

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## 2012-2013 Nebraska AmeriCorps Programs Grant Awards Announced



AmeriCorps members are talented individuals who, through sustained service, devote up to a year of service to addressing our state's most pressing needs through the AmeriCorps national service program which is an opportunity for them to serve their country. AmeriCorps members serve at local nonprofit or governmental organizations which have applied for and received competitive grants.

ServeNebraska, the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission provides guidance, direction, and administration to the development and implementation of AmeriCorps programming throughout Nebraska. Led by volunteer Governor-appointed Commissioners and managed by a small skilled staff, ServeNebraska works to grow the strong spirit of service in Nebraska.

Thirteen AmeriCorps Programs have been selected for grant funding to support 250 AmeriCorps members located throughout Nebraska. A competitive application process invited proposals addressing pressing community needs from nonprofit and public entities for 2012-2013 AmeriCorps funding.

ServeNebraska AmeriCorps Programs with point of contact information are listed below.

### **Blue Valley Community Action (Fairbury) - BVCA AmeriCorps - \$71,160**

Provides educational and constructive recreational out-of-school experiences to youth in southeastern Nebraska.

#### **Collena Laschanzky**

Program Director

PO Box 273, 650 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Fairbury, NE 68352-0273

402-729-6510, [claschanzky@bvca.net](mailto:claschanzky@bvca.net)

### **Center for People in Need (Lincoln) - PROH AmeriCorps - \$199,500**

Provides employment and basic needs assistance to low-income families in Lincoln through the services of a multilingual AmeriCorps team. Additionally provides domestic violence education & assistance through partner sites.

#### **Deb Daily**

Program Director

3901 N 27<sup>th</sup> Street

Lincoln, NE 68521-4177

402-476-4357, [ddaily@centerforpeopleinneed.org](mailto:ddaily@centerforpeopleinneed.org)

### **City of Lincoln (Lincoln) - ECHO AmeriCorps - \$376,546**

Provides an array of educational, cultural, and obesity-prevention out-of-school services and activities to youth in Lincoln through a broad network of partner sites.

#### **Deb Buckman**

Co-Program Director

1225 "F" Street

Lincoln NE 68508

402-441-4907, [dbuckman@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:dbuckman@lincoln.ne.gov)

**College Possible (Omaha) - \$96,000**

College Possible is making college admission and success possible for low-income students through an intensive curriculum of coaching and support.

**Laura Schabloske**

Executive Director  
900 S. 74<sup>th</sup> Plaza, Suite 403  
Omaha, NE, 68114  
402-884-4750, [lschabloske@collegepossible.org](mailto:lschabloske@collegepossible.org)

**Goodwill Industries (Omaha) – Omaha YouthBuild AmeriCorps - \$64,683**

Provides low income housing development in Omaha through the efforts of young adult AmeriCorps members who are concurrently participating in YouthBuild pursuing their GEDs and developing construction skills.

**Miriam J. Blair**

Program Director  
4805 N 72<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Omaha, NE, 68134-1853  
402-522-7238, [mblair@goodwillomaha.org](mailto:mblair@goodwillomaha.org)

**Kearney Public Schools Foundation (Kearney) - Rural Corps of South Central Nebraska - \$66,578**

Provides volunteer coordination, enhanced volunteer capacity and an array of services to a network of host sites including the University of Nebraska Kearney Office of Service Learning, Red Cross, Rowe Sanctuary, and Kearney Public Schools in Kearney and south central Nebraska.

**Geraldine Stirtz**

Program Director  
University of Nebraska Kearney  
Office for Service Learning  
B 185 College of Education  
Kearney, NE 68849  
308-865-8957, [stirtzg@unk.edu](mailto:stirtzg@unk.edu)

**Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska (Omaha) - LFS AmeriCorps – \$358,604**

Provides services through a network of partner sites benefitting low-income families and supporting the full involvement of New Americans, especially refugees, in the economic and social fabric of Nebraska. It has engaged a wealth of partners and places AmeriCorps members throughout the state. Recognized as one of the 52 most innovative AmeriCorps programs nationally by Innovations in Civic Participation and America's Service Commissions.

**Charles T. Olsen**

Program Director  
1941 S 42<sup>nd</sup> St., Ste #402  
Omaha, NE 68105  
402-536-3502, [colsen@lfsneb.org](mailto:colsen@lfsneb.org)

**Metropolitan Community College (Omaha) - MCC AmeriCorps - \$3,500**

Provides assistance in job readiness, educational attainment, recycling, and veteran's support to predominately low income residents of Omaha.

**Penny Boykins**

Service Learning Coordinator  
5300 N 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Bldg #14  
Omaha, NE 68111  
402-457-2608, [pboykins@mccneb.edu](mailto:pboykins@mccneb.edu)

**Nebraska State Probation (Lincoln) - RISE AmeriCorps - \$166,249**

Provides job skill development, job readiness and educational assistance to those on probation in multiple locations in rural and frontier Nebraska. Recognized as one of the 52 most innovative AmeriCorps programs nationally by Innovations in Civic Participation and America's Service Commissions.

**Kari Rumbaugh**

RISE Program Director  
P O Box 98910  
Lincoln, NE 68509-8910  
402-471-2855, [kari.rumbaugh@nebraska.gov](mailto:kari.rumbaugh@nebraska.gov)

**University of Nebraska Lincoln, NE Campus Compact Service Scholars - NECC AmeriCorps - \$60,000**

Provides educational assistance to youth in the Nebraska school districts with the highest dropout rates as well as financial guidance to low income families in these counties through members in service via the service learning offices at a network of institutions of higher education.

**Linda Major**

Project Director  
University of Nebraska Lincoln  
Office of Sponsored Programs  
312 N. 14<sup>th</sup> St. Alex West  
Lincoln, NE 68588-0430  
402-472-3755, [lmajor1@unl.edu](mailto:lmajor1@unl.edu)

**University of Nebraska Medical Center Munroe Meyer Institute (Omaha) - MMI AmeriCorps – \$184,187**

A state and national leader in service to and by those with disabilities, the program is viewed as a model and frequently consulted within the state and nationally. It features a statewide network of service sites and has members located at these sites.

**Jennifer Burt**

Program Coordinator  
985450 NE Medical Center  
Omaha, NE 68198-5450  
402-559-4409, [jburt@unmc.edu](mailto:jburt@unmc.edu)

**Volunteers of America (Lewellen) – Healthy Rural Communities - \$39,900**

Provides small business development training to low income, elderly and New American individuals through opportunities in small-scale agriculture in South Sioux City and Lewellen.

**Jean Jensen**

Program Director  
PO Box 128  
Lewellen, NE 68147  
308-778-5548, [volunteersofamerica@embarqmail.com](mailto:volunteersofamerica@embarqmail.com)

**YWCA Adams County (Hastings) – YWCA Adams County AmeriCorps - \$39,930**

Provides literacy skill development and ELL (English language learner) instruction to predominately low income adults in Hastings. Also provides basic needs and out of school support for youth through partner organizations.

**Jennifer Lewis**

Executive Director  
123 N Marian Road  
Hastings, NE 68901  
402-462-8821, [jlewis@ywcaadamscounty.org](mailto:jlewis@ywcaadamscounty.org)

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