



Snohomish County AmeriCorps Program

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NEWS RELEASE

Local AmeriCorps Program celebrates over 23,000 hours of service to the community.

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Members of the Snohomish County AmeriCorps Program, hosted by the Workforce Development Council Snohomish County, contributed over 23,000 hours of service to the community from August 2006 through July 2007. When transformed into a dollar amount using the Independent Sector value of a volunteer hour, AmeriCorps members contributed over \$439,000 to Snohomish County.

The 18 members of the Snohomish County AmeriCorps Program spent their 11-month service year at 15 host sites through the community. AmeriCorps members provided leadership and development activities to at-risk teenagers, recruited youth and adult volunteers, and received professional development.

- AmeriCorps members worked with over 3,200 teenagers (over 28,000 duplicated)
- AmeriCorps members helped 70 teenagers find jobs
- AmeriCorps members recruited over 1,300 volunteers who contributed over 3,400 hours of service to Snohomish County. 825 of these volunteers were youth.

These numbers are impressive. What is even more impressive is that teens report increased leadership and development skills and more commitment to their community as a result of working with their AmeriCorps member. Adults who volunteer along-side AmeriCorps members report that they will volunteer again as a result. AmeriCorps members report that they are developing tremendous skills and achieving their own professional and personal goals. In short, AmeriCorps members in our community are changing lives and adding to the spirit of volunteerism in Snohomish County.

“I considered AmeriCorps a huge growth opportunity for me. And that is exactly what I got,” said AmeriCorps member Brooke Janmohamed. “I was challenged on so many levels, and have come out stronger, wiser, more connected, and more enthusiastic than ever before. My self-esteem is soaring from the impacts I have made, and from finding my special spot in the sun where I shine. I know AmeriCorps was the perfect place for me.”

“I love the AmeriCorps Program and feel honored to have our agency in partnership with AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps does such a wonderful job at supporting the community in useful and practical ways,” said Everett Housing Authority host site supervisor Teena Ellison.

AmeriCorps is a national service organization under the umbrella of the Corporation for National and Community Service, which also provides opportunities for individuals to engage in service through Senior Corps and Learn and Serve. More than 500,000 individuals of all ages and backgrounds have served in AmeriCorps since its inception in 10 years ago. AmeriCorps members complete an 11-month term of service. In exchange for their full-time service, AmeriCorps members receive a modest living allowance and an educational award of \$4,725. Please take the time to thank your local AmeriCorps members for all they are doing to build a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility in America. For more information about the Snohomish County AmeriCorps Program, or to apply to become a member, visit www.wdcsc.org/amicorps.

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