



The Arc[™]
Jacksonville

AmeriCorps Mentoring Program



Presented by
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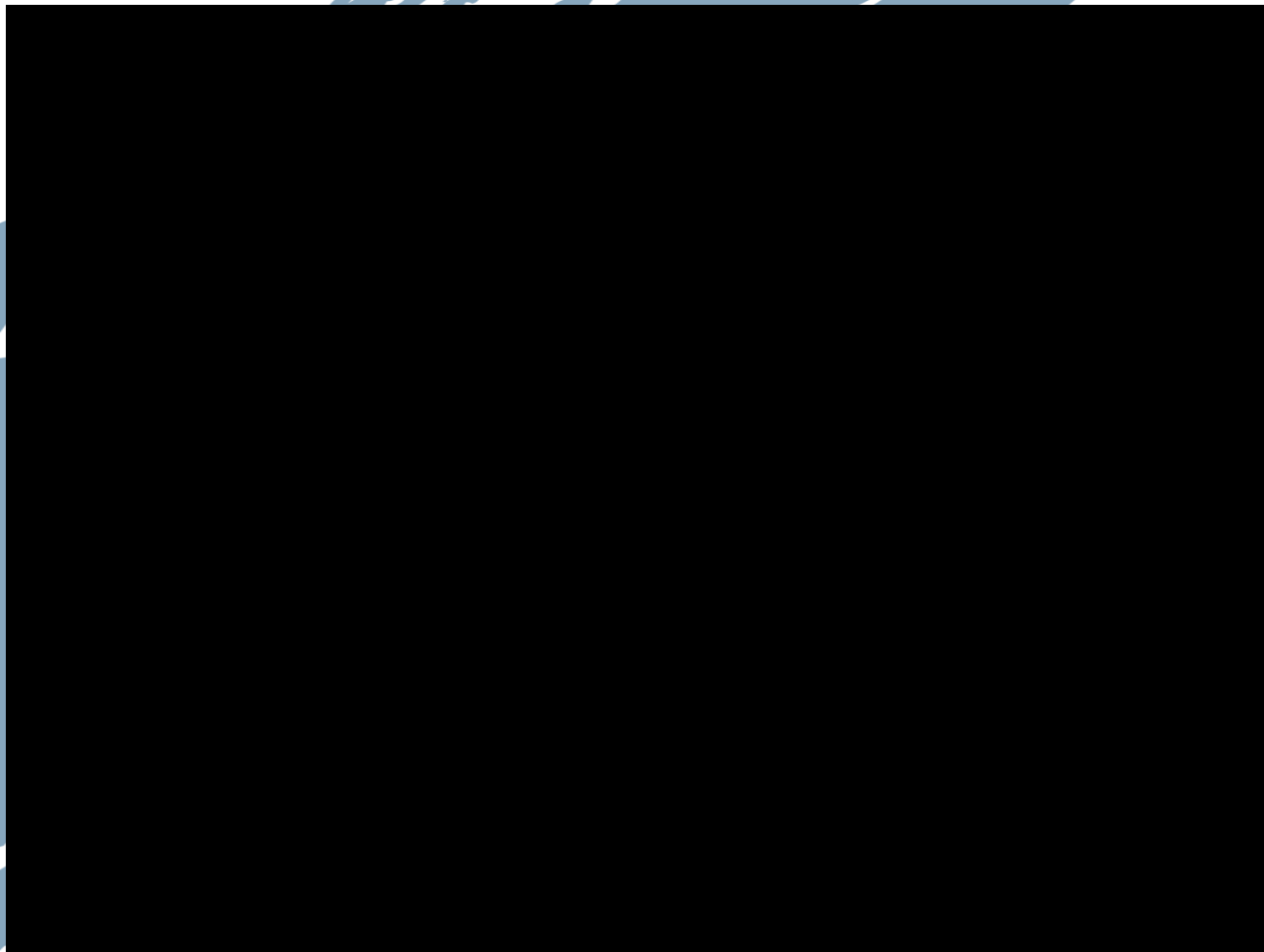


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Meaningful Experience

- What is important for a meaningful volunteer experience?
- How do we manage volunteers successfully?
- Does your organization currently have the structure & capacity to support volunteer management?
 - ✓ What partnerships exist? Need to be made?

What is AmeriCorps?



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What do AmeriCorps programs look like?

AmeriCorps is a grant funded government program allowing individuals the opportunity to provide service to the community in areas of need.

Members commit to 52 weeks of service and receive a living stipend.

Upon successful completion of service members receive the equivalent of a Pell Grant, or portion therein depending on hours served.

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AmeriCorps Youth Transition Project

- Currently 13 AmeriCorps Members are serving at the On Campus Transition program at the University of North Florida.
- Members serve in a variety of capacities to enhance the OCT program to ensure students receive a holistic experiential learning experience:
 - ✓ Academic Advisor
 - ✓ Financial Literacy
 - ✓ Wellness
 - ✓ Work Readiness
 - ✓ Independent Living
 - ✓ Mentor Recruitment
 - ✓ Community Assistant



Academic Advising

- Course selection
- Syllabi modification
- Disability Resource Center collaboration
- Assistive technology
- Credit hour assessment
- Course work and tutoring
- Student success trainings



Financial Literacy

- Assessment
- Assistive technology
- Budgeting
- Experiential trainings
- Mint© Monitoring
- Collaboration with NDI
- BEST Club



Wellness

- Fitness assessment
- Nutritional guidance
- Facilitate exercise classes
- Trainings
- Cooking class
- Nutrition club



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Work Readiness

- Assessment
- Vocational profile
- Career counseling
- Pre-employment training
- Internship placement
- Job coaching
- Trainings



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Independent Living

- Intensive “Supported Living” services
- Provide experiential individualized trainings
- Social mentoring
- Community inclusion



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Mentor Recruitment

- Develop and implement strategic recruitment plan
- Train and support mentors
- Achieved 270 mentors
- Achieving 2966 volunteer hours
- Ensure student satisfaction



Community Assistant

- UNF Internship Partnerships
 - Parking Services
 - Women's Center
 - Women's Soccer Team
 - Osprey Radio
 - Disability Resource Center
 - Secondary Education Department
 - College of Technology and Human Services



Benefits to OCT

- Expand student capacity
- Increase in quantity of individualized services
- Expand areas of transition services
- Increase cost-effectiveness in services provided
- Enable OCT students to serve as AmeriCorps Members



So...Where do I start?

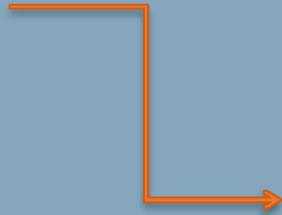
- Do your homework!!
- It's a LONG journey
- 1 year planning grant
- Choosing the right AmeriCorps program for you
 - ✓ AmeriCorps State and National
 - ✓ AmeriCorps Direct
 - ✓ VISTA
 - ✓ Senior Corps

What does CNCS hope to achieve?

- Increase impact of national service in the community, addressing areas of need.
- Strengthen national service through opportunity and ‘meaningful’ service
- Maximize value added to programs
- Fortify Management

What's the process?

➤ Local agencies apply
to Volunteer Florida



➤ The Corporation of National and
Community Service (CNCS)
distributes monies to Volunteer
Florida

➤ Grants are lengthy & highly competitive

Determine Program Needs

- Theory of Change
 - ✓ Community need/change
 - ✓ Specific Intervention
 - ✓ Intended outcome

- Scope
- Significance
- Cause

- Design
- Dosage

Keys to Success

- Do your homework! Plan in advance!
- Identify specific needs and develop specific interventions
- Build the structure & capacity to sustain an AmeriCorps program
- Remember- AmeriCorps Members are volunteers!!

Creating a meaningful volunteer experience will foster successful.



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Resources

➤ Nationalservice.org

✓ Fiscal management

✓ E-grants

✓ Performance
measures

➤ Volunteerflorida.org

✓ New program
orientations

✓ List of programs by
county

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Questions & Thank You!



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