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First Lady Swears-In Nebraska's Newest AmeriCorps Members

Lincoln, Nebraska—Almost 100 Nebraskans affirmed their commitment to improving the quality of life in Nebraska at the ServeNebraska Statewide AmeriCorps Kick-Off that held on Wednesday, October 19, 2011. First Lady Sally Ganem administered the AmeriCorps pledge to these individuals as they begin their year of national service. Other features of the day included trainings on marketing, addressing difficult conversations, professionalism, and thriving in diverse settings. Since 1994, more than 2,000 AmeriCorps members have served in Nebraska.

The Kick-Off featured AmeriCorps members from 15 programs in service throughout the state. AmeriCorps is a federal program through which non-profit organizations and government entities engage dedicated people in a year of intense community service. AmeriCorps members provide a wide range of community services including helping providing academic and social support to at-risk youth, increasing the employment skills of low-income individuals, meeting behavioral health needs, and assisting refugees and New Americans in becoming fully engaged in their new communities among many others.

“It is truly inspiring to see the effort and talent AmeriCorps members devote. Their dedication is tremendous,” said Greg Donovan, ServeNebraska Senior Program Officer. ServeNebraska administers AmeriCorps in Nebraska.

For 2011-2012 AmeriCorps members in Nebraska supported by ServeNebraska will be in service through:

- BVCA AmeriCorps - Blue Valley Community Action - Fairbury
- Center for Rural Affairs AmeriCorps - Lyons, Lewellan and Omaha
- ECHO AmeriCorps, City of Lincoln Parks & Recreation - Lincoln
- Hastings Literacy Program AmeriCorps - Hastings
- HUB AmeriCorps, HUB Central Access Point for Young Adults - Lincoln
- LFS AmeriCorps, Lutheran Family Services - Statewide
- MMI AmeriCorps, University of Nebraska Medical Center Munroe Meyer Institute – Statewide
- Nebraska Campus Compact Service Scholars, University of Nebraska Lincoln – Statewide
- PROH AmeriCorps - Center for People in Need - Lincoln
- MCC AmeriCorps, Metropolitan Community College - Omaha
- RISE AmeriCorps, Nebraska State Probation - Statewide
- Rural Corps of South Central Nebraska, Kearney Area Community Foundation - Kearney
- YouthBuild Omaha AmeriCorps, Goodwill Industries - Omaha

ServeNebraska mobilizes Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through volunteering, collaboration and national service programs. In addition to AmeriCorps, ServeNebraska also provides:

- (1) Training & Technical Assistance;
- (2) Disability Outreach & Inclusion; and
- (3) Volunteer Recognition - including the quarterly Governor's Points of Light Awards
and the annual First Lady's Awards for Outstanding Community Service

For more information visit www.serve.nebraska.gov

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