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AmeriCorps - Accomplishments

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AmeriCorps members have participated in many Jefferson and Clallam County projects. Here members are re-roofing the Chimacum Community Center picnic shelter.



Creating barrier free trails to meet the American Disabilities Act was part of the Gibbs Lake maintenance project for Jefferson County Parks and Recreation.



Native plants are necessary for erosion control, wildlife browsing, and to provide shade and shelter in streambanks. Native plants were salvaged at the Kai Tai Lagoon, a Jefferson County Park.



Fences along critical bluffs have been constructed as an erosion control method. This 1200 foot fence was built in the Dungeness Campground, a Clallam County Park.



AmeriCorps members will maintain and open 80% of the trails in the Olympic National Forest this year. Members reconstruct a loop trail at Falls View Campground on the Quilcene Ranger District.



There is a back log of trail maintenance needs in the Olympic National Forest. Turnpikes and water bars prevent erosion and allow recreationists to enjoy the outdoors with little environmental impact.



Members place root wads in Gamm Creek overwintering ponds, Quilcene Ranger District, Olympic National Forest. Root wads provide hiding cover for young Chinook and Coho salmon fry.



Campground maintenance and preparation is necessary before peak camping season begins. Here Members set in durable concrete picnic tables at Hamma Hamma Campground, Hood Canal Ranger District, Olympic National Forest.



Interpretive trails are constructed near popular campgrounds to educate campers about watersheds, wildlife, and ecosystem dynamics. Members construct kiosk (information boards) at Seal Rock Campground, Quilcene Ranger District, Olympic National Forest.



Due to the loss of nesting sites through past logging practices, Kestrel nesting boxes are installed on the Quinault Ranger District, Olympic National Forest. Each box must be at least 20 feet above the ground. 200 bird and bat boxes have been installed.



Selective pruning helps ensure high quality, knot free lumber for timber harvesting. Members hike up steep terrain to prune young Douglas Fir on the Hood Canal Ranger District, Olympic National Forest.

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Olympic National Forest

Divider Title: _____



Olympic National Forest AmeriCorps



Primary Accomplishments this Quarter:

It is important to know before reading of the many good things that AmeriCorps Members are "getting done" that this work is work while high priority for the Forest Service and local County governments, is work that was not funded. If it were not for AmeriCorps this work would not get done at all. Thanks AmeriCorps!

Our primary focus this quarter has been on lower elevation recreation projects for both Clallam and Jefferson County Parks and Recreation. The projects being completed for Jefferson and Clallam Counties are being funded through President Clinton's Economic Adjustment Act.

For Jefferson County, the local State government, 2.2 miles of trail have been constructed at Gibbs Lake. This included 500 feet of turnpike. Four vault toilets which meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards have been constructed and installed in County parks. This provides access to many people who would not have been able to use these sites in the past.

For Clallam County, Dungeness Park and Salt Creek Campgrounds have been renovated. This included the installation of 2000 feet of new wooden fencing, and renovation of the campsites. Sites have been leveled, picnic tables and fire rings repaired or replaced and barrier logs replaced. This is the first major renovation effort in these campgrounds and will insure the availability of quality campsites for many years into the future. In addition, Camp David Jr. has been renovated. This historic County Park has had much needed building maintenance and painting completed.

On the Olympic National Forest Members have completed trail maintenance on each of the four Districts. Trails are being cleared, drainage problems corrected and turnpike constructed. 16.5 miles of trail were cleared of fallen trees, 500 feet of turnpike installed and 10 miles of trail have been maintained to Forest Service standard. Two National Forest campgrounds have been improved to meet ADA standards with the installation of new fire places, adjustment of concrete picnic table positions and leveling of campsites. This is a major focus for the Olympic National Forest AmeriCorps program for 1995. Members have pruned 20 acres of mixed conifer timber stands to improve the quality of future timber stands in support of ecosystem management.

Members have installed 200 bird (Kestrel) nesting boxes on the Quinault Ranger District. Each box must be at least 20 feet above the ground. Members, using climbing gear climbed each tree and successfully installed the boxes. This was a great effort in safe work practices and team building.

Opportunities for individual or small group projects were offered beginning this quarter. This program allows Members to sharpen their skills and follow their interests, while the Forest Service has been able to accomplish much needed tasks that are not suitable for an entire crew. An interpretive project was completed on one District; one Member is involved as the writer/editor of a watershed analysis process; three Members have scouted trails developing plans for maintenance. This is a very successful part of the Fort Worden program.

Unique successes or "great stories":

Our greatest success is in the lives of Members. We began this program with a curious collection of very diverse individuals. Our program is a residential camp with a facility that is somewhat small for the number of Members who live there. As we have lived, worked and played together over the past five months we see the development of leaders, the development of the group into a "team" and the development and use of some great conflict resolution skills. All this coupled with the work skills and work ethic is making major changes in the lives of the Members. Members are now taking on more and more responsibility for the success not only of the program but their community. It is a great joy to see this development in the Members.

The Olympic National Forest Fort Worden program have had many successes and great stories this quarter. This region has been hit by at least 3 separate major storms this quarter and AmeriCorps Members and Staff have responded by being flexible in their work locations and types of work to continue through it all and still keep the amazing pace of work.

- *Great story: One crew of Members moved two 20 inch diameter by 60 feet long logs by hand down a steep mountain hiking trail on the Quilcene Ranger District. These logs were used as log stringers for a bridge the crew was constructing. To safely move these logs was teamwork at its best.
- *Great story: One crew of Members spent part of one week climbing trees on the Quinalt Ranger District with climbing spurs to hang bird boxes. 169 separate trees were climbed with no accidents or injuries. Each tree was climbed at least 20 feet then the nest box was attached to the tree. This was a great exercise in teamwork and trust.
- *Great story: The rehabilitation of Browns Creek Campground after severe flood damage. A popular camping area on the Hood Canal Ranger District, it is now ready to operate. In January of this year, flooding destroyed part of the campground. The campground is normally open for use year around and is a popular destination for campers. In an emergency schedule change, AmeriCorps crews totally rehabilitated the campground and reopened it for public use.
- *Great story: Jefferson County had been planning for weeks to have an AmeriCorps crew do work on Memorial Field in downtown Port Townsend. Projects were lined up to keep the entire crew busy for weeks. Crew members completed a weeks worth of tasks in just three days. Tim Black, Jefferson County Assistant Recreation Director reported in the Port Townsend Leader newspaper "They work so fast, it's incredible. They work really hard. I'm impressed".
- *Unique Success: The Whidbey Island Independent newspaper sent a photographer to take photographs and write a story on AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps crews have not worked on Whidbey Island but stories of their great success had reached key staff from the newspaper.

(1) Direct Service Objectives:

AmeriCorps Members have moved a long way toward accomplishing our Direct Service Objectives and have in fact exceeded planned targets in some areas. It is estimated that one third of all planned objectives for the Olympic National Forest have been met. This has been done while Members have snowed out of Forest Service managed lands for much of the winter.

Objective:	Accomplished this quarter
Wilderness Rehab	0
Trail Construction	2.2 miles
Interp signing	8 signs
Trail Mtc	6 miles
Trail Bridge Const	0 bridges
Rehab campground	10 sites
ADA campsite rehab	14 sites
Rehab campsites	10 sites
Historical site Rehab	2 sites
TES Habitat Mtc	200 boxes
T&E Habitat Survey	0 acres
T&E Species surveys	0 acres
Install Fences	2325 feet
Fence removal	300 feet
Stream structures	0 structures
Watershed imp	0 miles
Pruning	10 acres
Seed Orchard mtc	0 acres
Tree planting	0 acres
Non native plant removal	0 acres

It is interesting to note that AmeriCorps work is being accomplished in a VERY cost effective manner. A recent contract for trail maintenance on the Quinault Loop Trail (Quinault Ranger District) was awarded to the low bidder for clearing and grubbing (heavy maintenance) at \$1.84 per lineal foot or \$9,715 per mile. AmeriCorps crews completed heavy maintenance on the Lower Big Quilcene trail (Quilcene Ranger District) at a cost of \$1,333 per mile. This is a savings of \$8,382. per mile. At a time when trail maintenance budgets have been greatly reduced this is a tremendous help. If it were not for the AmeriCorps crews, many of the trails on the Forest would not be opened for public use this year.

(2) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

While much of the development we see in Members is not recorded in the sessions they attend or in the number of class room hours but in the personal growth that comes from learning leadership, teamwork, conflict resolution skills and practicing them in our daily jobs as we learn work skills and ethic. As the community of AmeriCorps comes together to resolve issues is where we see the real development. These Members have come a long way in 5 months toward becoming the kind of people I want to see leading our country into the future!

In addition all Members attended the AmeriCan Red Cross disaster training and have helped save a number of homes from flooding in the recent flooding in the Quilcene WA area.

All Members successfully completed Fireman training and are now qualified to assist in wildfire suppression efforts if called upon.

Members are given quarterly evaluations and conferences on development. This helps the Member understand where he/she is doing quality performance and where they can work for improvement as they strive to improve themselves and the community they live in.

10 crew members successfully completed chainsaw training and are qualified to operate chainsaws.

(3) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

When I think of community I think of two separate communities. One is the community or town we work in and the other is the community we live in in the case of our residential program the Fort Worden headquarters.

Much of the projects we have been working on this quarter is within the communities of Port Townsend and Port Angeles. These projects are high priority projects identified by the community and prioritized by the County Commissioners. These projects have been funded through a Forest Service Rural Community Assistance Grant under President Clinton's Economic Adjustment Act. These projects would not have been funded or accomplished were it not for this funding. These projects have been high profile and have been very well received by the community. This is evidenced by the support in the local newspapers. There have been several articles in the Port Townsend Leader, Port Angeles Peninsula Daily News and the Whidbey Island Independent. As we continue to accomplish projects that directly support the communities we live in support for AmeriCorps grows stronger each day. On one project 4 members of the local Native Plant Society worked side by side with Members to accomplish a project. This shows community building at its finest!

Members in their home environment have continued the development of planning teams and weekend recreational activities to grow closer together as a community. This coupled with a Washington State University Extension Ropes Challenge Course have greatly strengthened this community. All these coupled together are helping to strengthen individuals and the community.

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Washington State AmeriCorps

Divider Title: _____

The First 100 Days of AmeriCorps in Washington State

September - December 1994



Summaries of Accomplishments from Programs

funded by

Washington Commission for National and Community Service

In the first 100 days . . .

Washington AmeriCorps Projects Administered by the Washington Service Corps

Yakima County Substance Abuse Coalition

Potential Realized

A second grade student could not read or sound out words such as "cat" or "hat". For several weeks, an AmeriCorps team member gave this student daily one-on-one tutoring in reading, reading comprehension, math and spelling. As a result of this tutoring, the student's academic and behavioral outlook improved so dramatically that the teacher reversed the decision to place the student in a Special Education program.

No More Home Alone

Two new after-school program activity centers were opened and are used daily by approximately 70 students. Because of the enthusiasm and involvement of the kids, parents are volunteering to conduct special activities for kids.

Off the Street and On the Team

The Eastside Youth Athletic League for low-income youth was developed and now 236 youth who otherwise would not have had the opportunity to play competitive league sports have learned soccer and will learn new organized basketball skills.

Thirty five adults volunteered to become coach/mentors and role models for these disadvantaged youth.

Twelve soccer teams consisting of 140 youth and 20 adult volunteers participated in the fall soccer league. We have 96 youth and 15 adult volunteers participating in our winter basketball league that started in December.

Community Needs Assessed

We developed a survey instrument and conducted a Needs Survey in southeast and north central Yakima communities from September to November, 1994. Ten percent of both neighborhood adult residents were sampled. As a result, several activities were added to existing after-school programs.

Eight hundred residents overwhelmingly confirmed the need for more positive youth programs. The sampling also confirmed citizens fear youth crimes in their neighborhoods are on the rise. The information was shared with the Yakima Police Department.

Colville Confederated Tribes

Elderly Assisted

On the Colville Indian Reservation AmeriCorps members assisted 31 elderly and homebound individuals with light housework, residence weatherproofing and shopping. Wood was chopped and stacked for 40 elderly and disabled residents.

As a result of this activity, ten percent of the elderly or homebound residents are showing increases in daily activities and self-sufficiency. As one example, two people are eating meals at the senior meal site instead of receiving



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them at home. The residents are better prepared to provide heat for their homes.

Employment Opportunities Center

English as a Second Language

AmeriCorps team members are working with over 200 clients in the learning centers and English as a Second Language classes. An average of 90 hours per week of direct client contact is provided in group and individual sessions.

Blankets for the Homeless

Thoa Dang, AmeriCorps team member, saw a need for blankets for the homeless on the Eastside/Bellevue area and, through flyers that she developed and personal contacts, collected the needed blankets. The donated blankets were delivered to KIRO Radio on their Blanket the Homeless day on January 26, 1995.

Lunar New Year Celebration

Another AmeriCorps team member, Thuyet Tran, and Thoa saw a need for a Lunar New Year celebration for the Vietnamese community in the Eastside/Bellevue area. They are working with the shopping center management at the Crossroads Mall who donated space and the Vietnamese Eagle Scouts to organize the celebration on January 29, 1995.

Christmas Party for Needy Children

AmeriCorps member Shomari Shanks organized a Christmas party for the children of the Rainier Vista and Holly Park Housing communities. The young people of the housing facilities were able to earn credits for community service work they had performed during the year and use those credits to purchase gifts for themselves and their families. Shomari helped to organize the collection of donations. Other team members assisted the young people with their shopping.

Washington AmeriCorps Trail

Dash Point State Park is this AmeriCorps team's ongoing environmental service project. Members are working cooperatively with park personnel and community volunteers to widen and restore 1.8 miles of a trail that will be used for interpretative walks.

So far, the project is 50% complete and members have removed stumps and dead trees and filled deep erosion pockets with over six yards of gravel. When this project is complete, park personnel will officially name the trail "Washington AmeriCorps Trail."

SeaMar Health Clinic

Food and Clothing for the Needy

AmeriCorps members conducted a bread and pastry outreach program to gather food for the local food bank. Because of their efforts, Fred Meyer Grocery donated cakes, pies, fruits, vegetables, and bread. Gais Bakery



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made a commitment for 100 loaves of bread each month.

Members delivered 50 food boxes *each month* to the homeless.

Thanks to the efforts of AmeriCorps members, Olympic Fisheries of LaConner donated 2,500 pounds of sockeye salmon to the homeless.

Outreach efforts by team members provided clothing such as sweatshirts, jeans, socks and jackets for 50 families.

AmeriCorps members provided 100 families with food boxes at Thanksgiving. They also organized a homeless Christmas party and delivered 400 gifts to children.

Teen Outreach

AmeriCorps members recruited 30 at-risk Hispanic youth and provided information regarding drug and alcohol abuse. They also made referrals for teens to the medical clinic.

AmeriCorps members assisted with the Saturday late night gym activities.

Team members have volunteered more than 200 hours of community service and have been positive role models to the Hispanic community of Mt. Vernon.

Yakima School District

Daughter is Proud of her Dad

One of our AmeriCorps team members is a physically challenged parent in our Yakima School District. From his crutches or wheelchair, he is found tutoring elementary students in reading groups, assisting teachers with duties that keep the classroom running

efficiently and working on the playgrounds at two Yakima schools. On his playground duty he is also supporting student skill building with the use of his conflict management skills.

His daughter is a student at McClure Elementary, where she takes pride in observing her father's contributions. His pride in AmeriCorps is strong and he has stated that he is trying to "prove the system wrong."

Parents Unite to Help Each Other

The rate of teen parents in the Yakima valley is rising. The BRAVO program was developed to provide free childcare for teenage parents who are trying to complete their GED. Unfortunately, the funding for this program was lost but AmeriCorps members came to the rescue and have continued the program with volunteer hours. Team members have been trained for childcare provision and are on call as substitutes.

These AmeriCorps team members are *also parents* and provide high quality childcare.

AmeriCorps in the Classroom

AmeriCorps members have provided 2,577 hours of teaching assistance in 172 classrooms.

Members have assisted the nursing team in screening the hearing and vision of the students in 17 schools. As a result, 68 percent of the schools and over 80 percent of the vision and hearing screenings are completed.

Tutoring has been provided to 192 students by AmeriCorps members.



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Yakima Valley Opportunities Industrialization Center

Food and Clothing for Needy

One hundred and twenty coats were provided for needy children. A food drive resulted in 700 pounds of food for a local food bank.

Thanksgiving food baskets were given to ten families in each of five communities for a total of fifty baskets.

Gang Awareness Video Production

AmeriCorps members assisted in the production of videos documenting the visit of James Edward Olmos, well-known anti-violence activist, to the Yakima area. The videos focused on gang awareness and substance abuse intervention.

Team members also accompanied Mr. Olmos on his visits to schools and functions in the area.

Snohomish School District

Tutoring 80 Students and Mentoring 32 Others

AmeriCorps members are currently tutoring 80 students in grades K-12 in a variety of subjects. Team members are also mentoring 32 other students in the Snohomish District.

Open Gym Program Reaches 236 Students

AmeriCorps team members developed and implemented two new

programs: open gym at Snohomish High School and recess activities at Central Primary Center.

Over six sessions of open gym have been attended by 236 students. In many cases, the positive member-student relationships established at open gym events have been carried over into the school environment.

Programs Rescued by AmeriCorps Members

Five programs already in existence would have been cut without the help of AmeriCorps members. These activities include intramural sports, Drug Awareness Week, Natural Helpers and ASB projects.

Campus Compact

Twelve Hundred Students Helped by Positive Service- Learning Activities

Team members gave presentations to orient administrative staff and perform in-service training for teachers in service-learning pedagogues.

Informal survey results show an increase in the number of teachers and students involved in positive service-learning experiences. Three members are involved with developing and implementing three innovative programs.

AmeriCorps has 52 Kindergarten through grade 12 staff and teachers involved in service-learning programs in the following cities: Bellingham (30), Spokane (4), Walla Walla (5) and Centralia (13).



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Turkey Dinner Served

AmeriCorps prepared and served a Thanksgiving Day meal for over 200 needy students.

Tacoma Community House

Fear of Math Conquered

The first task of the AmeriCorps tutor was to convince the two women that math was not too hard for them to learn and they could like it.

After just three months, the women now understand math as a concept rather than many separate operations. They have mastered division and are now working on decimals, fractions, and percentages.

An AmeriCorps tutor states that when she writes a problem on the board and they answer it right away, she can see the understanding on their faces. "This is my greatest reward as a teacher: to be able to see the results of what I have helped my students to accomplish in just three months."

The Numbers Tell it All

AmeriCorps members are tutoring 73 adults. Thirty eight tutor/student matches were made by members.

More than 331 hours of assistance was provided in classes and 19 students received additional language skills through the program Talk Time that was initiated by AmeriCorps members.

Martin Luther King Housing Development Association

Low Income Teen Housing Project

AmeriCorps members performed site preparation on a 17-unit apartment building intended to provide transitional housing for low-income teen parents. The project rehabilitation was originally estimated at \$505,000 and the property is nearly 100 years old. Great success was achieved by members in completing the site preparation, a formidable and dirty task, but essential to the construction process.

Contractors bidding for the project reacted with a conservative approach to rehabilitate assuming maximum hidden defects in the property which escalated rehabilitation costs.

The project was in jeopardy of being scrapped when the construction manager requested participation by AmeriCorps members in site preparation to reveal any additional hidden defects or absence of them to permit contractors a more accurate view of the structural condition of the buildings.

With tight funding deadlines and opportunities about to slip away, AmeriCorps entered the breach and performed demolition and clean-up activities sufficient to permit the Martin Luther King Housing Development Association to restructure the project, manage the construction in-house, and trim more than \$160,000 from the minimum bid.

The project will be rehabilitated at prevailing wage levels with increased support by state and city agencies due



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to this effective restructuring. This was all made possible by AmeriCorps members' participation.

Neighborhood Cleaned Up

AmeriCorps members, in partnership with Tacoma Hilltop Action Coalition, completed a 114-block neighborhood clean up.

SBCTC/BASIC

Two Hundred Ninety-One and Still Teaching

AmeriCorps team members have provided basic literacy skills instruction to 106 adult learners. The team has tested 50 English as a Second Language adult learners, recruited 12 volunteer tutors, trained 12 volunteer tutors, assessed 50 adult learners and matched 24 tutors and learners.

In addition, the team assisted 10 students to register for continuing education and helped 55 students with goal setting activities and prioritization activities.

Lake Chelan School District #129

Remedial Students Assisted

AmeriCorps members worked daily with 101 students on an individual basis and 56 small groups of students identified by teachers as needing assistance in remediation activities, preschool through high school.

Teachers have reported that students tutored by team members are

progressing at a faster rate than before AmeriCorps intervention.

After School Enrichment

AmeriCorps members provide instructional assistance for the school district's after school enrichment program. Nine weeks of instructional assistance was provided to 175 students, as compared to 40 students the same time last year, in the areas of Art, Spanish, science, aerobics, drama, and great books.

Members also assist in overseeing children before and after program activities to ensure their safety. The student to teacher ratio in the after school program was lowered from 20:1 to 10:1 as a result of AmeriCorps' assistance.

Hispanic Population Needs Addressed

AmeriCorps members established a strong affiliation with local Adult Education programs in order to meet the adult literacy needs of the Hispanic population. An English as a Second Language course is regularly attended by 25-30 people and an Adult Basic Education class is attended by 15-20 people.

The student to teacher ratio in the English as a Second Language class has dropped from 30:1 to 10:1 with AmeriCorps' assistance.

Special Assistance for Special-Needs Children

An AmeriCorps team member works daily one-on-one with two special children, one with severe behavioral problems and the other, a



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“drug baby,” with serious visual/motor integration problems.

Through a very time-intensive process, this member has helped the first child make tremendous gains in the areas of confidence and learning appropriate forms of behavior.

The second child can now write her name independently. The teacher for these children could not have provided this one-on-one care.

City of Hoquiam

AmeriCorps Kids' Connection

AmeriCorps provides four of the six member staff for Kids' Connection. The need in our community for a “latch key” program became apparent during our summer programs. We saw the number of free lunches grow from an average of 100 to an average of 229 daily.

AmeriCorps members saw many kids on their own during the day and knew they would be alone after school and during school breaks.

The Kids' Connection is successful because AmeriCorps members make it happen and our community cares about our kids.

Farmers' Market in the Works

AmeriCorps members began construction of a 3,024 square foot building with a 12' x 84' overhang for use by the Grays Harbor Farmers' Market Association. It is located on Riverside Avenue next to the Hoquiam River.

The AmeriCorps team has completed the foundation, walls, and underground plumbing. The trusses are up, the roof is on and they are one quarter complete on the siding and the windows are in place.

Ferry County Community Services

Assisting at Murder Scene

Trained AmeriCorps assisted the Ferry County Sheriff's Office in a search for evidence at a murder scene because not enough officers were available.

People Helping People

Five victims of crime were empowered to get on with their lives thanks to AmeriCorps help.

Four people from the homeless shelter were able to move to permanent residences.

AmeriCorps transported 140 clients, who had no available transportation, to medical appointments.

Wood was cut, split and stacked for elderly community residents.

Community Park Rehabilitated

AmeriCorps members reclaimed trails and cleared trash from the Perry Wilderness Park. A Native American interpretive center was completed and members are developing a mining exhibit.



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Students and Parents Benefiting

A safe after-school program was developed for five county schools that benefits 260 students.

Parents are excited and have been volunteering to assist in the after school programs. The children have demonstrated a marked improvement in academics.

Washington Conservation Corps Projects Administered by the Department of Ecology

Wildfire Brought Under Control

AmeriCorps team members put in 2,160 hours helping contain one of the largest wildfires in the history of Washington State.

Bambi Saved

AmeriCorps members working in the Entiat region of eastern Washington were found to be even more valuable after the fire. The area burned supported over 5,000 mule deer. These animals would have starved to death this winter if not fed by this crew who, on average, deliver 9,000 pounds of alfalfa pellets to these animals every day. Significant media coverage documented the hard work and dedication of this AmeriCorps team in alleviating the potentially high mortality rate of deer in this mountainous location.

Slide Blasted

Using dynamite as well as sweat labor, AmeriCorps crew members

cleared a major slide from the Fletcher Canyon Trail. Now the public is able to use this area again.

Forest Restoration

AmeriCorps members planted 6,125 trees, seeded 15,112 square feet, and constructed 24,832 linear feet of trails.

Wildlife Areas Improved for the Department of Fish and Wildlife

Hundreds of pounds of garbage were picked up and removed from wildlife areas and fishing access area sites.

One hundred department signs were installed in wildlife areas and access area sites.

Five miles of fence was repaired and five closure gates were installed on Department access areas.

One thousand trees were planted on department upland restoration areas.

Impressive Statistics

This AmeriCorps team constructed or rehabilitated 17,600 linear feet of trails and 8 campsites, removed 10 cubic yards of debris, seeded 2,000 square feet of land and responded to 48 emergencies.

A Part of History

The AmeriCorps crew reconstructed a historical corral in the Hoh Rain Forest at the Olympic National Park. The corral has been in place for over 50 years and this park has the highest visitation of any site in the park.



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The crew used old fashioned tools to split rails from a cedar that blew over in the area. The crew stated that this project made them feel part of the history of the Olympic National Park.

Access Improved

AmeriCorps members worked to make park facilities in the Wind River Ranger District more accessible to persons with disabilities to ensure everyone will have an equal opportunity to enjoy the beauty of this area.

Other accomplishments included planting 1,150 willow, rehabilitating 7 campsites, installing 4,150 linear feet of fencing, constructing 1,600 linear feet of trails, and seeding 18,000 square feet of land.

Saving the Salmon with Helicopters

The population of salmon in Washington State is diminishing and one of the important tasks of this AmeriCorps team is to protect the habitat needed for the future of our salmon. The primary focus is to improve water quality, fish habitat, and prevent damages from floods.

One of the most interesting projects this crew participated in was near Enumclaw. The project was designed to place log structures in a stream to reduce bank erosion and create habitat for fish, mainly salmon. The logs were brought in using helicopters "very exciting and dangerous" and carefully put into place by this team.

AmeriCorps Team Stranded by Flooding

Working in the Olympic National Forest in a residential camp, this crew was recently cut off from home as flood waters rose on the Skokomish River, trapping the crew in the forest for two days. Massive damage of roads were prevented when crew members used their time productively unclogging culverts in the forest.

One Hundred Thousand Trees Planted

AmeriCorps team members planted over 100,000 trees -- 88,445 willow and 28,500 Douglas fir.

They also laid 109,600 linear feet of bio-engineered brush matting and removed 17 stream barriers.

Displaced Timber Workers are Proud of Accomplishments

The main focus of this crew is watershed restoration. AmeriCorps participants have been doing major terracing of huge slides.

This AmeriCorps crew is comprised of displaced timber workers, as is the crew supervisor. They state that they are proud of the work they are doing to help heal the watersheds damaged by past logging practices.

One Hundred Twenty Eight Campsites Rehabilitated

This AmeriCorps team not only rehabilitated 128 campsites, they also put down 282,000 square feet of bio-engineered matting, planted 7,800 willow trees, constructed 198.5 erosion



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structures, and constructed 33,620 linear feet of trails.

Erosion Control Saves Stream

Working on state forest lands to restore a natural preserve to its natural state after heavy equipment was used to put out a wildfire, crews used erosion control methods to keep soils out of nearby stream and meadow.

The AmeriCorps team also removed non-native species of plants that were invading an area with the largest concentration of Indian Paintbrush in the United States.

Washington AmeriCorps Projects Administered by The Neutral Zone

Seniors Boogie with Teens

Envision a 250-pound, long haired "street kid" (named Road Kill) dancing cheek-to-cheek with a frail 88-year old lady in a flowered hat and crocheted shawl. Picture a young man with a significant history of gang affiliation singing duets at the piano with a sweet gentleman in his late 80's sporting a bright red bow tie.

Smiles, laughter and deep conversations over bingo, crafts and cookies was shared between senior citizens and eight high risk young adults at an AmeriCorps sponsored Christmas party.

Fears disappeared, prejudices and judgmentalism were forgotten. It brought a few hours of friendship and enjoyment to residents of three local retirement and rehabilitation centers as well as self esteem and a promising

vision of the outcome of participation in the AmeriCorps program to our wonderfully unique Peer Assistants.

For most, it was their first experience in community service. They were amazed by the powerful and positive effect these few hours had on them and genuinely look forward to this season of community service and growth ahead of them.

\$20,000 Support Money Donated

The Neutral Zone successfully operates an after school and late night program designed to keep teens off the streets and out of trouble. Gang affiliation is forgotten at the door and the program has successfully reduced crime in the area.

Because of their success story, ARCO AM/PM and Safeco Insurance Company joined in partnership with Neutral Zone AmeriCorps providing grants of \$10,000 each in support of this program.

Washington AmeriCorps Projects Administered by Spokane Service Team

AmeriCorps Lend a Hand

AmeriCorps members distributed 2,081 baskets of food for Thanksgiving meals for 6,065 low-income residents in Spokane county.

The Spokane Food Bank is now cleaned and organized and the food is sorted thanks to AmeriCorps members.

The Domestic Violence Program at the YWCA now has a clothing bank built by AmeriCorps members. They



In the first 100 days . . .

also installed the doors and painted the walls.

No More Leaks in the Roof

AmeriCorps members re-roofed a two-story home that houses four developmentally disabled residents. The property is owned and managed by Inland Empire Residential Resources specifically for developmentally disabled people.

Low-Income Housing Units Upgraded

AmeriCorps members worked on rehabilitating four low-income housing units. Work included the installation of cabinets, counter top and back splash tile on a much-needed kitchen improvement.

Dilapidated Garages Repaired

Two garages owned and managed by the Spokane Neighborhood Action Program Homeless (SNAP) project were rebuilt with new walls and trusses and reroofed.

The team also restructured the trusses of an adjoining housing unit owned by SNAP.

Washington AmeriCorps Projects Administered by Regional Youth Service Corps

Seniors Assisted

AmeriCorps members picked up and delivered food to 510 clients in the Senior Companion Program.

Home visits were made to 20 seniors and team members interviewed and completed applications for 15 new clients.

A major project included the development and distribution of more than 500 Senior Companion Program evaluations.

Holiday crafts were created for over 300 homebound senior citizens.

One especially committed AmeriCorps member recruited ten volunteers as part of a plan to develop a Senior Friendship Program designed to serve those seniors who are waiting to receive support from a long-term Senior Companion.

School Success

AmeriCorps provided 300 hours of classroom support to 60 children.

After school tutoring was provided for 160 children.

Thirty elementary school children were trained as conflict managers. Their new skills will positively impact the entire student population of 597.

Initiated a new, alternative recess called "Special Friends" that targets children in need of anger management training. Seventeen children were served in just one month.

After School Success for 2,685 Children

In HomeCourt, 2,685 children have participated in this after school program operated by our Youth Service Corps members. Many of these kids have no safe place to be after school. Some would probably get

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involved in gangs if they were not provided a positive alternative.

During their time at HomeCourt, they participate in organized games, and arts and crafts activities. Presentations have been made by the Pasco Police Department, the sexual assault response center, and medical practitioners.

Cultural Diversity Celebrated

AmeriCorps members developed and implemented a special project that engaged a class of 25 students in the development of a Holiday Play that incorporated diverse cultural elements and was presented to about 200 children.

Local Mission Praises AmeriCorps Efforts

AmeriCorps members sorted food, and provided maintenance and janitorial service for the local mission that provides shelter for the homeless. The shelter director said, "Regional Youth Services Corps did a week of work—that had to be done—in one day. We cannot begin to tell you of all the wonderful comments of our people, praising you and your caring work. . . not only did your group work well, they looked good and showed pride in the organization."

Drug Free Programs

AmeriCorps members conducted a community assessment and the data will impact over 110,000 receiving services and information from the Substance Abuse Coalition.

Preliminary work on the positive graffiti project was completed.

A drug-free all-school dance was coordinated for a local high school that served over 300 teens.

Efforts were begun to develop a coalition of counselors and treatment centers.

Research was conducted to prepare for drug awareness/education in classes and at assemblies.

Low-Income Assistance

AmeriCorps team members provided a holiday party for over 250 residents of a low-income housing area.

Members also conducted community assessments of over 200 low-income citizens to determine needs for services provided by the Community Action Committee and other social service programs.

A Clean Sweep

Over 45 yards of garbage and 20 tons of trash was collected by AmeriCorps members.

Ten acres of parks were cleaned up when AmeriCorps members removed litter, glass and debris.

Twelve city blocks were cleaned up during the Adopt A Block campaign.

Washington AmeriCorps Projects Administered by Community Youth Services

At-Risk Students Helped

AmeriCorps members working as playground interventionist/tutors for



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the Olympia School District have provided one-on-one tutoring to at-risk students in the classroom and have developed and led ongoing structured activities during the most unstructured part of the school day, recess.

Members have developed mediation and conflict resolution skills and are helping students learn to solve their conflicts in a non-violent and positive way. Principals report a decrease in the number of incidents of violence on the playground that have needed to be referred to their offices since the AmeriCorps program began.

AmeriCorps member service has also resulted in an increase in direct tutoring opportunities for high-needs students who have been targeted as at-risk of not achieving their next grade level without additional personalized attention.

Violence at Day Care Reduced

The AmeriCorps Youth in Service program is helping the Olympia Child Care Center (OCCC) meet the needs of children and parents of low income families. Three AmeriCorps members are serving as child care aides at OCCC. Their service work has resulted in fewer incidents of children needing to be removed from the center due to violence, withdrawal or other signs of stress.

This translates to a decrease in the number of times the center has had to call a parent to pick up a distressed child. This is of particular importance because parents in low-paying employment are the most likely to lose their jobs when they are called away to care for their children

The efforts of the AmeriCorps members are helping these families to remain productive, healthy, and self-sufficient.

Parenting Classes that Work

AmeriCorps members serving as Family Service Specialists at the Community Action Council have provided parenting classes for low-income families. This service work has resulted in a documented improvement in parenting skills and an increase in awareness of healthy childhood development.

Thirty additional families will be able to participate in parenting skills program this year due to the service work performed by AmeriCorps members.

Quality of Life Improved for Children of Troubled Apartment Complex

The police answer calls nightly at Forest Glen apartment complex to deal with drug trafficking, domestic violence, child abuse, vandalism and assaults.

The complex is isolated from the rest of the community by busy roads and a freeway, so children in the complex do not have a way to access community programs.

AmeriCorps member Jennifer Gillick turned life around for these children by bringing programs to the children at a site leased through the Readiness to Learn Program. Now the Girl Scouts, 4-H and the YMCA's Before and After School Programs operate at the complex and provide enrichment to these children.

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In the first 100 days . . .

Jennifer has also encouraged involvement among the residents, helped residents access the on-site clothing bank and has contacted one-on-one help for children in need of a positive adult role model.

The principal from nearby McLane Elementary explained that due to the success of this project, "We have seen

remarkable improvement with the general behavior and increased success of the McLane students from this complex."

The apartment manager reported that the children love the activities offered and explained there is less trouble from the children residing in the complex.

The Numbers Behind the Stories

AmeriCorps Members

Total AmeriCorps Members	420
Total of hours of service	165,085

Community Volunteers

Total Volunteers	246
Total hours contributed to AmeriCorps projects	10,816

For more information contact:

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PIERCE COUNTY COMMUNITY AIDS PARTNERSHIP

AMERICORPS

Partners in AmeriCorps...because no community is immune.

- The Pierce County Community AIDS Partnership AmeriCorps project is a national direct AmeriCorps program of the National AIDS Fund in Washington, D.C. The program receives its matching grant funds from the Elton John Foundation.
- Eight AmeriCorps members were placed in Pierce County community agencies in October of 1994 to help develop effective models of HIV prevention and support services which address the crisis of HIV/AIDS among our nation's young people.
- Host community agencies in Pierce County include: Planned Parenthood of Pierce County; Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department; Good Samaritan Medical Center (Puyallup), People of Color Against AIDS Network (Tacoma), and the Department of Social and Health Services (Pierce County).
- To date AmeriCorps members have contributed over 4,423 hours of service. They have conducted 58 sessions of HIV 101 awareness training for over 2712 individuals. Groups included young people, AmeriCorps members, youth at risk, and even a special presentation for parents at a daycare.
- AmeriCorps members also conduct HIV testing and counseling. At one site a single AmeriCorps member has in just 3 months exceeded the total number of tests provided by the host agency in the previous year.
- AmeriCorps members also conduct street outreach in an attempt to get information to the people who are in greatest need of it.
- AmeriCorps members have also volunteered their off-hours, as a group, to various organizations in the county, including the Pierce County AIDS Foundation and the Mission, serving meals or facilitating special projects.
- AmeriCorps members have learned about the interconnectedness of social need, they have met prejudice, and they have learned compassion. They have also learned more about the potential of their own and of the human spirit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: KRIS URV-WONG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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