event each year, such as a school play, choir performance, or photography exhibit, to showcase student learning while improving school environment and engagement for students and families.

ED1A Output:

ED1A: Number of individuals served

Target: 4000 Individuals

Measured By: Tracking System

Described Instrument: ArtistYear provides each Member with a training on how to complete the process

of creating student rosters. Each Member then receives a secure spreadsheet to record the names of unduplicated students- served throughout the course of the service year called the Student Rosters. This roster is the same one used at each school site. The student roster tool is corroborated by the Program Manager and

the Site Supervisor.

ArtistYear defines " students served" by those students who receive over 40 hours of arts instruction from ArtistYear members over the course of the school year. ArtistYear utilizes OnCorps records of approved member hours served cross referenced with student rosters and school schedules to measure hours of arts instruction received.

ED6 Outcome:

ED6: Number of students with increased attendance

Target: 1200 Students

Measured By: Attendance Records

Described Instrument: ArtistYear shares a secure spreadsheet of student rosters with school district

data personnel, including student ID's, and requests back de-identified year-over-year student attendance records for students-served by ArtistYear. District records allow ArtistYear to calculate the % change in attendance on a

year over year basis.

Because ArtistYear relies on district - level data that is systematically captured at

the school level, there is a high degree of accuracy.

ArtistYear is able to avoid duplication by initially reviewing student rosters before

# DRAFT

Performance Measure: Arts to improve School Engagement and Social Emotional Learning

**Problem Statement:** 

Selberadount aus actions:

Mentoring

Other Classroom Support

Out- of- School Time

Described Instrument: submission. Additionally, ArtistYear completes a second round of " data

cleaning" to ensure there is no duplication of students.

The template, data request and processes for each school district across service

regions are identical.

Upon receiving district data, ArtistYear organizes attendance changes into three categories: greater than 2% increase, equal to 0% change and less than 0% change (decrease). A greater than 2% increase is considered "increased attendance", amounting to 4 or more days of additional student attendance. ArtistYear compiles student rosters in May of each service year, submits to school

districts in June, and requests data back as soon as possible.

ED27C Outcome:

ED27C: Number of students with improved academic engagement or social- emotional skills

Students Target: 1200

Measured By: Survey

Described Instrument: The tool we use is The Becoming Effective Learners (BEL) Survey, an instrument

> designed by the University of Chicago and tested extensively in Chicago schools. The BEL instrument is one of the few rigorously validated tools that measures social- emotional learning. It was adapted with permission by its creators for use at ArtistYear to measure a number of constructs around SEL which directly align

with ArtistYear's work: (1) performance avoidance, (2) self-efficacy, (3)

belonging, and (4) intrinsic motivation. Each of these sub-constructs has 4 to 6 items and can be delivered verbally by a Member to students. These constructs

provide a valid means of assessing increases in academic engagement and social- emotional skills.

ArtistYear compiles responses by school from pre to post survey, and considers a student level gain of +1 standard deviation to be evidence of improved academic and social- emotional learning for students served by the ArtistYear program. This progress is significant for the individuals served because it represents a substantive change in student perception of their degree of Belonging, Self-Efficacy and Motivation. These three " non- cognitive factors" have been shown by research (Farrington 2012) to positively impact academic performance. The survey will yield high- quality data by focusing on the students who receive

# DRAFT

Performance Measure: Arts to improve School Engagement and Social Emotional Learning

**Problem Statement:** 

Selberadount australia in Selberadount austr

Mentoring

Other Classroom Support

Out- of- School Time

Described Instrument: the "highest dosage" of ArtistYear programming, a minimum of 40 hours over

the course of the year. By focusing on this subset of students and administering the survey to them, ArtistYear will gain valuable insights regarding the impact of

the program.

To avoid duplication, we create a secure spreadsheet with unique survey links paired to individual students. This ensures that ArtistYear receives one data set

per student surveyed.

The BEL survey has a standard format, which is applied across schools and

districts.



## Program Information

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration

Underrepresented communities, underserved people

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

Geographic Focus Urban



## Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	80000
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	0
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	0



## **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Not Applicable
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Other Documents	Sent

problem that the	Resources that are necessary to deliver	The core activities				
(interventions) are designed to address.	the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.
benefits quality arts education yields on school engagement, social-emotional learning, and civic- minded behaviors for vulnerable student populations, access to quality arts education in the identified areas of need is very limited.  At ArtistYear's partner schools, between 75% - 100% of the students qualify as economically disadvantaged, and the student	20 three-quarter-time ArtistYear Serve Ohio members who demonstrate excellence within their artistic discipline and commitment to service. Partnership with school districts in Ohio. 10-20 Title I Partner Schools (K-12th grade) in the Cleveland metro area where members are placed alongside a Site Supervisor for both in-class and out-of-school-time instruction.	Artists of every medium are recruited, vetted, and trained. Members are placed full-time in Title I partner school for a 10-month duration over the academic year, partnering with existing teachers to expand access to and participation in arts education during and after-school. Partner school faculty are trained by the Program Manager and provided with ongoing support to maximize programmatic	ED1A: 4,000 students served in ArtistYear Programming.  40 hrs/wk per member dedicated to service in a school (annually 1,200 hours per Member, or 24,000 service year hours total).  Minimum of one formal, student-centered community art event per school partner (20+), displaying student artistic process/product and achievement.	1) ED27C: A target of 1,200 students who receive ArtistYear programming will have improved academic engagement or social emotional learning. 2) ED6: A target of 1,200 students who receive ArtistYear programming will have increased attendance. 3) An improvement of school climate and culture through expanded arts-access is demonstrated, as reported by school personnel and leadership via mid	Greater Academic Success for Target Population: Increased school engagement and non-cognitive benefits leads to improved school performance for students receiving programming.  Arts-Richer Partner Schools: ArtistYear- involved schools increase arts programs and partnerships.  Healthier and Happier School Communities: Arts- access improves the climate and culture	Empowered and Engaged Citizens and Artists: Students are empowered with the tools to act and grow as engaged, active citizens and leaders who advocate for and contribute to their communities.  Increased Work- Force Success for Students: Students who participate in arts rich programming at school- as inspired by ArtistYear- will have greater success in the workforce through an expansion of critical

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
Language Learners, and Military children. 100% of ArtistYear's partner schools are federally-designated Title I schools. ArtistYear has worked closely with district administrators in each region to identify high-need service-site schools in their districts where members can collaborate with existing certified teachers to help fill the remaining gaps that keep the arts from reaching every child.	Program Manager to supervise and support members on the ground and liaise with partner school personnel.  ArtistYear leadership support, organizational infrastructure, and human capital to effectively implement and support the program, including the board, the CEO, the CFO and Human Resources Director, and the Recruitment and Alumni Engagement Coordinator. Funding for operations and intervention.  Multiple strategic partnerships and local relationships.  School placement, support and oversight for ArtistYear members by the Program Manager. Execution of ArtistYear¿s Training and Professional	Members implement programming with target students, as directed by school partners. Given the typical school profile most, if not all students will identify as historically underrepresented and underserved individuals. ArtistYear will not withhold services from any student. Target student population receives an average of 2 or more hours of standards-based, youth-centered arts instruction from members per week.  Members facilitate the execution of student-centered and community focused artistic displays, performances, media projects, and other community arts events.	lesson plans and curriculum. Expanded school arts capacity: new arts learning contents and spaces for students, i.e. after school clubs, in-class expansion, arts projects, enrichment, school productions, etc.	surveys. Improved artistic skills and interest in the arts for target population. Increase in principal and staff knowledge/beliefs around the value of arts education. Improvement in member self- perceptions of self- efficacy as arts- educators, and motivation to serve students and communities. Improvement in member teaching skills, as measured by observational rubric deployed 2x per year by Program Manager.	to an increase in empathy and social connection across the school.	Century skills, such as creativity, perseverance, self-awareness, flexibility, problem solving, collaboration, communication and leadership.  Members are inspired to become service-oriented young professionals who advocate for and participate in arts education beyond their year of service.  Members are inspired by their service to pursue teacher certification, schoolbased roles, or instructional roles, positively impacting the teacher workforce.

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
	Development					
	Curriculum via					
	intensive summer					
	Orientation and					
	Training Institute					
	and weekly member					
	training and					
	support meetings					
	(~40), in addition to					
	frequent external professional					
	development					
	opportunities and					
	individual coaching					
	to build member					
	knowledge, skills,					
	and abilities in					
	teaching artistry.					
	Facilitation of cohort					
	experience of					
	members, ensuring					
	that Members have					
	a chance to					
	collaborate, connect,					
	share best practices					
	and feel connected to					
	ArtistYear and					
	AmeriCorps.					

### **Budget Narrative: ArtistYear OH for ArtistYear**

### **Section I. Program Operating Costs**

### A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Program Lead - manage all members. 1 person at \$60,000x100% usage. remainder funded thru other sources: - 1 person(s) at 30000 each x 100 % usage	30,000	0	30,000
Recruiting & Alumni Engagement Coordinator - recruiting and hiring all members, and managing alumni engagement - 1 person at \$45,000x0% usage. Position funded thru other sources: - 1 person(s) at 0 each x 0 % usage	0	0	0
Category Totals	30,000	0	30,000

### **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
OH Program Manager Benefits: OH Program Manager Benefits (Benefits (incl FICA, health ins, PTO) total = \$60,000 salary x 10% fringe benefits x 100% time = \$6,000. Remainder funded thru other sources	2,295	0	2,295
Category Totals	2,295	0	2,295

#### C. Travel

#### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings: 1 program staff person attend National Service Regional Training Conference (1 staff roundtrip air \$200 + lodging \$258 x 2 nights + \$25 per diem/3 days= \$791	0	791	791
Staff Travel to 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: 1 staff travel to attend 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism (1 staff mileage 142 miles x \$0.625 + \$25 per diem/day = \$33.88	0	33	33
Staff Travel to Serve Ohio Program Director Meetings: 1 program staff attend 3 program director meetings in Columbus, OH (1 staff \$25 per diem x 5 days + 1 staff mileage roundtrip 142 x \$0.625 x 3 trips + 1 overnight trip lodging \$122 x 2 = \$635	0	635	635
Staff Travel for Service Speaks training: 1 staff attend Service Speaks training (1 staff mileage 142 miles x \$0.625 + \$122 lodging + \$25 per diem x 2 = \$261	0	261	261
Category Totals	0	1,720	1,720

### **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
1 member travel to attend 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: 1 member travel to attend 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism (1 member mileage 142 miles x \$0.625 + \$25 per diem/day = 34	0	34	34
2 members attend Service Speaks training: 2 members attend Service Speaks training (2 members x 2 mileage 142 miles x \$0.625 + \$122 lodging + \$25 per	0	433	433

diem x 2 = 433			
2 members travel to LeaderCorps training: 2 members participate in LeaderCorps Initiative (mileage 142 miles x \$0.625 + \$25 per diem x 2 members x 2 trainings) = 278	278	0	278
All members attend AmeriCOrps 30th Anniversary: All members attend AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary Training Event (members share cars 5 cars x 142 miles x \$0.625 miles + \$25 per diem x 20 members)= 944	0	944	944
Category Totals	278	1,411	1,689

## D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

### E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
AmeriCorps apparel for members onsite (mask, name badge, water bottle): AmeriCorps logo featured on all service gear: 1 mask, 1 name badge, 1 water bottle = \$40 per member x 20 = 800	800	0	800
Orientation & Training Institute + Professional Development Supplies: \$12 (books, materials, handouts) x 20 members = \$240	240	0	240
Category Totals	1,040	0	1,040

#### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
OnCorps Member Management System: \$18 per member for 20 members for AmeriCorps member time tracking- Daily Rate of 18	360	0	360
Category Totals	360	0	360

## G. Training

### **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Registration for National Service Conference: Registration for 1 staff member flat rate \$400- Daily Rate of 400	0	400	400
Registration for 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: Registration for 1 staff to attend 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism = \$200- Daily Rate of 200	200	0	200
Category Totals	200	400	600

## **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Registration for 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: Registration for 1 member to attend 2024 Ohio Conference on Service and	200	0	200

Category Totals	1,200	500	1,700
LeaderCorps Initiative: LeaderCorps Budgets \$500 for 2 members- Daily Rate of 500	1,000	0	1,000
Professional Development Events: 10 sessions during monthly member meetings + AmeriCorps training during Orientation & Training Institute \$50 per session (expert fees + materials) = \$500- Daily Rate of 50	0	500	500
Volunteerism = \$200- Daily Rate of 200			

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Data Collection & Program Evaluation: The 50-day contractual services & total amount are pro-rated based on member totals + time usage for the Chief Partnerships Officer, third party data collection & management, analysis & reporting. Daily Rate of \$20 x 50 days = \$1,000- Daily Rate of 20	0	1,000	1,000
Category Totals	0	1,000	1,000

## I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
General Liability Insurance & Coverage: \$500 Projected cost of GLI & coverage for 20 members + 2 staff = \$500	0	500	500
National Service Criminal History Checks: 20 Members + 1 OH Program Manager x \$55 = \$1.155 using Truescreen for all NSCHC checks. All other covered staff are already up to date on NSCHC.	1,155	0	1,155
Category Totals	1,155	500	1,655
Section Totals	36,528	5,531	42,059
PERCENTAGE	86.85%	13.15%	

### **Section II. Member Costs**

### A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): 20 Member(s) at a rate of 20830 each Members W/O allowance 0	279,122	137,478	416,600
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each	0	0	0

Members W/O allowance			
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	279,122	137,478	416,600

### **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members: \$416,600 x 7.65% = 31,870	21,353	10,517	31,870
Worker's Compensation: \$20 x 20 members = \$400	0	400	400
Health Care: 2 members x \$23/month x 10 months = \$460. Based on historical data, most members are covered by their parents policy and do not need additional coverage. We will offer healthcare to all members and adjust budget should more members require coverage.	0	460	460
Category Totals	21,353	11,377	32,730
Section Totals	300,475	148,855	449,330
PERCENTAGE	66.87%	33.13%	

#### Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

### A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount: Multiplying CNCS total shares of Section1(36,528)+SectionII (300,475)x 0.0526x0.6 = 10,635. Multiplying total CNCS + Grantee shares of Section I(42,059)+SectionII(449,330) x 10% = 49,138. amount claimed is less than max allowed	5,907	638	6,545
Commission Fixed Amount: Commission Fixed Amount = AmeriCorps Share (36,528+300,475) x 0.0526 x 0.4 = 7,090	7,090	0	7,090
Category Totals	12,997	638	13,635

## **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	12,997	638	13,635
PERCENTAGE	95.32%	4.68%	

Budget Totals	350,000	155,024	505,024
PERCENTAGE	69.30%	30.70%	
Required Match		0.00%	

Total MSYs	14.00	
Cost/MSY	25,000.00	

#### **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source
Course of Funds	Cleveland Municipal School District (secured)		Cash	State/Local
Source of Funds	Private Foundations (pending)	55,024	Cash	Private
Total Source of Funds		155,024		

## **PART I - FACE SHEET**

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE			1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION:			
Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to confirm to the Corporation's eGrants System)			Application X Non-Construction			
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION  3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE: FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY				STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:	
SERVICE (CNCS):	30-NOV-23			INA		
2b. APPLICATION ID: 24AC260151	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY		ENCY:	FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:		
5. A PPLICATION INFORMATION						
LEGAL NAME: CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES			NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER			
UEI NUMBER: D444Y7EBHFL7			PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes):  NAME: Tony L. Parks			
ADDRESS (give street address, city, state, zip code and county): 197 E Gay St Columbus OH 43215 - 3229 County: Franklin			TELEPHONE NUMBER: (614) 857-1221 211  FAX NUMBER: INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: tparks@colscss.org			
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 314379437			7. TY PE OF A PPLICANT: 7a. Non-Profit			
8 TYPE OF A PPI ICATION (Check appropriate	hox)		7b. Faith-based	organization		
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check appropriate box).  X NEW NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTEE  CONTINUATION AMENDMENT  If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es):  A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION  C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (specify below):						
			9. NAME OF FED		and Community Service	
10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 94.006 10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State		11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Scioto County Senior Program  11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):				
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (List Cities, Counties, States, etc): Scioto County, OH						
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DATE: 07/01/24 END DATE: 06/30/25			14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF: a.Applicant OH 15 b.Program OH 02			
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: 1			16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?			
a. FEDERAL	\$ 248,877.00	0	YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE			
b. APPLICANT	\$ 78,599.00	)		TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON:		
c. STATE	\$ 0.00	1	DATE:  X NO. PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372			
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00	1				
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00	ı				
f. PROGRAM INCOME	\$ 0.00		17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?  ☐ YES if "Yes," attach an explanation.  ☐ NO			
g. TOTAL	\$ 327,476.00	0	☐ TES II TES, ALLACTI ATT EXPLAITATION. X INC			
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND B DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BOI IS AWARDED.						
a. TY PED NAME OF A UTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: b. TITLE: Tony L. Parks		b. TITLE:			c. TELEPHONE NUMBER: (614) 857-1221 211	
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENT.	ATIVE:	1			e. DATE SIGNED:	
					10/17/23	

#### **Executive Summary**

The Catholic Social Services will have 20 AmeriCorps members who will provide companionship to isolated seniors in Scioto County, Ohio. At the end of the first program year, the AmeriCorps members will be responsible for helping clients live independently and with improved quality of life. In addition, the AmeriCorps members will leverage volunteers who will be engaged in a National Day of Service project.

The AmeriCorps investment will be matched with \$78,599, \$0 in public funding and \$78,599 in private funding.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

PROGRAM DESIGN: Situated in the Appalachian region of southern Ohio, Scioto County is a rural area with concentrated poverty (a priority area for this funding opportunity). According to the 2022 American Community Survey, there are 15,563 Scioto County residents living below the federal poverty level, which is 22.5% of the population, well above the poverty rate of 13.4% in Ohio and 12.6% in the U.S. The CDC's Social Vulnerability Index indicates that Scioto County has a high level of social vulnerability.

Many residents are leaving Scioto County for better employment opportunities elsewhere. U.S. Census data shows that the population of Scioto County declined 7% from 2010 to 2020. At the same time, employers in Scioto County are struggling to find qualified workers. Only 47% of individuals aged 16 or older in Scioto County participate in the civilian labor force (compared to 63% in Ohio and nationally) (American Community Survey, 2017-2021), and there are 2.05 individuals in Scioto County age 18-64 for every available job (as of 2019) (Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, 2021). Of the Scioto County population age 25-64, 75% do not have a college degree (Workforce Development Board Area #1 Strategic Plan 2021-2025). Developing transferable workforce skills is critical for individuals to find meaningful employment opportunities in Scioto County.

Scioto County also has a large senior population, many of whom are struggling with social isolation. According to the 2022 American Community Survey, among residents aged 60 or older, 2,872 individuals live in poverty. The 17% poverty rate for the senior population in Scioto County is much higher than the 11% rate for the state of Ohio and the U.S. Seniors who are living in poverty are more likely to experience social isolation, which is detrimental to their health and well-being (United Health

Foundation, 2023). According to the Journal of the American Heart Association, a study of patients with heart failure in Minnesota found that in the group of 1,681 men and women, with the average age of 73, the 6% who reported a high level of perceived social isolation had a greater risk of hospitalization, ER visits, and early death than those who did not (Manemann et. al., 2018). The effects of the pandemic have highlighted this heightened concern (Kasar and Karaman, 2021).

Catholic Social Services requests an AmeriCorps grant to launch the Scioto for Seniors Program (SSP). This dual beneficiary program will provide vital services to the county's vulnerable seniors while helping the AmeriCorps members develop transferable workforce skills. When a member visits an isolated senior to provide independent living support, this can prolong the time a senior can remain in their home compared to needing a more restrictive environment and/or nursing home care. Additionally, the program will provide meaningful experience that could serve as a springboard for employment or advancement for participating members.

The Scioto for Seniors Program's Theory of Change explains that with proper supportive services, such as an increase in social support, isolated, often frail, older adults can remain independent, safe, and happy in their own homes, delaying or eliminating the need for care in less than optimal, expensive long-term care facilities. The program will increase the availability of social support in two ways, either by expanding upon available but limited family resources such as family caregivers, or by creating a non-familial support system where other supports do not exist. The program creates or enhances the social support system by matching healthy, active adult members with socially isolated, often frail, elderly adults in a supportive one-to-one companionship relationship. Members are provided with a meaningful opportunity to contribute to their community and gain transferable skills, which can lead to paid employment for the members in the future, thus launching the member into a positive career path. The skills that AmeriCorps members would acquire through SSP would be particularly transferable to work as a home health aide, for which there is increasing need as our population ages. This field offers flexibility, with full-time and part-time opportunities, comparatively good pay, and qualitatively meaningful work.

Catholic Social Services' SSP will collaborate with five organizations which will serve as member site stations, sharing a common goal to support seniors while developing the local workforce. These site stations will assist in program coordination and monitoring. The SSP will have 20 members aged 18

and up, serving 40 clients working towards the outcome of the Aging in Place National Performance Measures. Participants, both clients and members, will report a satisfaction rate of 90% or higher with their program participation and outcomes.

In a community engagement event in preparation for the program, potential community partners eagerly commented that this proposed program, based on the theory of change outlined above, would extend the capacity of current providers by offering much-needed additional support to seniors in this region who are currently waiting for services, as well as providing much-needed job readiness services. Letters of support from potential community partners are provided in this application.

EVIDENCE-BASE: A quasi-experimental research study commissioned by AmeriCorps and conducted by independent research firm ICF found that the return on investment of Senior Companion programs similar to our proposed Scioto for Seniors Program was \$5.08 per funder dollar (Modicamore, et al., 2020). The authors found that "the magnitude of the results [were] driven by savings on health care, savings on assisted living costs, and the value of in-kind services." Both companions and clients experienced improved health outcomes as a result of participating in the program. Clients also reported that they could stay in their homes longer rather than moving into an assisted living facility.

In addition, a longitudinal study of AmeriCorps Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion programs found that volunteers who stayed in the program for at least two years "reported significant improvement in how they perceived their health compared to other similar non-volunteers in the general population" (Georges et al., 2018)

Catholic Social Services has operated a Senior Companion program in the urban/suburban communities of central Ohio for 46 years. Our Senior Companion program has established itself as a critical component of the network of community programs helping seniors maintain their independence. Both clients and senior companions have indicated that the program makes a meaningful impact for them. The percentage of client respondents on our annual client satisfaction survey that agreed or strongly agreed with each statement in 2022 is listed below:

- \* I am satisfied with the services I received from Catholic Social Services: 97%
- \* The services make a difference: 97%

- \* I would recommend Catholic Social Services: 100%
- \* My quality of life has improved: 90%
- \* I feel more hopeful since receiving services: 98%
- \* The services help me live independently: 85%

Likewise, volunteer companions in our program reported very positive results:

- \* I am satisfied with the services I received from Catholic Social Services: 100%
- \* The services make a difference: 100%
- \* I would recommend Catholic Social Services: 100%
- \* My quality of life has improved: 99%
- \* I feel more hopeful since receiving services: 99%
- \* The services help me live independently: 99%

Citations: Modicamore, D., Naugler, A., Casey, B., Miller, B., Munaretto, C., & Pershing, J. (2020). Return on Investment Study: AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program and Senior Companion Program. ICF.

Georges, A., Fung, W., Smith, J., Liang, J., Sum, C., & Gabbard, S. (2018). Longitudinal Study of Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs: Service Delivery Implications and Health Benefits to the Volunteers. North Bethesda, MD: JBS International, Inc.

NOTICE PRIORITY: The Scioto for Seniors Program meets the following AmeriCorps funding priorities: underrepresented communities/underserved people (Scioto County is a rural community with high levels of poverty); faith-based organization; and workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members.

MEMBER EXPERIENCE: Members will be provided with a meaningful opportunity to contribute to their community and gain transferable skills, which can lead to paid employment for the members in the future, thus launching the member into a positive career path. Each member will attend a paid monthly in-service training on job readiness. The topics will include but are not limited to resume writing, interview skills, diversity, inclusion, conflict resolution training, culture training, and leadership and management.

Recognition of the members will be critical to retention and the quality of the program. Throughout the year, the program staff will strive to show appreciation to the members through notes of encouragement and acknowledgment of their special occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries. The program will host an annual luncheon in the spring as a special appreciation event. At this yearly event, exceptional members will be presented with the "Service Award" for their exemplary work in the program.

The program will provide several leadership opportunities for members to enable personal growth while assisting the program beyond their visits to clients. They will be able to join an advisory council or assist in the training of new members by serving as mentors. Creating a high-quality experience will be an ongoing process; the staff will routinely obtain feedback from the members regarding how the program can better assist them in meeting their goals for participation and other longer-term work-related goals where appropriate.

### **Organizational Capability**

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND AND STAFFING: CSS is led by our new President and CEO S. Kelley Henderson, who most recently served as Executive Director of Catholic Charities of West Tennessee, where he led the agency to tremendous growth. The grants implementation process is overseen by Chief Program Officer Amy VanDyke, MSW, LSW, PhD. Dr. VanDyke has extensive experience in nonprofit social service agency management, including a track record of developing, strengthening, and growing programs to be responsive to the needs of clients. The finance department is overseen by Chief Operating Officer Nick Borchers, MBA, who has more than seventeen years of experience in project management, overseeing projects in the corporate, faith-based, and public sectors.

Tony Parks, who has been Director of the Senior Companion Program at CSS since 2016, will be the Program Director for the Scioto for Seniors program. Tony has over four years of experience as an advocate for the vulnerable elderly. He has worked six years with adults and seniors with various developmental disabilities and has been a strong voice in the community advocating for seniors. Tony holds a master's degree in education. He reports to Chief Program Officer Dr. Amy VanDyke. The Program Manager and Program Administrative Assistant will be new staff members hired if CSS is awarded this funding. The Program Manager will report to the Program Director, and the

Administrative Assistant will report to the Program Manager. The Program Manager will be a full-time employee working in Scioto County and spending 80% of their time on this program. The Administrative Assistant will be a part-time employee working in Scioto County.

For more than 77 years, Catholic Social Services has been helping poor and vulnerable seniors and families in central and southern Ohio -- regardless of their background -- to reach their full potential. Motivated by faith, we help working-poor families stabilize and attain good jobs, providing for their economic security and strengthening the workforce. We help low-income seniors through a suite of seven programs that help them live independently, age with grace, and honor their dignity.

CSS is a research partner with the Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities at the University of Notre Dame because we are committed to evidence-based practice. We are a member agency of Catholic Charities USA and the Human Service Chamber of Franklin County. CSS helps more than 13,000 people annually in our 23-county region. We have responded to the rapidly growing senior population, doubling the number of seniors served in eight years through innovation, more effective technology solutions, volunteer engagement, and partnerships. CSS has successfully received and administered a wide variety of public and private grants, including our current AmeriCorps grants for our Franklin County Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion programs. One hundred and seventy-two (172) senior volunteers participated in our Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion programs in 2022. We served 591 students in the Foster Grandparent program and 511 senior clients in our Senior Companion program in 2022. We have also served the Scioto County community for decades through the St. Francis Center, a one-stop community center providing families access to a wide variety of services including hot meals, clothing and household items, food, and emergency assistance.

CSS has been continuously accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) since 1982 (last renewed in 2022). The rigorous COA accreditation shows our commitment to best-practice social services. As such, our entire agency functions in line with best-practice standards, including in the areas of governance, risk management, accounting, personnel management, purchasing, and program implementation. We have written, board-approved policies that ensure best-practice financial management, including tracking allowable costs and in-kind contributions; internal control over cash receipts with appropriate segregation of duties; established monitoring of expenditures through

authorized requisitions; and development of a board-approved annual budget, with monthly comparisons by program directors, management, and the board. CSS also has a whistleblower policy so that staff or Board members can report any suspected fraudulent, dishonest, improper, or inappropriate behavior without fear of retaliation.

MEMBER SUPERVISION: Recognizing the members' contributions as a vital component of the program's success, staff members will meet with the site supervisors several times during the year and provide an annual evaluation to recognize the accomplishments they achieved and to offer assistance in making their site a more meaningful member placement. Site station supervisors will be kept informed about programmatic changes through correspondence and scheduled meetings throughout the year. Site stations will often be utilized to provide an in-service presentation on topics such as diversity. We have utilized these practices in our Senior Companion Program in Franklin County and have garnered very favorable responses, rounding out the efforts to ensure well-informed companions.

Members will attend monthly in-service meetings to develop transferable workforce skills, including job readiness, resume writing, interviewing, how to transfer skills, how to seek employment, how to care for the elderly, looking for signs of decline, cognitive functioning of the elderly, and how to safely transport clients. Our Program Manager will recruit and schedule guest speakers for our monthly inservice meetings. One of our community partners in this venture is the Area Agency on Aging Division 7. We plan to work with them to develop training and additional specifics of what training would benefit our members. We will also collaborate with home health agencies to see what skills are needed and offer trainings on those as well.

It is an expectation of CSS for staff to maintain a high level of competence; therefore, CSS staff will attend training during the year regarding volunteer management. The project staff will also complete five yearly exercises online through Relias (our agency training database) on issues affecting the senior population. Also, the Program Director and Program Manager will participate in all training required by ServeOhio.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND ACCESSIBILITY: As a faith-based organization, CSS has a governing document, which we call our Catholic Identity Plan, which allows

us to intentionally, holistically, and structurally integrate our Catholic values to drive why, how, and what we do. The Catholic Identity Plan encompasses our DEI Inclusion Plan:

- \* CSS serves people in need regardless of religion, race, gender/orientation, ethnicity, place of origin, or physical disability. We do not judge people for who they are or what they may have done. Staff and volunteers are trained and supported to provide these services in a professional, compassionate, appropriate, culturally competent, and humble manner.
- \* CSS strives to have a board, management, and staff that are representative of the diversity of marginalized people that we serve and create an inclusive environment that promotes cultural humility and solidarity, more authentic service provision, and better, more equitable, outcomes.

#### Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy

MEMBER RECRUITMENT: The 1.0 FTE Program Manager will be responsible for member recruitment. The Program Manager will attend 12-15 outreach events for new members annually. Shawnee State University, a public university with an enrollment of 3,300 students, is located in Portsmouth in Scioto County. Our Program Manager will conduct outreach to Shawnee State students to recruit AmeriCorps members for our program. Our Program Manager will also conduct outreach to the broader community in Scioto County, including local church communities, Job and Family Services, and other community agencies, as we hope to recruit a diverse pool of members for this program.

MEMBER RETENTION: The Program Manager, working in collaboration with the Program Director, will lead monthly in-service training for members focused on job readiness, including topics such as resume writing, interview skills, diversity, inclusion, conflict resolution training, culture training, and leadership and management. We will provide meals for members at all of the in-service trainings. Additionally, we will reimburse members for their travel at the federal reimbursement rate of \$0.655 per mile. We will also offer a year-end recognition event for members to celebrate their accomplishments.

DATA COLLECTION: Both the Program Manager and Administrative Assistant will play critical roles in data collection, continuous improvement, and evaluation. The Program Director will provide oversight of these functions.

CSS uses an agency-wide Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) evaluation tool in line with the Council on Accreditation. To evaluate the effectiveness of all our programs, including our Senior Programs, we have identified and defined three Criteria for Excellence (impact, quality, and stewardship) used to assess each program's performance. Quarterly, programs illustrate their progress through a review of their PQI scorecards.

**Evaluation Summary or Plan** 

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 

N/A

**Clarification Summary** 

N/A

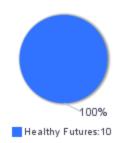
**Continuation Changes** 

N/A

**Grant Characteristics** 

#### Performance Measures

### MSYs by Focus Area



MSYs by Objective

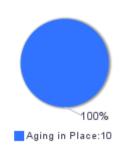


Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs	
Healthy Futures	100%	

Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
Aging in Place	100%

### % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

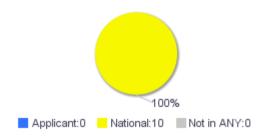


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
% MSYs	100%	0%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
Aging in Place	10.00	20
Total	10.00	20

Primary Focus Area: Healthy Futures
Primary Intervention: Companionship

Secondary Focus Area: Secondary Intervention: Performance Measure: Scioto for Seniors Program

Focus Healthy Futures Objective: Aging in Place No of 10.00 No of 20 MSY's: Members:

#### **Problem Statement:**

Situated in the Appalachian region of southern Ohio, Scioto County is a rural area with concentrated poverty. Among residents aged 60 or older, 2,872 individuals are living in poverty. The 17% poverty rate for the senior population in Scioto County is much higher than the 11% rate for the state of Ohio and the U.S. The CDC's Social Vulnerability Index indicates that Scioto County has a High level of social vulnerability.

The Scioto for Seniors Program is a dual beneficiary program for under- resourced seniors lacking access to adequate family social support systems resulting in social isolation, reduced quality of life, and health concerns. Through this program, seniors will feel less lonely and less isolated, have an enhanced quality of life, reduced health concerns, and maintain independence in their preferred setting.

The program allows members the opportunities for a nontaxable paid volunteer experience to enhance community engagement and to develop transferable skills which could assist them in gaining meaningful employment. By providing culturally competent companion services to isolated seniors in the community, members will improve their disposable income and sense of purpose.

#### Selected Interventions:

Companionship

Describe Interventions:

Each client will be paired with an AmeriCorps member according to their stated preferences. Members will visit with paired clients in their homes for 5- 10 hours per week. The SSP will be a year- round program. Members will be permitted to provide transportation for clients with whom they are paired to participate in at least one out- of- home activity per week.

H4A Output:

H4A: Number of individuals served

Target: 40 Individuals

Tracking System

Described Instrument: Catholic Social Services utilizes a Salesforce- based client database called

Exponent Case Management to track clients served, as well as program outcomes

and program demographics.

H9A Outcome:

Measured By:

H9A: Number of individuals who report having increased social support or improved capacity for inde

Target: 36 Individuals

Measured By: Survey

Described Instrument: Catholic Social Services will survey all open clients and members to determine if

Problem Statement:
Selected ninterwentions:

Described Instrument: we achieved our outcomes for the year as well as their satisfaction with the

services provided through the Scioto for Seniors Program. The responses will be analyzed through Survey Monkey which calculates the responses relating to our

program outcomes.

## Program Information

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration

Underrepresented communities, underserved people, Faith- based organizations, Workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

Faith- based organization, Geographic Focus Rural

## Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	78599
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	0
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	C

## **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Evaluation	Sent
Other Documents	Sent

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.
Situated in the Appalachian region of southern Ohio, Scioto County is a rural area with concentrated poverty. Among residents aged 60 or older, 2,872 individuals are living in poverty. The 17% poverty rate for the senior population in Scioto County is much higher than the 11% rate for the state of Ohio and the U.S. The CDC¿s Social Vulnerability I ndex indicates that Scioto County has a High level of social vulnerability.	Our proposed staffing for this program consists of 0.20 FTE Program Director, 0.80 FTE Program Manager, and 0.50 FTE Administrative Assistant.  We are proposing to manage a team of 20 AmeriCorps half-time members.  We will collaborate with five external partners to offer five member site stations in Scioto County, with each station providing a site station supervisor.  SSP program staff	CSS will recruit AmeriCorps members who meet the following eligibility requirements:  1. Be 18 years old or older and be physically and cognitively capable of serving.  2. Have a reliable means of transportation to assist clients with appointments, benefits, errands, and community activities.  3. Complete free 40- hour orientation training; pass a	The program will serve 40 clients per year, with each client receiving 5-10 hours of weekly companion service. This output aligns with the AmeriCorps Strategic Plan Objective of Aging in Place, and output H4A: Number of individuals served.  Clients will be matched with a member within three months of referral.  The program will recruit new members every year to maintain	1) 90% of clients will report that the companion services help them live independently. This outcome aligns with national performance measure H9A: Number of individuals who report improved capacity for independent living.  2)\ 90% of clients will report reduced feelings of isolation and loneliness as evidenced by responses on client satisfaction surveys.  3) 90% of clients will report	1) Clients will have increased access to community resources and transportation by being matched with a member.  2) 90% of members will report having increased community engagement and supportive relationships, as evidenced by satisfaction survey responses.	1) Members will have improved income stability and increased disposable income due to receiving a living allowance.  2) Members will develop transferable job skills to benefit them when their service ends. We will develop pre- and post-surveys of the monthly in-service trainings to assess what skills the members learned from the trainings. The surveys will also ask members if they feel better prepared for the workforce following

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
Employers in Scioto County are struggling to find qualified workers. Only 47% of individuals aged 16 or older in Scioto County participate in the civilian labor force (compared to 63% in Ohio and nationally), and there are 2.05 individuals in Scioto County age 18-64 for every available job (as of 2019). Developing transferable workforce skills is critical for individuals to find meaningful employment opportunities in Scioto County.  Catholic Social Services; proposed Scioto for Seniors Program is a dual beneficiary program for under-resourced seniors lacking access to adequate family social support systems resulting in social isolation, reduced quality of life, and health concerns. Through this	will connect with site supervisors at least monthly. Site supervisors can contact SSP staff for assistance at any time.  CSS will host a site supervisor training specific to Scioto County, so that site supervisors know the program requirements and prohibited activities. Members will also receive training on prohibited activities.  The SSP program manager will have at least weekly check-ins with each member. Again, members can reach out to the program manager with questions or concerns at any time.  AmeriCorps members will travel independently to their site stations. AmeriCorps members will receive a living allowance of \$6,750	background check that includes the National Sex Offender Public Website, BCI and FBI fingerprinting, and six additional web checks as established by the Ohio Attorney General's Office for persons working with vulnerable populations. This is our current protocol in our Foster Grandparent Senior Companion programs.  The Program Manager will be responsible for conducting outreach to find new clients and members and managing referrals as they come in. The Program Manager will hold 15-20 outreach events for new clients annually. The Program Manager will also attend 12- 15 outreach events for new members annually.  Clients will be interviewed and screened for	the current capacity of 20 members.  Members will document visits with clients weekly, totaling 10-20 hours per week.  The members will collectively complete 10 MSYs per year.  Members will report taking their clients to at least one out-of-the-home activity per week.  Members will complete all required training annually to maintain eligibility in the program.  Members will have a 90% return rate from the annual satisfaction surveys.  CSS will achieve a 90% compliance on quarterly Clinical Record Reviews for this program.	satisfaction with the member companion services as evidenced by responses on client satisfaction surveys.  4) 90% of members will report feeling an increased sense of purpose due to being a member, as evidenced by satisfaction survey responses.		the trainings. Additionally, we will work with each member to ensure they exit the program with a strong resume.

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
program, seniors will feel less lonely and less isolated, have an enhanced quality of life, reduced health concerns, and maintain independence in their preferred setting.  The program will provide members with service opportunities to enhance community engagement and to develop transferable workforce skills which could assist them in gaining meaningful employment. By providing culturally competent companion services to isolated seniors in the community, members will improve their disposable income and sense of purpose.	for their service.  Catholic Social Services will provide administrative support through Human Resources, Information Technology, Development and Marketing, and Finance departments, based at our headquarters in Columbus, Ohio.  Catholic Social Services will utilize our agency-wide client database system, Exponent Case Management (ECM), to track client data and program outcomes.  The budget and budget narrative outline the financial inputs needed to operate the program.	eligibility and appropriateness for the program. Each client will complete an intake form.  Clients will be screened for benefits by the Program Manager. Client case management will be conducted by the Site Station Supervisors. All necessary intraagency collaboration will be managed by the Program Manager and overseen by the Program Director.  Members will receive 20 hours of training before they begin independent service. Each member will successfully complete 20 hours of shadowing with a fully trained volunteer, the program director, or the program manager. The trainings and orientation will serve the clients; needs, including how to provide companionship and				

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
		support to vulnerable seniors, boundary issues, and do¿s and don¿ts of working with seniors. We will also have a manual for each member which we will review at orientation and at regular intervals with the volunteers.				
		The proposed start date for members is 9/1/2024. The proposed end date for members is 6/30/2025.				
		Members will receive an additional 24 hours of in-service training annually. These trainings will reinforce how to work with seniors appropriately and best practices. The				
		trainings will also prepare members for entering the workforce following their service year, including job readiness topics such as resume writing, how to conduct a job search, and				

Members will convene monthly for trainings and professional development opportunities. Members will also attend the AmeriCorps 30th anniversary training. These meetings will also give them opportunities to network with each other.  Each client will be paired with an AmeriCorps member according to their stated preferences. Members will visit with paired clients in their homes for 5- 10 hours per week. The SSP will be a year-round program. Members will be permitted to provide	Input	Inputs Activitie	es Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
paired with an AmeriCorps member according to their stated preferences. Members will visit with paired clients in their homes for 5- 10 hours per week. The SSP will be a year-round program. Members will be permitted to provide		convene mon for trainings a professional development opportunities. Members will attend the AmeriCorps 3 anniversary training. Thes meetings will give them opportunities network with	and  I also  Both  se also to			
clients with whom they are paired to participate in at least one out-of- home activity per week.		paired with an AmeriCorps member acco to their stated preferences. Members will with paired cl in their home 10 hours per varied the series of the series will be permit provide transportation clients with wathey are paire participate in least one outhome activity	ording d I visit lients es for 5- week. be a mbers tted to n for whom ed to at eof-			

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
		member will visit each client 2 to 3 times per week, for 3 to 5 hours each visit.				
		During the weekly visits, the AmeriCorps members can perform the following activities: *Conversing with clients and making them comfortable *Watching and discussing television shows, sports, news, current events, etc. *Reading and writing				
		correspondence *Assisting clients with walking (indoors and outdoors) *Crocheting, knitting, and other handwork or crafts *Sitting with homebound clients in order to provide relief for family				
		members *Playing cards, chess, checkers, etc. *Reading to clients *Helping with meal preparation *Helping clients relearn community living skills				

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
		Members will document each visit with clients on a monthly timesheet, which will be signed by the member and the Site Station Supervisor. The Program Manager will then review and approve each timesheet.				

## Budget Narrative: Scioto County Senior Program for CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Section I. Program Operating Costs

### A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Program Director - 1 person at \$77,399 at 20% of time allocated to this program.: - 1 person(s) at 77399 each x 20 % usage	0	15,480	15,480
Program Manager - 1 person at \$55,000 at 80% of time allocated to this program.: - 1 person(s) at 55000 each x 80 % usage	33,000	11,000	44,000
Program Administrative Assistant - 1 part-time person at \$18,720 each at 100% usage. Program Administrative Assistant does not participate in fundraising or grant writing.: - 1 person(s) at 18720 each x 100 % usage	16,848	1,872	18,720
Category Totals	49,848	28,352	78,200

### **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA: FICA for 3 staff (\$78,200 x 0.0765)	0	5,982	5,982
Worker's Compensation: Worker's Compensation for 3 staff (\$78,200 x 0.011)	0	860	860
Health insurance: Health insurance: Health Insurance for Program Manager and Program Administrative Assistant (\$62,720 x 0.25)	0	15,680	15,680
Retirement: Retirement: Match for 403b for Program Director (\$15,480 x 0.03)	0	464	464
Long-Term Disability: Long Term Disability for 3 staff (\$78,200 x 0.00759)	0	594	594
Life insurance: Life Insurance for 3 staff (\$78,200 x 0.0073)	0	571	571
Category Totals	0	24,151	24,151

### C. Travel

### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings: 2025 National Service Regional Training: 1 staff traveling to training for 3 days/2 nights - Meals/Lodging @ \$1000 & airfare = \$1,000	2,000	0	2,000
Local travel: Project staff to travel to volunteer sites, meetings and client homes: 3 staff traveling 417 miles/month/person x 12 months x \$0.655/mile = \$9,833	9,833	0	9,833
Program Directors Meetings: Local Travel: 1 staff traveling 20 miles to attend x 3 training x \$0.655/mile	39	0	39
Service Speaks training: Local Travel: 1 staff traveling 180 miles to attend x 1 training x \$0.655/mile	118	0	118
2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: Local Travel: 1 staff traveling 180 miles to attend conference	118	0	118
Category Totals	12,108	0	12,108

#### **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Local Travel: Member Travel: 20 members x 139 miles/month/member @ \$0.655/mile x 12 months	21,851	0	21,851
LeaderCorps initiative: Local Travel: 2 members traveling 180 miles to attend conference, one overnight at \$125/member	486	0	486
Service Speaks training: Local Travel: 2 members traveling 180 miles to attend conference, one overnight at \$125/member	486	0	486
AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary Training event: Local Travel: 20 members traveling 180 miles to attend conference	2,358	0	2,358
2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: Local Travel: 1 member traveling 180 miles to attend conference	118	0	118
Category Totals	25,299	0	25,299

### D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Supplies: Includes specific items purchased to support direct care staff and client specific materials to include program file folders, general office supplies, and software purchase and lease. \$100/month x 12 months	0	1,200	1,200
Uniforms: 20 AmeriCorps seniors sweaters @ \$25 = \$500 and 20 AmeriCorps tee-shirts @ \$20 = \$400	900	0	900
Laptops: 2 Laptops @ \$1,000 each for new staff members.	2,000	0	2,000
Category Totals	2,900	1,200	4,100

### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## G. Training

### **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: \$100 registration fee x 1 staff member attending the conference- Daily Rate of 100	100	0	100
2025 National Service Regional Training: \$300 registration fee x 1 staff member attending the conference- Daily Rate of 300	300	0	300

	Category Totals	400	0	400
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## **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism: \$100 registration fee x 1 AmeriCorps member attending the conference- Daily Rate of 100	100	0	100
AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary Training event: \$20 registration fee x 20 AmeriCorps members attending the training- Daily Rate of 20	400	0	400
Category Totals	500	0	500

### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

### I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Criminal background check: Criminal background check @ \$72 x 20 AmeriCorps members and 2 staff members. Includes NSPOW, state, and FBI checks.	1,584	0	1,584
OnCorps reporting dues: OnCorps reporting dues: \$18/member x 20 members	360	0	360
Insurance: Portion of liability insurance needed to operate program serving vulnerable seniors	990	0	990
Category Totals	2,934	0	2,934
Section Totals	93,989	53,703	147,692
PERCENTAGE	63.64%	36.36%	

### **Section II. Member Costs**

### A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): 20 Member(s) at a rate of 6750 each Members W/O allowance 0	135,000	0	135,000
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each	0	0	0

Members W/O allowance			
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	135,000	0	135,000

### **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members: 7.65% of member living allowance	10,328	0	10,328
Worker's Compensation: Worker's Compensation for members: 1.1% of member living allowance	1,485	0	1,485
Health Care:	0	0	0
In-service meals: Meals at members' in-service trainings: 12 in-service trainings x \$5/meal/member x 20 members = \$1,200	1,200	0	1,200
Recognition event for members: Recognition event for members: Meals - 20 members @ \$20/meal = \$400, plus event rental space @ \$1,600.	2,000	0	2,000
Category Totals	15,013	0	15,013
Section Totals	150,013	0	150,013
PERCENTAGE	100.00%	0.00%	

### **Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs**

### A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount: De minimis rate of 10% to calculate indirect costs, excluding state commission allocation	0	23,507	23,507
Commission Fixed Amount: ServeOhio retains a 2% share of the 5% of federal funds available to programs for administrative costs.	4,875	1,389	6,264
Category Totals	4,875	24,896	29,771

### **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	4,875	24,896	29,771
PERCENTAGE	16.37%	83.63%	

PERCENTAGE	76.00%	24.00%	
Required Match		0.00%	
Total MSYs	10.00		
Cost/MSY	24,887.70		

### **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source
Source of Funds	If awarded an AmeriCorps grant, we will seek corporate and private foundation grants to provide matching funds for SSP program. We will utilize general revenue for CSS to support the program if needed.	78,599	Cash	Private
Total Source of Funds		78,599		



APPLICATION FOR Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/0			_	TYPE OF SUBMISS     Application X Nor	
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):	3. DATE RECEI 03-APR-24			STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:
2b. A PPLICATION ID: 24A C265727	4. DATE RECE	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY:		FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:	
5. A PPLICATION INFORMATION	I			<u> </u>	
LEGAL NAME: Renounce Denounce Gang Intervention Program UEI NUMBER: V6JZQHWHU395			CONTACTED ON MATTE	OR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER ERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give	
ADDRESS (give street address, city, st 26155 Euclid avenue (rear) Euclid OH 44132 - 3301 County: Cuyahoga	ate, zip code and county	):	TELEPHONE NUMBER: (216) 466-7176  FAX NUMBER: INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: info@renouncedenouncegangprogram.org		
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 833806901	R (EIN):		7. TYPE OF APPL 7a. Non-Profit 7b. Community-E		
X NEW NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTEE  CONTINUATION AMENDMENT  If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es):  A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION  C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (specify below):			9. NAME OF FED Corporati		and Community Service
10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTI 10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State 12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (L			11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Saving Our Youth & Community from Gun and Gang Violence  11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):		
Cuyahoga, Lorain, Euclid					
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DA	_	DATE: 07/01/25	14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF: a.Applicant OH 11 b.Program OH 11		a.Applicant OH 11 b.Program OH 11
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: 1			16. IS APPLICATION ORDER 12372 PR		W BY STATE EXECUTIVE
a. FEDERAL	\$ 274,028.00	)	_		CATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE
b. APPLICANT	\$ 38,820.00	)	TO THE REVIEW		RDER 12372 PROCESS FOR
c. STATE	\$ 0.00		DATE:		
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00		X NO. PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372		BY E.O. 12372
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00				
f. PROGRAM INCOME	f. PROGRAM INCOME \$ 0.00 17. IS T		17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?  ☐ YES if "Yes," attach an explanation.  ☐ NO		
g. TOTAL \$ 312,848.00  18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLI IS AWARDED.			PREA PPLICATION A	ARE TRUE AND CORRE	CCT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPF Laron Douglas Sr	RESENTATIVE:	b. TITLE:			c. TELEPHONE NUMBER: (216) 466-7176
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPR	ESENTATIVE:				e. DATE SIGNED: 04/03/24



#### **Executive Summary**

The Renounce Denounce will have 20 part-time AmeriCorps members who will provide mentoring, educational support, and violence interruption services in Cleveland, Euclid, and Lorain. At the end of the first program year, the AmeriCorps members will be responsible for mentoring 200 at-risk youths, facilitating 100 community workshops on violence prevention, and contributing 10% reduction in local youth crime rates. In addition, the AmeriCorps members will leverage 50 community volunteers who will organize and lead community beautification projects and support the program's various outreach initiatives. The AmeriCorps investment will be matched with \$51,870, \$0 in public funding, and \$52,000 iin private funding.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

The Renounce Denounce Gang Intervention Program (RDGIP) aims to address the critical needs arising from gang involvement and violence among youth in Cleveland, Euclid, and Lorain, Ohio. Each of these urban areas presents unique challenges and socioeconomic conditions that contribute to the prevalence of gang activity and its associated impacts on communities. In these urban settings, youth and young adults encounter an array of socioeconomic challenges that significantly escalate their risk of gang involvement and exposure to violence (Johnson, 2017). These adversities encompass elevated unemployment rates, pervasive poverty, educational disparities, and a scarcity of supportive services and opportunities for positive development, culminating in environments conducive to gang affiliation and a cycle of crime that undermines the fabric of community safety and cohesion (Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2019). Community Challenges: High Crime Rates and Violence: Cleveland has been identified for its disproportionately high crime rates, with an emphasis on violence and gang activity that also permeates the neighboring cities of Euclid and Lorain. This scenario exacerbates the susceptibility of these communities to gang dominance, further jeopardizing the safety and well-being of its residents. Socioeconomic Challenges: The target areas are marked by stark socioeconomic challenges, with notable indicators of unemployment and poverty acting as catalysts for the allure of gang life among the youth. The educational system, plagued by underfunding and overcrowding, further diminishes prospects for the younger population, thus facilitating a breeding ground for gang recruitment (U.S. Census Bureau, 2018; Kozol, 2012). Systemic Inequities: Rooted in historical and systemic inequities, such as racial segregation and economic disinvestment, Cleveland, Euclid, and Lorain exhibit deep-seated issues of concentrated poverty and housing instability. These inequities have not only contributed to the proliferation of gang activity but have also entrenched a cycle of



violence that perpetuates these communities' socioeconomic challenges (Sharkey, 2013). Comparison with Similar Geographic Regions Despite sharing some socioeconomic characteristics with Cleveland, cities within Ohio and neighboring states exhibit lower incidences of gang violence, underscoring Cleveland, Lorain, and Euclid's unique and urgent need for targeted interventions. CDC SVI: The CDC's Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) sheds light on how socioeconomic and demographic conditions can heighten issues such as crime, poverty, and gang violence. In Cleveland, high poverty and unemployment suggest greater vulnerability and a link to increased crime and gang activity. Singleparent households, more prevalent in distressed areas, and communities with large minority populations facing systemic inequities, may see higher gang involvement and educational gaps. In Euclid, limited transportation and similar socioeconomic vulnerabilities as Cleveland can undermine community stability and raise gang risks. Lorain's history of economic disinvestment and educational challenges, compounded by the loss of manufacturing jobs, mirrors higher SVI scores, signaling a susceptibility to crime and gang dynamics. Program Design RDGIP is poised to address these pressing needs through a multifaceted approach, encompassing cognitive behavioral interventions, enhanced community safety measures, and strategic partnerships aimed at dismantling the root causes of gang involvement and fostering a safer, more prosperous future for the youth in these cities. By aligning its objectives with the nuanced socioeconomic landscape and leveraging collaborative synergies, RDGIP endeavors to curtail gang activity, mitigate violence, and champion the long-term resilience and wellbeing of the communities within Cleveland, Euclid, and Lorain (Flanagan et al., 2018). The RDGIP provides multifaceted services designed to combat gang involvement and promote safer, more resilient urban communities. This comprehensive program targets the root causes of gang affiliation through education, mentorship, and proactive community engagement, employing a holistic strategy that includes Cognitive Behavioral Interventions: Programs focused on altering negative thought patterns and behaviors and encouraging positive life choices. Educational Support and Vocational Training: Services aimed at improving educational outcomes and employment opportunities, offering viable alternatives to gang life. Mentorship Programs: Connecting at-risk youth with positive role models to provide guidance and a sense of belonging outside the gang context. Community Engagement Initiatives: Workshops, forums, and events designed to enhance community cohesion and raise awareness of the dangers of gang involvement. Family Support Services: Counseling and resources for families of at-risk youth, aiming to strengthen family dynamics and support systems. Conflict Resolution Workshops: Training in peaceful communication and dispute resolution, equipping individuals with the skills to manage conflicts non-violently. Safe Passages Program: Supervised



routes for students traveling to and from school, reducing the risk of gang recruitment and violence. Community Violence Intervention: Collaborative efforts with local entities to address and diminish gang activity and violence in targeted areas. Health and Wellness Programs: Initiatives focusing on substance abuse prevention, mental health, and access to healthcare, supporting the overall well-being of participants. Legal and Social Services Advocacy: Assistance in accessing legal and social services, helping overcome barriers associated with gang involvement. Violence Interrupters: A critical component of RDGIP's strategy, violence interrupters are individuals trained to identify and mediate potential violent conflicts within the community before they escalate. Often, these interrupters are respected community members with firsthand experience of gang culture, enabling them to communicate and negotiate peace among conflicting parties effectively. Their proactive approach to detecting and intervening in early signs of violence plays a vital role in preventing retaliatory actions, reducing shootings, and ultimately saving lives. The uniqueness of the Proposed Program is that it operates within communities through a combination of strategic engagement, collaboration, and direct intervention tailored to address each community's unique challenges and needs. Here's an overview of how the programs typically function within the community: 1) Community Assessment and Engagement (Butts et al., 2015): Initial Assessment: Programs start with a thorough assessment of the community's needs, challenges, and resources. This involves gathering data on crime rates, gang activity, socioeconomic factors, and existing community resources. Building Relationships: Establishing strong relationships with community members, leaders, local organizations, schools, and law enforcement is crucial. These relationships foster trust, collaboration, and community buy-in, essential for the program's success.2) Collaborative Partnerships (Skogan et al., 2008) Partnership Development: Programs collaborate with various stakeholders, including local government, law enforcement, schools, community organizations, and healthcare providers, to create a cohesive approach to gang intervention and violence prevention. Resource Sharing: By pooling resources and expertise with these partners, programs can offer more comprehensive services and extend their reach within the community. 3)Direct Services (Heller, 2014) Education and Training: Programs provide educational support and vocational training directly to at-risk youths and adults to improve employment prospects and provide alternatives to gang involvement. Mentorship and Counseling: Through mentorship programs and counseling services, participants receive individualized support and guidance, fostering personal growth and resilience. Health and Wellness: Access to health and wellness services, including mental health support and substance abuse treatment, addresses participants' physical and psychological needs. 4) Violence Interruption and Mediation (Picard-



Fritsche et al. 2013) Deploying Violence Interrupters: Trained violence interrupters, often individuals from the community with personal experience in gang culture, are deployed to mediate conflicts and prevent violent incidents. They work on the ground, using their credibility and relationships to deescalate potential violence. Conflict Resolution Workshops: Community workshops on conflict resolution and non-violent communication are offered to equip residents with the skills to manage disputes peacefully. 5) Community Empowerment and Sustainability (McGill et al., 2017) Empowerment Initiatives: Programs engage community members in leadership and development initiatives, empowering them to participate actively in violence prevention and community improvement. Sustainability Planning: Efforts are made to ensure the program's longevity through continuous funding, training of local leaders, and embedding the program's practices into community norms and systems. 6) Evaluation and Adaptation (Braga et al. 2012) Continuous Evaluation: Programs implement ongoing evaluation mechanisms to assess their impact, identify areas for improvement, and adjust strategies as needed. Adaptive Strategies: Based on evaluation outcomes and changing community needs, programs adapt their approaches to remain effective and responsive to the community's evolving challenges. These programs operate with the understanding that community-based issues like gang involvement and violence require holistic, community-centered solutions. By integrating into the fabric of the community and addressing both the symptoms and root causes of violence and gang affiliation, programs like RDGIP aim to create lasting change and safer environments for all community members. Context in Which the Intervention is Delivered The intervention is delivered in urban communities identified with high rates of gang activity, violence, and socioeconomic challenges. Settings include schools, community centers, places of worship, and through street outreach, ensuring accessibility and safety for participants. These venues are chosen for their significance to the community and their capacity to host various program activities, from educational sessions to community engagement initiatives. Number of AmeriCorps Members Delivering the Intervention A team will deliver the intervention of 20 part-time AmeriCorps members. This team size is determined based on the scope of the intervention, the expected number of participants, and the need for a manageable member-to-participant ratio that allows for personalized attention and effective service delivery. Characteristics of AmeriCorps Members: Knowledge and Skills: Members should have a strong understanding of the dynamics of gang involvement and community violence, as well as skills in conflict resolution, mentorship, educational support, and community engagement. Abilities: Effective communication, empathy, cultural competence, and working collaboratively with diverse populations are crucial. Members should also be adaptable,



manage challenges, and modify approaches based on participant needs and feedback. Core Activities of the Intervention: Duration: The interventions span from daily community building to program periods that are 10-week intensive sessions, followed by ongoing monthly workshops, violence interrupters' daily actions, and activities for a year to reinforce initial learnings and support. Dosage: Participants engage in activities for approximately 15-20 hours per week during the intensive phase, which includes direct educational sessions, mentorship meetings, and community service projects. The monthly follow-up sessions last about 2-3 hours. Target Population: The primary focus is on disconnected youth aged 14-24 who are either at risk of gang involvement or seeking to exit gang life. This demographic is identified based on community assessments and referrals from local schools, juvenile justice systems, and community organizations. By structuring the intervention around these parameters, AmeriCorps members can effectively implement the RDGIP model to address gang involvement and support at-risk youth. The program's design--emphasizing intensive engagement followed by sustained support--aims to foster meaningful personal development, reduce violence, and enhance community cohesion. Measurable Outputs: The program aims to serve at least 200 at-risk youth annually in targeted urban communities. This figure includes participants in the intensive 10week program and those engaged in ongoing monthly workshops. Types and Number of Activities Conducted: Expected activities include: 100+ educational sessions and workshops focusing on skills development, conflict resolution, and violence prevention.50+ mentorship meetings pairing youth with positive role models.20+ community service projects designed to foster community engagement and civic responsibility. Specific equity gaps are addressed through targeted outreach to marginalized and underserved youth populations to ensure equitable access and participation in the program. Outcomes: Changes in Knowledge/Skill: Participants will demonstrate increased understanding and skills in conflict resolution, emotional regulation, and positive decision-making, as measured through pre- and post-intervention assessments. Changes in Attitude: Expected shifts in attitude include increased resilience, a stronger sense of community responsibility, and a decreased acceptance of violence as a conflict resolution method. Surveys and qualitative feedback will measure these changes. Changes in Behavior: A reduction in gang involvement and violent behaviors among participants, with increased school attendance and engagement in positive community activities. The AmeriCorps members' experience is designed to foster leadership, enhance employability, and immerse members in the community through an asset-based approach. Workforce Pathways: members will be engaged in roles that align with their career interests and goals, providing a direct pathway to workforce development. Increasing Responsibility and Leadership Roles: Members will start with foundational



tasks and, as they gain experience, will be offered opportunities to take on more complex roles, such as program coordination, leading training sessions, or managing community projects. Professional Development Workshops: Regularly scheduled workshops will cover topics such as conflict resolution, public speaking, project management, and grant writing. High-Quality Orientation and Community Immersion: Asset-Based Community Orientation: Members will receive a comprehensive orientation highlighting the strengths and assets of the community they serve. This orientation includes guided tours, meetings with community leaders, and discussions with residents to understand the community's history, culture, and aspirations from an asset-based perspective. Community-Led Guidance: The orientation and ongoing engagement will be informed and guided by community members, ensuring that AmeriCorps members' efforts align with the community's needs and leverage existing local resources. Training and Certification: Frequency and Topics of Training: members will undergo initial intensive training upon joining the program, followed by bi-monthly training sessions throughout their service term. Certifications and Specific Training Curriculum: Members can earn certifications in first aid/CPR, conflict mediation, and mental health first aid. Additionally, the program will offer specialized training in community engagement and violence prevention techniques provided by experts in the field. Member Supervision Each AmeriCorps member will be assigned a direct supervisor who is experienced in the program's focus areas and trained in mentorship and leadership development. This structure ensures that members receive personalized guidance and support. Check-ins: Regular check-ins will occur every week, allowing members and supervisors to discuss progress, challenges, and support needs. These check-ins will be a mix of formal, scheduled meetings and informal, as-needed conversations to provide continuous support. Growth Assessment: During the initial orientation and at regular intervals throughout their term, members and supervisors will collaboratively assess strengths, areas for improvement, and professional development goals. This ongoing evaluation ensures that members receive targeted support and opportunities for growth. Professional Development: Members will have access to a structured professional development plan that includes internal and external training opportunities, workshops on leadership and service-related topics, and mentorship from industry and community leaders. Member Recruitment and Retention: The member recruitment plan allocates resources towards targeted outreach and engagement strategies to attract AmeriCorps members from within the communities we aim to serve. To support member retention, the budget emphasizes incentives and additional benefits such as enhanced living allowances and professional development opportunities, thereby fostering a supportive and enriching service environment that rewards their commitment and prepares them for future career success.



DEIA The organization prioritizes leadership and staffing that reflect the diversity and lived experiences of the communities served. This commitment is evident in recruitment and hiring practices designed to ensure that staff and leadership possess a deep understanding of the challenges and strengths of the community.

#### **Organizational Capability**

The applicant organization is committed to addressing community challenges through direct intervention, education, and empowerment programs. With a mission centered on fostering safer, more resilient communities, the organization has a track record of successfully implementing initiatives that reduce violence, enhance educational opportunities, and support workforce development. Over the years, it has established itself as a key player in community revitalization efforts, working closely with local stakeholders, including schools, law enforcement agencies, and community groups, to create meaningful change. Staffing Roles, Responsibilities, and Structure: Program Director: Oversees the entire RDGIP, ensuring alignment with organizational goals, securing funding, and managing partnerships. Responsible for high-level program planning, evaluation, and reporting. Program Managers: Each manager oversees specific components of the RDGIP, such as educational services, mentorship programs, or community engagement initiatives. They manage day-to-day operations, supervise AmeriCorps members and volunteers, and ensure the quality and effectiveness of program delivery. Renounce Denounce has collaborated with local trade unions and technical schools to introduce pre-apprenticeship programs, providing at-risk youth pathways to stable, high-paying jobs. The organization has partnered with local businesses and workforce development agencies to offer work experience and job training opportunities tailored to the needs of the community's youth, and they have worked alongside educational institutions to supplement traditional schooling with after-school programs, tutoring, and career counseling services, aimed at reducing dropout rates and improving academic outcomes. The organization's mission is to empower individuals and transform communities by addressing the root causes of social challenges through innovation, collaboration, and direct action.

#### Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy

For the Renounce Denounce program, which focuses on deterring youth from gang involvement through community engagement and empowerment strategies, assessing cost-effectiveness and budget adequacy is pivotal for ensuring the program's financial stewardship and impact. Here's how these elements can be structured for the Renounce Denounce initiative:



#### Cost-Effectiveness

Prevention and Intervention Outcome per Dollar Spent: Evaluating the program's costeffectiveness involves measuring the tangible outcomes of its prevention and intervention activities-such as reduced gang affiliation among youths, increased participation in positive community
activities, and improved school attendance and performance--against the financial investment made.
The goal is to demonstrate that strategic spending reduces gang involvement and enhances
community safety.

Leveraging Community Resources and Partnerships: Renounce Denounce maximizes costeffectiveness by utilizing existing community resources, such as local schools, community centers, and partnerships with law enforcement and social services. This approach amplifies the program's reach and impact without proportionately increasing costs.

Benchmarking Against Similar Programs: By comparing its cost per outcome to other gang prevention programs, Renounce Denounce can highlight its efficiency. Demonstrating cost-effectiveness is crucial, especially if the program can achieve its objectives at a lower cost or with a more significant impact than comparable initiatives.

### **Budget Adequacy**

Comprehensive Coverage of Program Needs: The budget meticulously accounts for all expenses associated with the program's comprehensive approach to gang prevention, including mentorship activities, educational support, community workshops, and intervention efforts. An adequate budget ensures that these activities are fully funded and can be executed without compromise.

Incorporation of Contingency Funds: Recognizing the dynamic nature of community-based prevention work, Renounce Denounce includes a contingency fund within its budget to adapt to unexpected challenges or opportunities, ensuring program flexibility and resilience.

Strategic Alignment with Program Objectives: The budget is intricately aligned with the program's objectives, ensuring that the most significant allocations support the most impactful activities. This

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### **Narratives**

alignment guarantees that financial resources are directed towards initiatives with the highest potential to deter youth from gang involvement and foster positive community engagement.

Planning for Sustainability and Growth: The budget considers strategies for sustaining the program beyond the current funding cycle, exploring avenues for additional funding, community support, and program expansion. Adequacy in this context means that the budget supports immediate program needs and lays the groundwork for future development and scalability.

The Renounce Denounce program demonstrates a commitment to financial responsibility, strategic resource allocation, and impactful community service by maintaining cost-effectiveness and ensuring budget adequacy. This approach maximizes the benefits of the program's activities on youth and the broader community, positioning Renounce Denounce as a sustainable model for gang prevention and youth empowerment.

**Evaluation Summary or Plan** 

n/a

**Amendment Justification** 

n/a

**Clarification Summary** 

n/a

**Continuation Changes** 

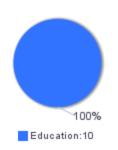
n/a

**Grant Characteristics** 

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#### Performance Measures

MSYs by Focus Area



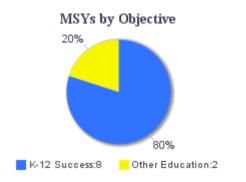


Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs	
Education	100%	

Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
K- 12 Success	80%
Other Education	20%

### % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

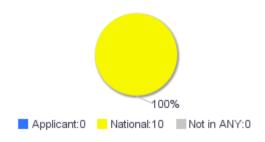


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

% MSYs	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
	100%	0%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
K- 12 Success	8.00	16
Other Education	2.00	4
Total	10.00	20

Primary Focus Area: Education

Primary Intervention: Out- of- School Time

Secondary Focus Area: Secondary Intervention:



Performance Measure: RDGIP Academic Resilience Coaching Problem Statement

Focus Education Objective: K- 12 Success No of MSY's: No of MSY's: 16

#### Problem Statement:

Within K- 12 education, students facing socio- economic challenges often lack the individualized academic support and resilience coaching necessary to overcome barriers to educational attainment, increasing the risk of gang involvement.

#### Selected Interventions:

Coaching

Family Involvement

Mentoring

Opioid/Drug Intervention

Out- of- School Time

Service- Learning

#### Describe Interventions:

Academic Resilience Coaching involves personalized academic support, study skill workshops, and resilience coaching sessions to help students cope with educational challenges.

Family Unity Initiative: The program will facilitate family engagement workshops, provide parenting resources, and create school- home communication channels to enhance family involvement in education.

Youth Mentorship Pathways: We'll establish one- on- one and group mentoring sessions connecting students with positive role models from the community and professions.

Substance Abuse Education & Prevention: Educational campaigns, school assemblies, and collaboration with local health organizations will be implemented to provide drug abuse prevention education and intervention services.

After- School Enrichment and Safety: We'll offer after- school programs, including homework help, recreational activities, and life skills training to keep students engaged in positive activities post- school hours.

Civic Engagement and Learning: This intervention focuses on service- learning projects that allow students to apply academic knowledge to community service, enhancing learning and civic responsibility. Instruments for Data Collection

Data Tracking: Pre- and Post- Intervention Surveys: Designed to assess changes in students' attitudes, knowledge, and behaviors regarding academics, community engagement, and susceptibility to gang influence. Attendance and Engagement Logs: Track participation in various program activities, meeting dosage and engagement levels.

Academic Records: Analyze report cards and school attendance records to monitor changes in academic performance.

Behavioral Incident Reports: Collect data from schools on behavioral incidents to measure changes in student conduct.

Parent and Teacher Feedback Forms: Gather qualitative data on the perceived impact of family engagement initiatives and mentorship programs.

Data Collection: Baseline, mid and end program collection

ED1A Output:

# DRAFT

Performance Measure: RDGIP Academic Resilience Coaching Problem Statement

Problem Statement:

Seleatering terventions:

Family Involvement

Mentoring

Opioid/Drug Intervention

Out- of- School Time

Service- Learning

ED1A: Number of individuals served

Target: 200 Individuals Measured By: Tracking System

Described Instrument: spreadsheet tracking

ED27C Outcome:

ED27C: Number of students with improved academic engagement or social- emotional skills

Target: 30 Students

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Provide permission slip to get school records

OUTCM91865 Outcome:

number of students not engaging in gangs

Target: 10 students

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Survey youth on their involvement and their families.

ED6 Outcome:

ED6: Number of students with increased attendance

Target: 30 Students

Measured By: Attendance Records

Described Instrument: Permission slip from parents or youth if 18 to collect school records

ED7A Outcome:

ED7A: Number of students with decreased disciplinary incidents

Target: 20 Students
Measured By: Police Records

Described Instrument: Have staff work with the police to check incidents and if needed, parent

permission slips to access this information.

# DRAFT

Performance Measure: RDGIP Academic Resilience Coaching Problem Statement

**Problem Statement:** 

Seleaternlinterventions:

Family Involvement

Mentoring

Opioid/Drug Intervention

Out- of- School Time

Service- Learning

ED9 Outcome:

ED9: Number of students graduating from high school on time

Target: 15 Students

Measured By: Graduation Records

Described Instrument: Check school records.

ED10 Outcome:

ED10: Number of students enrolling in post- secondary education/training

Target: 10 Students

Measured By: Participant Self- Report

Described Instrument: Survey

ED5A Outcome:

ED5A: Number of students with improved academic performance

Target: 30 Students

Measured By: Report Card Grade

Described Instrument: We will use a permission slip to access students in the program from the school.



Performance Measure: Community Awareness on Addressing Conflict Resolution

Focus Education Objective: Other Education No of 2.00 No of 4 MSY's: Members:

#### Problem Statement:

In the communities we serve, there is a notable lack of effective conflict resolution skills and awareness, leading to an escalation in interpersonal conflicts and contributing to higher rates of violence and gang involvement. The absence of these critical skills often results in destructive behaviors and missed opportunities for constructive dialogue, impeding the development of a peaceful and collaborative community environment.

#### Selected Interventions:

Number of community engaged workshops

#### Describe Interventions:

The "Community Engaged Workshops for Conflict Resolution" intervention is designed to strengthen the community's ability to handle disputes constructively. The program comprises a sequence of structured workshops led by trained facilitators who specialize in conflict resolution and mediation techniques. These workshops aim to:

Educate participants on the underlying causes of conflict and the personal and social impacts of unresolved disputes.

Develop practical skills in communication, active listening, empathy, negotiation, and problem- solving that can be applied in various situations, from domestic disputes to neighborhood disagreements.

Foster a culture of peace and understanding by promoting values such as respect, patience, and the importance of constructive dialogue over physical or verbal aggression.

Empower participants to become conflict resolution ambassadors in their own neighborhoods, creating a ripple effect that enhances community resilience against violence and discord.

Each workshop session incorporates role- playing activities, group discussions, and real- life scenarios to provide participants with hands- on experience in resolving conflicts. The intervention is designed to be inclusive and adaptive to the specific needs of the community it serves, making it relevant and accessible to all demographics. Through these workshops, the community develops a robust set of tools to address conflicts, reduce the incidence of violence, and enhance overall community well- being.

ED1A Output:

ED1A: Number of individuals served

Target: 100 Individuals

Measured By: Tracking System

Described Instrument: Surveys and attendance

OUTCM91866 Outcome:

number of community members that feel safer and more engaged

Target: 50 staff

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Performance Measure: Community Awareness on Addressing Conflict Resolution

**Problem Statement:** 

Splanted later wantimer engaged workshops

Target: 50 staff

Measured By: Other

Described Instrument: Surveys of businesses and schools of their employees to see what they see as a

safer community



## **Program Information**

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration

Underrepresented communities, underserved people, Evidence- based Interventions, Faith- based organizations, Programs providing additional benefits, Workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members, Programs for/with second chance youth, Civic bridgebuilding programs

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

Innovative Community Strategies, Geographic Focus Urban



# Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	52000
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	200
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	100



# **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Not Applicable
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Other Documents	Sent

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.
¿ High rates of youth gang involvement and related violence in Cleveland, Euclid, and Lorain. ¿ Socioeconomic disparities leading to crime and lack of positive youth engagement. ¿ Educational and workforce development opportunities are insufficient or inaccessible.	¿ Funding from AmeriCorps and other stakeholders. ¿ 20 part-time AmeriCorps members are responsible for service delivery. ¿ Collaboration with local schools, law enforcement, and community organizations. ¿ Facilities for program activities (community centers, schools, etc.). ¿ Training materials and curricula for workshops and mentoring programs.	¿ Recruitment and training of AmeriCorps members and community volunteers. ¿ Conducting educational support and vocational training sessions. ¿ Providing mentoring and personal development workshops. ¿ Implementing violence interruption and conflict resolution initiatives. ¿ Organizing community engagement and beautification projects.	¿ 200 at-risk youths mentored. ¿ 100 violence prevention and conflict resolution workshops conducted. ¿ 50 community beautification projects completed. ¿ 50 community volunteers recruited and actively participating.	¿ Increased awareness among at-risk youth about the dangers and consequences of gang involvement. ¿ Improved academic performance and increased school attendance among program participants. ¿ Enhanced sense of safety and community cohesion in areas served by the program.	¿ Reduced rates of gang recruitment and involvement among youths in the target areas. ¿ Increased employment and educational opportunities for program participants. ¿ Strengthened community relationships and ongoing collaboration between stakeholders.	¿ Sustained reduction in youth crime and gang activity in Cleveland, Euclid, and Lorain. ¿ Establishment of a replicable and scalable model for gang intervention and youth development programs. ¿ Long-lasting community transformation with reduced violence, improved economic stability, and enhanced quality of life for residents.

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes

# **Budget Narrative: Saving Our Youth & Community from Gun and Gang Violence for Renounce Denounce Gang Intervention Program**

## **Section I. Program Operating Costs**

## A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Project Director: - 1 person(s) at 55000 each x 100 % usage	55,000	0	55,000
Category Totals	55,000	0	55,000

## **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
40% fringe Benefits: 40% of 55,000	0	22,000	22,000
Category Totals	0	22,000	22,000

### C. Travel

#### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings:	0	0	0
CNCS Sponsored Meetings: 500mi*.55*2=	0	550	550
Category Totals	0	550	550

#### **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Leader Corps: 275*.55*2	0	1,100	1,100
Justice Talking: 275*.55*2	0	1,100	1,100
Category Totals	0	2,200	2,200

## D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Materials for Program: 1,000mo*11 months	1,000	10,000	11,000
Category Totals	1,000	10,000	11,000

#### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
CPR and First Aid: 20*25.00- Daily Rate of 25	500	0	500
Category Totals	500	0	500

## **G.** Training

## **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Directors Training: 3 days *500= 1500- Daily Rate of 500	1,500	0	1,500
National Service Regional Training: 3 days *500- Daily Rate of 500	1,000	500	1,500
Category Totals	2,500	500	3,000

## **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Ohio Volunteer Conference: 275*2*.55- Daily Rate of 550	0	550	550
Category Totals	0	550	550

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Evaluation of Program: 5 days *500 a day- Daily Rate of 500	0	2,500	2,500
Category Totals	0	2,500	2,500

## I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
americorps pins: 2.00*60	0	120	120
On Corps: 20*\$20each	0	400	400
Category Totals	0	520	520
Section Totals	59,000	38,820	97,820
PERCENTAGE	60.31%	39.69%	

#### **Section II. Member Costs**

## A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each	C	0	0

Members W/O allowance			
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): 20 Member(s) at a rate of 9350 each Members W/O allowance 0	187,000	0	187,000
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	187,000	0	187,000

## **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members: 20*.0765	14,306	0	14,306
Worker's Compensation: 20*0036	673	0	673
Health Care:	0	0	0
Category Totals	14,979	0	14,979
Section Totals	201,979	0	201,979
PERCENTAGE	100.00%	0.00%	

#### **Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs**

## A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount: 260,000*.03	7,829	0	7,829
Commission Fixed Amount: 260979*.02	5,220	0	5,220
Category Totals	13,049	0	13,049

## **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

Section Totals	13,049	0	13,049
PERCENTAGE	100.00%	0.00%	

Budget Totals	274,028	38,820	312,848
PERCENTAGE	87.59%	12.41%	
Required Match		0.00%	
Total MSYs	10.00		
Cost/MSY	27,402.80		

## **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source



APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANC Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to confirm to the Corporation's eGrants System)		_	TYPE OF SUBMISS     Application X Nor		
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):	3. DATE RECEI	TE RECEIVED BY STATE: 3-APR-24		STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:
2b. APPLICATION ID: 24AC265739	4. DATE RECEI	ATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY: FED			
5. A PPLICATION INFORMATION	l .			I	
LEGAL NAME: Ohio University UEI NUMBER: LXHMMWRKN5N8			NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes):  NAME: Christopher Quolke		
ADDRESS (give street address, city, st 1 Ohio University Athens OH 45701 - 2942 County: Athens	ate, zip code and county	):	NAME: Christopher Quoike  TELEPHONE NUMBER: (740) 593-0033  FAX NUMBER:  INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: quolke@ohio.edu		
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 316402113	R (EIN):		_	ation Organization - Sta	te Controlled
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check appropriate box).  X NEW NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTEE  CONTINUATION AMENDMENT  If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es):  A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION  C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (specify below):			4-year colleg	Based Organization Je	
			9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY:  Corporation for National and Community Service		
10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMEST 10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State	IC ASSISTANCE NUMBER	R: 94.006	11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: ASCENTCorp		
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (L Scioto OH, Ross OH, Pike OH, Athe Meigs OH, Noble OH, Law rence OH	ns OH, Muskingum OH, G	Guernsey OH,	11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):		
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DA	TE: 08/11/24 END	DATE: 08/10/25	14. CONGRESSIC	DNAL DISTRICT OF:	a.Applicant OH 12 b.Program OH
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: 1			16. IS A PPLICATION ORDER 12372 PR		W BY STATE EXECUTIVE
a. FEDERAL b. APPLICANT	\$ 256,449.00 \$ 120,276.00		YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR		
c. STATE	\$ 0.00		REVIEW	/ ON:	
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00		DATE:  X NO. PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372		3Y E.O. 12372
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00				
f. PROGRAM INCOME \$ 0.00			CANT DELINQUENT ON		
g. TOTAL \$ 376,725.00  18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/IDULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICATION IS AWARDED.			PREAPPLICATION A		CCT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: b. TITLE:					c. TELEPHONE NUMBER:
Kimberly Pratt		<u> </u>			(740) 593-9985
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPR	ESENTATIVE:				e. DATE SIGNED: 04/03/24



#### **Executive Summary**

The ASCENT Program in the Russ College of Engineering at Ohio University will have 10 AmeriCorps members who will provide STEM outreach and mentorship in Scioto, Ross, Pike, Athens, Muskingum, Guernsey, Meigs, Noble, Lawrence, Gallia, Jackson, Vinton, Morgan, Monroe, Belmont, Perry, Hocking, and Washington counties in Ohio. At the end of the first program year, the AmeriCorps members will be responsible for enhancing STEM learning outcome attainment within districts. In addition, the AmeriCorps members will leverage 450+ volunteers who will be engaged in STEM outreach, mentorship, career exploration, and postsecondary education self-efficacy building activities. The AmeriCorps investment will be matched with \$118,286 by Ohio University, \$0 in public funding and \$1,990 in private funding.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

Appalachian Ohio has a myriad of documented challenges & obstacles that have impeded community & economic development, spanning several generations of community members. These challenges range and span education, economic, health, & poverty statistics. Using the State of Ohio, Department of Education's Performance Index Rankings a ranking evaluating district performance at STEM educational outcomes via a composite score, against the identified service footprint there are no high schools with 5 stars, 9 with 4 stars, 31 with 3 stars, 38 with 2 or fewer stars (Ohio Department of Education, PI Rankings, 2023). The composite score indicates district performance along a range of educational outcomes including math & science knowledge domains. These regional scores indicate there is need to support K-12 educators.

Residents in Scioto, Ross, Pike, Athens, Muskingum, & Guernsey counties in Ohio possess a High Level of Vulnerability as determined by the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index. Noble, Morgan, Perry, Hocking, Jackson, Vinton, Meigs, Gallia, & Lawrence possess a medium-high social vulnerability index. Pickaway, Fairfield, Washington, Monroe, & Belmont counties possess a low-medium risk. In 2024 the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) identifies Scioto, Athens, Megis, & Noble counties in Ohio as economically distressed. The ARC also identifies Lawrence, Gallia, Jackson, Vinton, Morgan, Gurnsey, & Monroe counties in Ohio as At-Risk. Within the Ohio counties the ARC identifies as transitional, distressed census tracts exist: Washington (3), Belmont (3), Muskingum (5), Perry (2), Hocking (1), Ross (3). Using the United Stated Department of Agriculture rural-urban commuting area codes for the service footprint identified, 75.8% (141/186) of census tracts are between a 4-10 showing service, proximity, & presence in rural communities.



The occupational opportunities of southeastern Ohio are inequitably distributed throughout the region, resulting in a limited occupational portrait presented to high school students at any one high school & often informed by family relationships. There are seven Career & Technical Education (CTE) facilities within the region, three within ASCENT. CTE can have a negative stereotype, which results students & families not engaging. Districts that can afford the expense have integrated traditional CTE programs into their facilities to enable more students to sample technical skills but access to trained & industrially certified instructors is a hurdle that even well-resources districts struggle to overcome. The limited presentation of occupational availability results in youths not understanding the avenues or motivations to pursue STEM educational pathways.

New & existing community-based organizations are working throughout the region to address social, educational, & health indicators that fall below the state or government's standards like Building Bridges to Careers (BB2C), Future Plans' Project GRIT, & the Appalachian STEM Collaborative with ASCENT working to collaborate.

As a result of large & statewide efforts, Ohio University has assembled diverse educational partners. The Appalachian Semiconductor Education & Technical (ASCENT) Ecosystem was created through an award made by the Intel Corporation to Ohio University & partners in Southeast Ohio to form a consortium, & complete workforce development activity to prepare an advanced manufacturing & semiconductor manufacturing workforce. The introduction of The Intel Corporation into Ohio represents a private investment of \$20 billion in phase one with the potential for subsequent rounds totaling \$100 billion over the next decade (Intel. (n.d.)), marking the largest private capital infusion in the state's history (The White House, 2024). This investment presents a significant opportunity for the communities of southeastern Ohio, including Scioto, Ross, Pike, Athens, Muskingum, & Guernsey counties, to access economically stabilizing & gainful occupations.

With the advent of Intel, an immediate need for three thousand manufacturing jobs to staff the fabrication facility, or fab, on the outskirts of Appalachian Ohio, is anticipated (Ohio Governor's Office, 2024). 2,700 of these jobs will be technician jobs that require just a high school diploma. Additionally, the introduction of Intel is anticipated to spur the establishment of more than 350 suppliers, each with skilled labor needs, the locations of which are still being determined (Ohio Governor's Office, 2024). Many of these suppliers have the potential to fall within the commuting profiles of many southeastern Ohio community members due to low-cost industrial sites, but a skilled workforce could be a limiting factor in the development of these supplier sites. This has motivated the ASCENT partners to think in new ways about how to provide service to the communities of



Southeastern Ohio that solve problems & provide service.

There is limited STEM talent available with increasing needs for technical knowledge to maintain & facilitate demonstrations using STEM hardware ranging from 3-D printers to programmable robotic arms, production robots, welding trainers, to traditional wood & metal shop equipment. The emergence of jobs in the semiconductor industry presents an unparalleled opportunity for individuals to secure gainful income & pursue career pathways within skilled technology fields, offering long-term economic stability & prosperity for the region.

ASCENTCorps AmeriCorps members will provide community STEM educational outreach & mentorship to rural HS students in districts of SE Ohio. This will help to represent young adult identities in rural communities that have experienced brain drain. Additionally, due to the near peer age gap between upper secondary school students & service members, this program seeks to capture the educational impacts of near-peer learning to highlight educational & occupational pathways within STEM disciplines. AmeriCorps members will have access to mentorship, project management, & industry-recognized credentials as a component of the centralized training activities for service members. Within HS environments service members will focus on supporting educators and facilitating interactive activities that demonstrate applied STEM concepts with a focus on STEM career applications. Service members will support career development, exploration activities to cultivate exposure, & additional points of connection for occupations. Service members will mentor science fair projects & support science olympiad teams. Mentorship activities will also occur within the context of volunteer coordination for postsecondary student volunteers from STEM student organizations to local districts, building on near peer learning focused around STEM topics & STEM public service through volunteerism.

#### **Organizational Capability**

The ASCENT Ecosystem, established in October 2022, unites a consortium focused on advancing STEM education and workforce development in rural communities. Over the past 17 months, ASCENT partners have collaboratively addressed the critical need for STEM outreach and training initiatives across Ohio. Each member institution within the ASCENT consortium brings a wealth of academic offerings and supports. Despite this array of services, a significant gap persists: the need for a mechanism to directly connect with the communities they serve.

While ASCENT award funds have laid the groundwork for success, it became clear that additional capacity was necessary to effectively reach rural communities. Operating as a shared program between the Russ College of Engineering & Technology and Arts & Sciences at Ohio University, the



ASCENT Ecosystem embraces a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach to addressing STEM challenges.

Overseeing day-to-day operations is ASCENT's Project Manager, Chris Quolke, whose diverse background and extensive experience uniquely qualify him to coordinate all National Service Members and partner host sites. Supported by key contacts within partner institutions, ASCENT fosters communication and collaboration to drive organizational change and ensure mission-aligned educational and outreach service delivery.

#### **Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy**

The ASCENT program has developed a budget for this initiative focused on STEM education outreach & mentorship in rural Southeast Ohio. Personnel Expenses: A total of \$20,000 has been allocated for a Project Coordinator position. This role is critical for overseeing program management, including supervision of AmeriCorps members, communication with host sites, & fulfilling reporting requirements. The Project Coordinator will dedicate 50% of their time to ASCENTCorps program activities. Personnel Fringe Benefits: An additional \$9,279 has been earmarked for personnel fringe benefits, covering expenses such as medical insurance, workers' compensation, Medicare and health insurance. Staff & Member Travel: Funds totaling \$9,513 have been allocated for staff & member travel expenses. This includes travel to AmeriCorps TA meetings, regional training conferences, project director meetings, service sites, & statewide events such as the ServeOhio Conference & LeaderCorps Initiative. Funds for the travel to the CNCS-Sponsored TA in the amount of \$1,990 will be covered by non-CNCS funding. Supplies: A budget of \$4,090 has been set aside for essential program supplies, including member handbooks, program brochures, postage, & outreach materials. Training: A total of \$1,050 has been allocated for staff & member training activities. This includes registration fees for conferences & events relevant to AmeriCorps program management, as well as industry-recognized credentialing, & attendance at relevant conferences such as the ServeOhio Conference. Other Program Operating Costs: Funds totaling \$1,130 have been allocated for background checks, reporting software, & member recognition activities. Member Living Allowance: A significant portion of the budget, totaling \$200,520, has been allocated for member living allowances (\$185,000) and member support costs (\$15,520).

#### **Evaluation Summary or Plan**

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 



N/A

**Clarification Summary** 

N/A

**Continuation Changes** 

N/A

**Grant Characteristics** 

# **DRAFT**

#### Performance Measures

#### MSYs by Focus Area

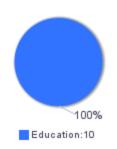


Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs
Education	100%

MSYs by Objective

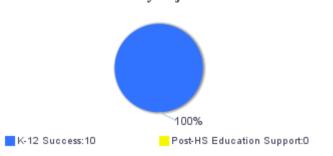


Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
K- 12 Success	100%
Post- HS Education Support	0%

## % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

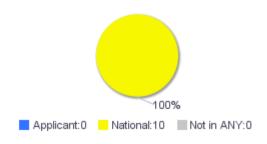


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

0/ 1/0//-	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
% MSYs	100%	0%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
K- 12 Success	10.00	10
Post- HS Education Support	0.00	0
Total	10.00	10

Primary Focus Area: Education

Primary Intervention: Classroom Teaching

Secondary Focus Area: Secondary Intervention:



Performance Measure: ASCENTCORPS

Focus Education Objective: K- 12 Success No of 10.00 No of MSY's: No of MSY's:

Area:

#### **Problem Statement:**

The occupational opportunities of southeastern Ohio are inequitably distributed throughout the region, resulting in a limited occupational portrait presented to high school students at any one high school & often informed by family relationships.

The PI composite score indicates poor district performance along a range of educational outcomes including math & science knowledge domains.

#### Selected Interventions:

Classroom Teaching

Mentoring

Other Classroom Support

Out- of- School Time

Service-Learning

**Summer Learning** 

**Tutoring** 

#### Describe Interventions:

ASCENTCorps AmeriCorps members will provide community STEM educational outreach & mentorship to rural HS students in districts of SE Ohio. This will help to represent young adult identities in rural communities that have experienced brain drain. Additionally, due to the near peer age gap between upper secondary school students & service members, this program seeks to capture the educational impacts of near- peer learning to highlight educational & occupational pathways within STEM disciplines. AmeriCorps members will have access to mentorship, project management, & industry- recognized credentials as a component of the centralized training activities for service members. Within HS environments service members will focus on supporting educators and facilitating interactive activities that demonstrate applied STEM concepts with a focus on STEM career applications. Service members will support career development, exploration activities to cultivate exposure, & additional points of connection for occupations. Service members will mentor science fair projects & support science olympiad teams. Mentorship activities will also occur within the context of volunteer coordination for postsecondary student volunteers from STEM student organizations to local districts, building on near peer learning focused around STEM topics & STEM public service through volunteerism.

ED1A Output:

ED1A: Number of individuals served

Target: 6000 Individuals

Measured By: Tracking System

Described Instrument: Unduplicated Headcount

ED5A Outcome:

ED5A: Number of students with improved academic performance

# **DRAFT**

Performance Measure: ASCENTCORPS

Problem Statement:

Selected dutates the personal selected and the selected dutates and the

Mentoring

Other Classroom Support

Out- of- School Time

Service- Learning

**Summer Learning** 

Tutoring

Target: 1270 Students

Measured By: Report Card Grade

Described Instrument: Instructor Verification of Academic Improvement

ED10 Outcome:

ED10: Number of students enrolling in post- secondary education/training

Target: 179 Students

Measured By: Participant Self- Report

Described Instrument: Survey to Participants



## **Program Information**

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration Underrepresented communities, underserved people, Workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

STEM Program, Geographic Focus Rural



# Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	0
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	450
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	75



# **Required Documents**

Document NameStatusFederally Approved Indirect Cost AgreementAlready on File at CNCSLabor Union ConcurrenceAlready on File at CNCSEvaluationNot ApplicableOther DocumentsSent

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.
Districts serving vulnerable students are stretched too thin and need additional support for curricular enhancements and young adult role models. Brain drain and limited presentation of STEM career pathways.	2 National Service Members per district program (5 host sites) STEM Outreach demonstration materials Jr & Sr classrooms Paper Surveys Access to ASCENT faculty for subject matter expert technical assistance	HS STEM educators STEM Outreach menu program requests to the national service member programs aligned with Ohio STEM Learning Standards. Weekly in collaborating districts for 6 weeks in one hour blocks.	Number of Individuals Served (ED1A): 4500 Number of students with improved academic performance (ED5A): 450 Number of students enrolling in a post- secondary education or training (ED10): 45	Knowledge & Skill gains relative to STEM domain of program deployed.	Near-peer learning effects help juniors and seniors in high schools to get enthusiastic about STEM knowledge and see the applications of that knowledge in the world around them	More regional students enroll in a post-secondary award in a STEM discipline
Rural students possess limited occupational exposure to make informed choices about career options and available training/preparation programs.	2 National Service Members per district club meeting (5 host sites) STEM Outreach demonstration materials Access to district educational space (cafeteria or gymnasium or	National Service Members will provide after school STEM club support and technical assistance. Weekly in collaborating districts for 6 weeks in one to three hour blocks.	Number of Individuals Served (ED1A): 3000 Number of students with improved academic performance (ED5A): 150 Number of students enrolling in a post- secondary education	Skill and Ability enhancements from mentorship of a skilled mentor and opportunities to demonstrate	More consistent STEM club support will yield more high achieving science fair and science olympiad teams, building self-efficacy of the student participants that they can be competitive and	Additional districts within the region will form and support STEM clubs to cultivate opportunities for students to demonstrate mastery and aptitude. Students with aptitude seek

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
	STEM lab). Access to ASCENT faculty for subject matter expert technical assistance		or training (ED10): 75		successful.	post-secondary education or credentials.
Institutions of higher education possess student organizations with a mission related to service or outreach who are challenged establishing relationships and completing outreach and service. Local high school students possess few young adult mentors within community.	2 National Service Members per program (5 host sites) Student organization directory at ASCENT partner campus. Access to STEM Programming supplies. Paper surveys	National Service Members will coordinate volunteer STEM undergraduate student organizations from institutions of higher education to local districts. Weekly outreach trips from 5 host sites 2 days a week for 12 weeks.	Number of Individuals Served (ED1A): 2000 Number of students with improved academic performance (ED5A): 250 Number of students enrolling in a post-secondary education or training (ED10): 50	Knowledge, Skill, and Ability gains relative to STEM domains of program deployed	More contact time with college and university undergraduate volunteers who are passionate about STEM will translate into more youth excited about STEM within the local districts, and enrolling in STEM postsecondary programs of study.	More regional students enroll in a post-secondary award in a STEM discipline for an occupation available within their region.
Institutions of higher education possess STEM outreach programming but lack capacity to deliver it within rural communities.	2 National Service Members per program Student organization directory at ASCENT partner campus. ASCENT partner training materials for that institution's STEM program or intervention.	National Service Members will coordinate STEM outreach programs from institutions of higher education to local districts and in support of STEM competitions and tournaments in the region. 1-2 days a week for 10 weeks in districts.	Number of Individuals Served (ED1A): 1800 Number of students with improved academic performance (ED5A): 250	Knowledge, Skill, and Ability gains relative to STEM domains of program deployed	Systematic data collection of STEM interventions throughout southeastern Ohio helps to build data for program efficacy models.	Efficacy about rural STEM interventions arising from ASCENT Ecosystem partners programming efforts being better tracked and reported.
Rural science fair and science olympiad coordinators have disclosed challenged securing volunteers for events, mentors	2-4 National Service Members per fair Access to ASCENT faculty for subject matter expert technical assistance	National Service Members will coach and mentor science fair projects from local districts. Three regional science fairs, with 6-	Number of Individuals Served (ED1A): 300 Number of students with improved academic performance	Skill and Ability gains related to self- efficacy with scientific method	More science fair projects, science olympiad teams, and other STEM demonstration contests in southeastern Ohio	More regional students enroll in a post-secondary award in a STEM discipline.

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
for projects, and additional support to help students see the link between these contests and a STEM career		8 weeks of project mentorship.	(ED5A): 150 Number of students enrolling in a post- secondary education or training (ED10): 50		advance projects to the regional or state levels.	
In summertime there are diminished opportunities for students and families. Additionally due to the shortage of childcare options there are many youth who have no summer supervision.	2 National Service Members per event (5 host sites) Access to STEM Programming supplies. Paper surveys	National Service Members will develop new summer STEM camps and support existing ones within local districts. 2-3 summer camps for 5 days in May or June.	Number of Individuals Served (ED1A): 100 Number of students with improved academic performance (ED5A): 20 Number of students enrolling in a post- secondary education or training (ED10): 2	Knowledge, Skill, Ability, Opinion gains related to STEM skills and aptitude	Postsecondary STEM educational pathway participation rates increase within local districts.	Local Community based organization partners collaborate future summer STEM workshops to make sustainable for communities.

## **Budget Narrative: ASCENTCorp for Ohio University**

# **Section I. Program Operating Costs**

## A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Project Coordinator at 50% Effort: - 1 person(s) at 40000 each x 50 % usage	20,000	0	20,000
Category Totals	20,000	0	20,000

## **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Program Coordinator Fringe Benefits: Retirement (14%), Workers' Compensation (0.739%), Medicare (1.45%). Health Insurance is an additional cost and is prorated to the percentage charged.	9,279	0	9,279
Category Totals	9,279	0	9,279

#### C. Travel

#### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings: 1 staff (three nights of lodging at \$258 per night + four days of per diem at \$79/day + ground transportation at \$150 + airfare at \$750) - Washington DC location estimates used	0	1,990	1,990
ServeOhio Conference: 1 staff (mileage at 150 miles * \$0.67/miles + 1 day of per diem at \$25 + one night of lodging at \$125) - Columbus, Ohio location used in estimates	249	0	249
Regional Training Conferences: 1 staff ((Mileage 150 miles @ \$.67/ mile + per diem x \$25/day * 2 days + hotel 1 night x \$125) * 3 Trips) - Columbus, Ohio location used in estimates	752	0	752
Project Director Meetings/Trainings: 3 x (150 miles x \$0.67/mile + per diem 3 x \$25 + \$75 + lodging 1 night at \$125)	752	0	752
Category Totals	1,753	1,990	3,743

## **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Service Speaker Leader Training: 1 member (150 miles * \$.67/mile) - Columbus, Ohio location used in estimates	99	0	99
ServeOhio Conference: 1 member (150 miles * \$.67/mile + one day of per diem at \$25) - Columbus, Ohio location used in estimates	146	0	146
Member Travel to Service Sites: 10 members ((75/miles * \$.67/mile) * 10 months)	5,025	0	5,025
LeaderCorps Initiative: 2 members (\$250/member for statewide travel and events includes mileage and per diem) - Columbus, Ohio location used in estimates	500	0	500

Category Total	5,770	0	5,770
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## D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Member Handbooks: 25 Copies at \$14/each	350	0	350
National Service Gear: 10 members x \$35 ((\$10 T-shirts + \$20 hoodie + \$5 lapel pin) + \$30 shipping)	380	0	380
Postage: Postage at \$30/month * 12 months	360	0	360
Printing for Program Brochures: 500 Copies at \$1/each	500	0	500
Program Supplies for Outreach: \$50/month for 11 months * 4 sets	2,200	0	2,200
Office Supplies: \$10/month for 12 months	300	0	300
Category Totals	4,090	0	4,090

#### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate		CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
	Category Totals	0	0	0

## **G.** Training

## **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
ServeOhio Conference Registration: Registration Fee for One Person- Daily Rate of 200	200	0	200
Regional Training Event Registration: Registration Fee for One Person- Daily Rate of 400	400	0	400
Category Totals	600	0	600

## **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
ServeOhio Conference Registration: Registration Fee for One Person- Daily Rate of 150	150	0	150
Monthly Member Meeting Training Material Copies: 5 Sites x 12 Meetings x \$5 for Printing- Daily Rate of 300	300	0	300
Category Totals	450	0	450

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category To	als 0	0	0

# I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Background Checks (BCI & FBI): 10 Background Checks at \$65	650	0	650
OnCorps Reports: 18 Reports * \$10/each	180	0	180
Member Recognition: \$30 Recognition * 10 Members	300	0	300
Category Totals	1,130	0	1,130
Section Totals	43,072	1,990	45,062
PERCENTAGE	95.58%	4.42%	

## **Section II. Member Costs**

## A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): 10 Member(s) at a rate of 18500 each Members W/O allowance 0	185,000	0	185,000
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Category Totals	185,000	0	185,000

## **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members: 7.65% of the Total Amount of the Living Allowance	14,153	0	14,153

PERCENTAGE	100.00%	0.00%	
Section Totals	200,520	0	200,520
Category Totals	15,520	0	15,520
Health Care: It is anticipated that all members will have health insurance plans as dependents on their parents plans. If not, the university will cover this cost.	0	0	0
Worker's Compensation: 0.739% of the Total Amount of the Living Allowance	1,367	0	1,367

#### Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

## A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Commission Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Category Totals	0	0	0

## **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Fixed: Total Direct Costs: CNCS share of administrative costs is limited to 5% of total CNCS funds (CNCS funds = \$257,143)with a rate of 51 and a rate claimed of 51	12,857	118,286	131,143
Category Totals	12,857	118,286	131,143
Section Totals	12,857	118,286	131,143
PERCENTAGE	9.80%	90.20%	

Budget Totals	256,449	120,276	376,725
PERCENTAGE	68.07%	31.93%	
Required Match		0.00%	
Total MSYs	10.00		
Cost/MSY	25,644.90		

## **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source



APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE  Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to confirm to the Corporation's eGrants System)			TYPE OF SUBMISSION:     Application X Non-Construction			
			111)			
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORAT FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):				STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:	
2b. A PPLICA TION ID: 24A C265489	4. DATE RECE	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY:		FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:		
5. A PPLICATION INFORMATION				l		
LEGAL NAME: Mercy Health Cincinnati LLC			NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes):  NAME: Tikierra Thompson  TELEPHONE NUMBER: (513) 869-5117  FAX NUMBER: INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: Tthompson5@mercy.com			
UEI NUMBER: CJSSM8R68WH5						
ADDRESS (give street address, city, state, zip code and county): 1701 Mercy Health Pl Cincinnati OH 45237 - 6147 County: Hamilton						
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 311063783			7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: 7a. Non-Profit			
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check app	ropriate hov)		. 7b.			
X NEW CONTINUATION If Amendment, enter appropriate letter	NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTE	E				
C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER	(specify below):					
			9. NAME OF FED		and Community Service	
10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 94.006 10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State		11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF A PPLICANT'S PROJECT:  Mercy Health Corps  11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):				
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (List Cities, Counties, States, etc): Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, Warren County, Ohio						
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DATE: 09/01/24 END DATE: 08/31/25		14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF: a.Applicant OH 01 b.Program OH 01				
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #:	1		16. IS APPLICATION	ON SUBJECT TO REVIE	W BY STATE EXECUTIVE	
a. FEDERAL	\$ 248,597.00	<u> </u>	ORDER 12372 PROCESS?  UYES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/A PPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR			
	\$ 158,710.00					
b. APPLICANT	φ 130,710.00	,	_	REVIEW ON:		
c. STATE	\$ 0.00		DATE:  X NO. PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372			
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00					
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00				
f. PROGRAM INCOME	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00 \$ 407,307.00		17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?  UNCLEASE OF TYPES," attach an explanation.  NO		
g. TOTAL	\$ 407,307.00					
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDG DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERN IS AWARDED.						
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: b. TITLE:				c. TELEPHONE NUMBER:		
Alice Parisi				(513) 952-4010		
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REP	RESENTATIVE:				e. DATE SIGNED: 04/03/24	



#### **Executive Summary**

Mercy Health - Cincinnati will have 14 AmeriCorps members who will screen, provide education, and referrals to community resources including mental health care, substance use disorder treatment, and social needs in Mercy Health ¿ Cincinnati Emergency Departments in Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties. At the end of the first program year, the AmeriCorps members will be responsible for 500 patients confirmed to receive secondary care for mental health and/or substance use disorders or resolved their identified social needs. The AmeriCorps investment will be matched with \$ \$158,710, \$0 in public funding and \$158,710 in private funding.

#### Rationale and Approach/Program Design

#### Program Design

In the four counties in which Mercy Health hospitals operate (Hamilton, Butler, Clermont, Warren), unemployment, chronic stress, strained social environments, and poverty impact health and mental health outcomes, including specific health-compromising behaviors such as substance use disorders (SUD). As a non-profit health system, Mercy Health - Cincinnati regularly assesses the unique health needs of its communities. The most recent Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was completed in collaboration with The Health Collaborative, a highly evaluated and independent non-profit corporation, and adopted by the Mercy Health - Cincinnati Board of Trustees in October 2022. Mental health was identified as a top priority and highlighted as an unmet treatment need across the region: Nearly one in three adults indicated they had a need but did not receive treatment, reflecting a critical gap in accessibility and coordination of mental health services.

While this finding alone is significant, it is likely a gross underestimation of the level of community need as a clinical diagnosis of a mental illness relies upon an individual meeting several criteria for functional impairment, and the absence of such a diagnosis is not sufficient for establishing positive mental health. We also need to consider the influence of the social determinants of health (SDOH), including discrimination, racism, stigma, social support, housing, transportation, food, and access to care. In fact, SDOH are responsible for as much as 50% of health outcomes (County Health Rankings). Recent CHNA findings further substantiated this connection and named food and housing as top priority for health systems after 34% of residents surveyed reported economic strain affecting food and housing stability. These social needs are often the driving force behind health disparities. People of color and people living in poverty bear a disproportionate burden of obesity, substance use,



and chronic stress and experience higher rates of disability and mortality.

The Emergency Department (ED) is increasingly the entry point into the mental health services continuum for many individuals, in particular for individuals with low or very low income. Mercy Health - Cincinnati operates nine ED sites across southwest Ohio with over 260,000 visits annually. Approximately 44 percent of these patients are either insured through Medicaid or otherwise uninsured, indicating potential financial strain and social complexity (The CDC Social Vulnerability Index Scores for the target service area are 0.60 in Hamilton County, 0.15 in Clermont County, 0.37 in Butler County, and 0.05 in Warren County). This creates a challenge for clinical care staff working within the ED setting, due to competing work demands and the requirement to meet certain key performance indicators, which emphasize the quick disposition of patients and limit opportunities for extended patient engagement, linkage to care and resources, or follow-up after discharge. The Mercy Serves Program was developed as a solution to this problem.

Patients supported by Mercy Serves Members will benefit from increased community connections, improved patient experience, and better health outcomes. The Mercy Serves Program forms a functional, responsive, and integrated approach for the presentation of mental illness and social needs in the ED (with a particular focus on drug-related mental distress and SUD). In alignment with past program models, Mercy Serves AmeriCorps Members will serve in Mercy Health EDs by deploying an evidence-based methodology: Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). This model aims to proactively identify issues and barriers and provide tiered intervention based on the severity of the need, including education, awareness-building, and referrals to treatment and community-based resources. While SBIRT has been traditionally implemented for mental health in general, and SUD in particular, its applicability extends to addressing social needs (through an evaluation of underlying conditions that inform the personal health crisis that results in an admission to the ED).

FY24 will span September 9, 2024, to August 11, 2025. In FY24, Mercy Health - Cincinnati will introduce a new service site at Mercy Health - Kings Mills Hospital in Warren County, which opened in January 2024. This brings the total number of service sites to six hospital EDs (Anderson, Clermont, Fairfield, Jewish, Kings Mills, and West Hospitals) and two freestanding EDs (Queen City and Rookwood Medical Center Emergency Departments). Six Full-time members will serve 35-40



hours per week on weekdays and weekends in the ED and eight Half-time members will serve 15-20 hours per week. All members will serve a schedule that addresses the varying needs at each site they are placed.

Success of Mercy Serves will be measured by assessing patient outcomes and aligning with CNCS¿s Healthy Futures performance measures. By the end of the service term, Members will have provided a screening for 4000 patients (H4A) and a brief intervention and/or referral to SUD treatment or community resources for those that screen positive (1,600 patients). 1,200 of the patients who screen positive for SUD and/or social needs will express a change in confidence in their ability to receive treatment and community resources. Members will support 500 patients receive secondary care for SUD or resolve their social needs (H20).

As delineated in our evaluation plan, we will also assess increase in knowledge of key principles of motivational interviewing (a key component of SBIRT), increase in Members¿ confidence and comfort with motivational interviewing and ability to make referrals, and increase in patients¿ confidence to access treatment and community resources. We will also assess Member success by tracking progress against Member development plans, which could include obtaining certifications and job, service, and educational placement after service.

#### Evidence Based

The Mercy Serves Program is an evidence-informed approach centered on the use of the SBIRT model that has been advanced and widely disseminated by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Patients entering the ED will be screened using an initial screening protocol, including the AUDIT (Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test), DAST-10 (Drug Abuse Screening Test), and PHQ-9 (Patient Health Questionnaire). Brief Negotiated Interview scripting is further integrated into the electronic Health Record (EHR) to support Members in their interaction with patients who are revealed to be in need of mental health support services.

One of the benefits of SBIRT is that it also improves the detection of substance use risks and behavioral health conditions in a patient population that is seeking acute medical care, but not necessarily presenting with psychiatric chief complaints. By using a universal screening approach, rather than selective screening or physician-referral identification, the Mercy Serves Program also advances the public health focus of SBIRT by normalizing discussions of depression and substance abuse that patients and providers previously found difficult to initiate (while also reducing the stigma that is associated with these issues).



Prior evaluations of the Mercy Serves Program are categorized as preliminary. The FY21-23 program evaluation report demonstrated Members¿ increased confidence and comfort with motivational interviewing (a key component of SBIRT) using a pre/post training survey. Further, process evaluation showed that Members logged 4,598 patient encounters and conducted SBIRTs for SUD with 3,402 patients, of whom 201 were admitted to treatment in the ED where Members were part of few, if not the only, human resource available to systematically provide such patient support. The Program has also been highlighted by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) in their report ¿A Promising Response to the Opioid Crisis: CNCS-Supported Recovery Coach Programs.¿ Mercy Health is committed to the program's rigorous evaluation and furthering the program's evidence).

#### **Notice Priority**

Mercy Health is applying for a funding priority based on the priorities established by ServeOhio for 2024. The implementation of SBIRT conducted by Members mean that 1) communities reporting limited access in mental health support will gain increased access and 2) patients will have increased access to health information, knowledge, resources, and services to improve individual and community health conditions. Further, program investments in Member professional development in Mental Health First Aid, Psychological First Aid, and Community Health Worker (CHW) Certification provides service-to-career pathways through AmeriCorps programs into the health-related and behavioral health field.

#### Member Experience

Mercy Health is committed to providing Members a service experience that fosters learning and growth while they serve patients during times of crisis. Our program leverages Member feedback and expert insights from Mercy Health's Talent Acquisition team and Learning & Culture team to continuously evolve orientation, trainings, and service components to support Members's personal and professional growth as well as emerging workforce requirements in health and health-related fields.

Orientation: Members receive an array of fundamental training during orientation that ensures they have a working understanding of healthcare, health disparities, health-related social needs, and SUD. These are provided by well-established experts inside and outside our organization and include the CHNA, Community Health Improvement Plans, and Asset-based Community Development.



Members also receive technical trainings that ensure they have the necessary skills to operate within a heavily regulated healthcare environment and support complex patient interactions including HIPAA and PHI, Code of Conduct, cyber security, using EHR, Mental Health First Aid, Psychological First Aid, and motivational interviewing.

Additional Trainings and Certifications: Members have access to additional training and certificate programs throughout the service term. These grow their knowledge and credibility during their service term and benefit their careers after. A prime example is the opportunity to obtain a CHW Certification. CHWs serve as liaisons between healthcare, social services and the community, and advocate for change and cultural competency of the services delivered and improve access to care. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for CHWs is projected to grow 14% from 2022 to 2032, compared to the 3% average for all occupations. We have seen this first-hand in the workforce strategies of Mercy Health. In fact, an FY22 Member who became certified went on to become hired as a CHW at Mercy Health.

Other Supportive Benefits: Supports with mental health and life outside of service such as financial matters and housing, have been identified as facilitators of member experience and retention. We have developed a robust suite of additional services to help ensure Member success: Members have access to our internal Work-Life Services though which they receive expert guidance and resources to navigate legal matters, financial matters, childcare, and more, as well as access crisis support and nocost therapy and coaching. In addition, our internal Hardship Fund assists Members with essential living expenses such as utilities, rent, car repairs, and food during times of financial emergency.

#### **Organizational Capability**

Mercy Health; Mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities and bring good help to those in need, especially people who are poor, dying and underserved, which aligns with the focus areas of the program. Mercy Health -- Cincinnati is part of the larger Bon Secours Mercy Health health system and has the benefit of system shared services for IT, Finance, Human Resources, Legal, Analytics, Talent Acquisition, Learning and Culture. These services come in addition to its dedicated Market resources. The Cincinnati Community Health team is comprised both administrative and frontline staff with a wide range of professional experience and technical training. The team partners with the Mercy Health Foundation for all grant-funded programming.



Mercy Health has specific policies governing the retention of all grant-related programmatic and financial records, supporting documentation, and any other records pertinent to a particular grant award. The organization has the internal staff and computer infrastructure to support all financial transactions, including billing and receipts. Fiscal accountability is monitored by the Program Manager, Finance Department, and the Mercy Health Foundation; s Grants Department through monthly fiscal review and reconciliation, compliance monitoring, internal and external audits (both within the Mercy Health as a system and each individual facility). Audits are planned and specific as well as random to ensure evaluation of a cross section of areas. Mercy Health also periodically reviews its grant policies and updates its procedures to align with current best practices.

The Program Manager will supervise the AmeriCorps Members, provide oversight for, and facilitate completion of, back-office activities (i.e., finances, accounting), as well as training and supervising Members. She will work along with the System Director of Grants and Contracts, to manage this federal award. The System Director has extensive experience in compliance and managing all aspects of grant budgets, programmatic accomplishments, grant-funded employees, timekeeping, flow of finances, and reporting.

Mercy Health will approach supervision with a dyad model pairing the Program Manager with a clinical site leader. The Program Manager is part of the Community Health Department in Mercy Health, which is more centralized in operations, allowing for standardized operations across all ED sites. The Program Manager provides weekly check-ins with Members individually or in a group, lead regular meetings, monitor responsibilities, facilitate Members; development, and manage data and performance outcomes to inform program improvements. The Program Manager will conduct site visits at least twice a year.

The Member will report directly to the site supervisor, an ED Manager, to carry out their service responsibilities. The ED staff see Member integration as a natural extension of Mercy Health's Mission and current efforts in addressing the burden of mental illness in the community, particularly as it relates to SUD. Site supervisors will be trained and prepared to follow AmeriCorps and program regulations, priorities, and expectations. Training will be provided by the Program Manager and AmeriCorps resources. The Program Manager will also develop a monthly report to circulate to site supervisors, hospital leadership, and other program stakeholders to provide updates and progress against program goals and Member experience.

**Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy** 



The budget is sufficient to carry out the program effectively. The AmeriCorps program will be fully integrated into the operations of the hospital ED and the costs included in the budget are only for personnel and line items not currently part of operations.

In addition to the Program Manager who is 100% dedicated to the program, Mercy Health is introducing a Program Coordinator to support recruitment and onboarding; assist in training, inclusive of preparing the orientation schedule, managing logistics, and materials; and managing data and program documentation. This is reflective of our past learnings and will allow us to improve grant process, compliance, and reporting, while the Program Manager continues to focus attention on elevating Member recruitment, experience, and retention.

We have increased the number of Members who could become Certified CHWs from 1 last year to 6 this year, based on applicability of the skills during service and high demand for CHWs in healthcare. Members will also have access to additional trainings at no-cost, including Trauma Informed Care, Poverty Simulation, Resume Building, and Implicit Bias.

Over the years, Mercy Health has assessed various recruitment strategies that yield high caliber and successful candidates. One key finding is the mutual benefit and deepened commitment amongst students seeking degrees in health and health-related fields. These students seek direct patient experience, mentorship and supervision as required by their various degree programs and have an additional layer of supportive infrastructure through their programs. This has led us to pursue more targeted partnerships with area schools, predominantly Schools of Social Work and Public Health, and include Half-Time member slots. The strategy has proven successful with increased applicants and placements over the years. The FY23 class is the largest class seated to-date, and nearly 75% of Members derived from these enhanced relationships. Accordingly, we are proposing 6 full-time and 8 half-time Member slots, of whom 3 will be serving a second term. We have seen Members returning to service year over year¿an indication of a fulfilling and meaningful experience. Second-year Members¿ stipend reflects their role as peer mentors as they bring experience of the role in EDs and knowledge of community resources.

#### **Evaluation Summary or Plan**

N/A

**Amendment Justification** 

N/A

**Clarification Summary** 



N/A

**Continuation Changes** 

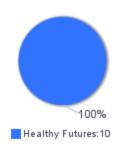
N/A

**Grant Characteristics** 

# DRAFT

#### Performance Measures

MSYs by Focus Area



MSYs by Objective

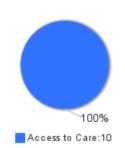


Table1: MSYs by Focus Areas

Focus Area	% MSYs
Healthy Futures	100%

Table2: MSYs by Objectives

Objectives	%MSYs
Access to Care	100%

## % of MSY NPM VS Applicant VS Not in ANY

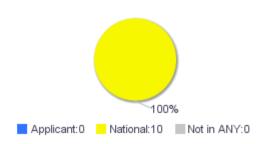


Table3: %MSYs by NPM vs.Applicant vs. Not in ANY

% MSYs	NPM	Applicant	Not in ANY
% IVISYS	100%	0%	0%

Table4: No of MSY and Members by Objective

Objectives	No of MSYs	No of Members
Access to Care	10.00	14
Total	10.00	14

Primary Focus Area: Healthy Futures

Primary Intervention: Opioid/Drug Intervention

Secondary Focus Area: Secondary Intervention:



Performance Measure: SUD/Mental Health and SDOH Screeing and Referrals

Focus Healthy Futures Objective: Access to Care No of 10.00 No of MSY's: No of MSY's: Members:

**Problem Statement:** 

In the four counties in which Mercy Health hospitals operate (Hamilton, Butler, Clermont, Warren), unemployment, chronic stress, strained social environments, and poverty impact health and mental health outcomes, including specific health- compromising behaviors such as substance use disorders (SUD). The social needs are often the driving force behind health disparities. People of color and people living in poverty bear a disproportionate burden of obesity, substance use, and chronic stress and experience higher rates of disability and mortality.

Selected Interventions:

Opioid/Drug Intervention

Describe Interventions:

AmeriCorps members will screen, provide education, and referrals to community resources including mental health care, substance use disorder treatment, and social needs in Mercy Health — Cincinnati Emergency Departments in Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties. In alignment with past program models, Mercy Serves AmeriCorps Members will serve in Mercy Health EDs by deploying an evidence- based methodology: Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) and provide community resources for SUD and/or social needs

H4A Output:

H4A: Number of individuals served

Target: 4000 Individuals

Measured By: Tracking System

Described Instrument: Data collected in electronic health record and specific program tracking sheets.

H20 Outcome:

H20: Number of individuals with improved access to medical care

Target: 500 Individuals

Measured By: Interview

Described Instrument: Members will ask questions to patients during screening/interaction



## **Program Information**

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

\*Check any priority area(s) that apply to the proposed program. Please refer to the NOFO for the information on the threshold for meeting priority consideration Evidence- based Interventions, Programs providing additional benefits, Workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members

**Grant Characeteristics** 

\*Check any characteristics that are a significant part of the proposed program

None of the grant characteristics



# Demographics

Other Revenue Funds	0
Number of volunteers generated by AmeriCorps members	0
Percent of disadvantaged youth enrolled	0



# **Required Documents**

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Federally Approved Indirect Cost Agreement	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable
Evaluation	Sent
Other Documents	Sent

# Logic Model

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.
Identified gap in accessibility and coordination of SUD treatment and community resources.	FY24 service term: September 9, 2024, to August 11, 2025  1.6 FTE (1 Program Director and 0.6 Coordinator); 14 AmeriCorps Members (10 MSY - 6FT, 8HT)  6 Hospital EDs (Anderson, Clermont Fairfield, Jewish, Kings Mills, West) and 2 standalone EDs (Rookwood and Queen City Medical Centers) Supervisors at each site  Orientation, training, and	Provide screening, brief intervention, and/or referral to SUD treatment or community resources for patients presenting in Mercy Health EDs.  Brief intervention includes motivational interviewing with patients to increase their self-efficacy to access treatment and community resources.  More than 80% of Member time dedicated to the ED providing direct patient services.	Provide a screening for SUD or social needs for 4,000 patients (H4A)  1,600 patients receive a brief intervention and/or referral to treatment and/or community resources.	1,200 patients who screen positive for SUD and/or social needs express a change in confidence in their ability to receive treatment and/or community resources.	500 patients confirmed to receive secondary care for SUD and/or resolved their social needs (H20).	Reduced healthcare utilization. Improved health and wellbeing of community members, including reduction in SUD prevalence and improvement in social vulnerability.

# Logic Model

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
	Member development, including motivational interviewing for Members and Certifications in Community Health Work, Mental Health First Aid, and Psychological First Aid	Extended time spent supporting ED patients.  Data collection on all patients.				

# **Budget Narrative: Mercy Health Corps for Mercy Health Cincinnati LLC**

## **Section I. Program Operating Costs**

## A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title -Qty -Annual Salary -% Time	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Program Manager: - 1 person(s) at 64480 each x 100 % usage	0	64,480	64,480
Program Coordinator: - 1 person(s) at 29400 each x 100 % usage	0	29,400	29,400
Category Totals	0	93,880	93,880

## **B. Personnel Fringe Benefits**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Fringe Benefit: total salaries x 19.3%	0	18,119	18,119
Category Totals	0	18,119	18,119

#### C. Travel

#### **Staff Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Travel to CNCS-Sponsored Meetings:	0	0	0
Service Speaks Civic Reflection Training. Columbus, OH. 2 day/1 night (Program Coordinator): Mileage: 205 miles x 67¢ + Lodging: \$225 + Parking: \$15/day x 2 + Meals/snacks: 2 days x \$48	0	488	488
2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism. Columbus, OH. 1 day (Director & Coordinator): Mileage: 205 miles x 67¢ + Parking: \$15/day + Meals/snacks: 1 x \$48 per diem	0	401	401
2025 National Service Regional Training Conference. Washington, DC. 3 days/2 nights (Director): Airfare: 1 x \$400 + Lodging: 2 nights x \$350 + Meals: 3 days x \$79 per diem + Ground Transportation: \$50	0	1,387	1,387
Program Director Meetings. Columbus, OH. July 2024 (2 days/1 night). October 2024 (1 day). January 2025 (1 day). (Director 2 days/Coordintor 3 days): Mileage: 205 miles x 67¢ + Lodging: \$225 + Parking: \$15/day + Meals/snacks: \$48 travel days, \$64 full days	0	2,081	2,081
Project monitoring & hospital site visits: 800 miles x 67¢	0	536	536
AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary Training Even, Columbus, OH, October 10, 2024 (Director & Coordinator): Mileage: 205 miles * 67¢ + Parking: \$15/day + Meals/snacks: \$48 per diem	0	401	401
Category Totals	0	5,294	5,294

## **Member Travel**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Service Speaks Civic Reflection Training. Columbus, OH. 2 day/1 night: 2 members. Mileage: 205 miles x 67¢ + Lodging: \$225 + Parking: \$15/dayx2 + Meals/snacks: 2 days x \$48	977	0	977

2023 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism. Columbus, OH. Fall 2023. 1 day: 2 members. Mileage: 205 miles * 67¢ + Parking: \$15/dayx2 + Meals/snacks: \$48 per diem	401	0	401
AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary Training Even, Columbus, OH, October 10, 2024.: 14 members. Mileage: 205 miles * 67¢ + Parking: \$15/day + Meals/snacks: \$48 per diem	2,805	0	2,805
LeaderCorps Initiative 2 members x 2 trainings: 2 members. Mileage: 205 miles * 67¢ + Parking: \$15/dayx2 + Meals/snacks: \$48 per diem	801	0	801
Member travel for biweekly member meetings, and other service-related meetings, activities, and retreats: 14 members x average 500 miles per member x 67¢	4,690	0	4,690
Category Totals	9,674	0	9,674

## D. Equipment

Item/Purpose -Qty -Unit Cost	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

## E. Supplies

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
AmeriCorps logo wear - 14 jackets/pullover: (\$165 per jacket x 14 members) + \$14 design set-up	2,324	0	2,324
AmeriCorps logo wear - 14 polo: \$54 per polo x 14 members	756	0	756
AmeriCorps logo wear - 14 t-shirts: \$38 per t-shirt x 14 members	532	0	532
AmeriCorps Week - celebration cakes to be provided to each Emergency Department site: 7 cakes x \$65	455	0	455
Category Totals	4,067	0	4,067

### F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

# G. Training

## **Staff Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
2024 Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism. Columbus, OH.: registration fee: \$200/person x 2 staff- Daily Rate of 200	400	0	400
2025 National Service Regional Training Conference. Washington, DC. 3 days/2 nights: registration fee: \$400- Daily Rate of 400	400	0	400
Program orientation, end of year closing 2- hour Lunch & Learns: 2 Lunch and Learn Programs: \$10 x 10 staff- Daily Rate of 100	200	0	200
Category Totals	1,000	0	1,000

## **Member Training**

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism. Columbus, OH: 2 members x \$200- Daily Rate of 200	400	0	400
Community Health Worker certification training - Health Care Access Now: 6 Members x \$4,250 tuition and application fee- Daily Rate of 4250	25,500	0	25,500
Program orientation, end of year closing 2- hour Lunch & Learns (other attendees included in staff training): 2 Lunch and Learn Programs: \$10 x 14 members Daily Rate of 140	280	0	280
Career Success Package, Professional Development: \$150 x 14 members- Daily Rate of 150	2,100	0	2,100
30th Anniversary, Columbus, OH all members 14.: Costs can include supplies and other needed items for a one-day event in Columbus, Ohio in the fall of 2024. Details to be provided, if funded. May estimate costs. \$100 estimate for supplies x 14 members- Daily Rate of 100	1,400	0	1,400
Category Totals	29,680	0	29,680

#### H. Evaluation

Purpose -Calculation -Daily Rate	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0

# I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Member recognition items - it will not be a gift, gift card, cash, cash equivalents and/or food in an entertainment/event setting: \$30 x 14 members	420	0	420
Criminal history background checks: TruScreen, Fieldprint and NSOPW are required and is used during application pr	2,075	0	2,075
OnCorps Subscription: \$18 x 14 members	252	0	252
Category Totals	2,747	0	2,747
Section Totals	47,168	117,293	164,461
PERCENTAGE	28.68%	71.32%	

#### **Section II. Member Costs**

## A. Living Allowance

Item -# Mbrs w/ Allow -Allowance Rate -# Mbrs w/o Allow	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Full Time (1700 hrs): 6 Member(s) at a rate of 19367 each Members W/O allowance 0	116,202	0	116,202
Three Quarter Time (1200 hours): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
1-Year Half Time (900 hours): 8 Member(s) at a rate of 10013 each Members W/O allowance 0	80,104	0	80,104

Category Totals	196,306	0	196,306
Abbreviated Time (100 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Minimum Time (300 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Quarter Time (450 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (2nd Year): 0 Member(s) at a rate of 0 each Members W/O allowance 0	0	0	0
2-Year Half Time (1st Year): Member(s) at a rate of each Members W/O allowance	0	0	0

## **B. Member Support Costs**

Purpose -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
FICA for Members: total member costs x 7.65%	0	15,017	15,017
Worker's Compensation:	0	0	0
Health Care: \$400 x 11 months x 6 full-time members	0	26,400	26,400
Category Totals	0	41,417	41,417
Section Totals	196,306	41,417	237,723
PERCENTAGE	82.58%	17.42%	

#### **Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs**

## A. Corporation Fixed Percentage

Item -Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Corporation Fixed Amount: ((\$47,168 + \$196,306) x .0526) x.40	5,123	0	5,123
Commission Fixed Amount:	0	0	0
Category Totals	5,123	0	5,123

## **B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate**

Calculation -Cost Type -Rate -Rate Claimed -Cost Basis	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Category Totals	0	0	0
Section Totals	5,123	0	5,123
PERCENTAGE	100.00%	0.00%	

PERCENTAGE	61.03%	38.97%	
Required Match		0.00%	
Total MSYs	10.00		
Cost/MSY	24,859.70		

## **Source of Funds**

Section	Match Description	Amount	Classification	Source
Source of Funds	Cash match from Bon Secours Mercy Health Foundation	158,710	Cash	Private
Total Source of Funds		158,710		