“GETTING THINGS DONE”
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MCSC’S MISSION

The Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) connects Missourians of all ages and backgrounds in an effort to improve unmet community needs through direct and tangible service. The MCSC serves as the administrator for AmeriCorps State funding in Missouri by awarding monetary grants and providing technical assistance and support to its sub-grantees.

MCSC’S VISION

To Strengthen Missouri Communities Through Volunteerism and Service
Dear Friends:

The roots of volunteerism extend deep into the rocks, bluffs and valleys of Missouri. As you review this annual report of the Missouri Community Service Commission, you will see exactly what I mean. Missourians are some of the most giving people on the planet. The report demonstrates that AmeriCorps is working in Missouri to build our communities. AmeriCorps members throughout the state serve as tutors in schools, assist at food banks, provide disaster relief, protect our streams and contribute other services in order to get things done for Missouri.

AmeriCorps Missouri is a means by which the Missouri Community Service Commission connects Missourians of all ages and backgrounds in an effort to improve unmet community needs through direct and tangible service. AmeriCorps Members give one to two years of their lives to address the most pressing needs in their communities. They reach out to their fellow citizens and recruit others to join them in their fight against illiteracy, poverty, crime, homelessness and other social problems. Members help change lifestyles and build healthy futures. These members see a society that has hope and they want to be a part of strengthening their own communities.

I invite you to review this annual report and learn how the Missouri Community Service Commission is helping people change the lives of those around them for the better.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor

www.governor.mo.gov
Dear Friends:

Since 1994, the Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) has worked diligently to help build an increased sense of community throughout our state. Our efforts have been directed toward encouraging volunteerism and providing AmeriCorps grants to local communities. Funding received from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) located in Washington, D.C. enables local communities to implement AmeriCorps programs. AmeriCorps members provide direct services that address the most pressing local needs. This type of collaboration is an essential link to address our common priorities and greatest needs.

AmeriCorps works “by getting things done”, expanding educational and economic opportunity, and building future leaders. On behalf of the Missouri Community Service Commission, our member programs, and the AmeriCorps members in our state, we hope you enjoy reviewing our annual report for 2014-2015.

If you have questions or comments, please contact us at 573-751-7488 or toll free at 877-210-7611.

Sincerely,

[signature]
Russ Unger
Chair
MISSOURI COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSION

To Strengthen Missouri Communities Through Volunteerism and Service.

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Missouri Community Service Commission and our Missouri AmeriCorps Programs, we are honored to submit this annual report for 2014 - 2015. This past year has provided a number of challenges for our state commission and for our programs as they work “To Strengthen Missouri Communities through Volunteerism and Service”. Through intentional work and partnerships that encourage and strengthen opportunities for volunteerism, AmeriCorps continues to address the most pressing local needs by getting things done.

Over the past year, we have seen firsthand the amazing impact that our programs make every day in people's lives. Our diverse groups of programs continue to provide opportunities in Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures and for Veterans and Military Families. We are delighted to report to you that the Missouri Community Service Commission and our 20 programs across Missouri are thriving because of their commitment to service and collaboration. This past year, the Commission and the AmeriCorps programs have expanded working relationships with local, state and national organizations. These relationships have renewed efficiency of services provided to Missouri communities and maximized the impact of those services.

Through continued service at the local level, the Commission is confident that the legacy of National Service is carried on by connecting Missourians of all ages and backgrounds in an effort to improve unmet community needs through direct and tangible service. It is an honor to present this annual report and the contributions and investment it reflects. Thank you to all who have made it possible. We look forward to our future opportunities to work together.

Sincerely

Don Stamper
Executive Director
“A nation, as a society, forms a moral person, and every member of it is personally responsible for his society”

-Thomas Jefferson
3rd President of the United States
The Missouri Community Service Commission is housed within the Missouri Department of Economic Development.

The Missouri Community Service Commission, by Statute, is composed of 15-25 commissioners appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

Demonstration projects launched these three programs to show the effectiveness of the service model and to engage older Americans in a range of service activities.

- **1960s**
  - RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)
  - Foster Grandparent Program
  - Senior Companion Program

- **1964**
  - VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America)
    - Created by President Lyndon B. Johnson as part of the “War on Poverty”

- **1973**
  - Senior Service Program + Peace Corps + VISTA
    - Form the ACTION Agency
  - RSVP, Foster Grandparent Program, and Senior Companion Program are authorized through this act

- **1979**
  - Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973

- **1989**
  - Points of Light Foundation
    - President George H.W. Bush creates the Office of National Service in the White House and the Points of Light Foundation to foster volunteering

- **1990**
  - National and Community Service Act of 1990
    - Signed by President Bush, this legislation authorizes grants to schools to support service-learning through Serve America and demonstration grants. Learn and Serve America is created.

- **1992**
  - National Civilian Community Corps

- **1993**
  - AmeriCorps Created
    - Corporation for National and Community Service created

- **1994**
  - Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) created
    - The Missouri Community Service Commission was created by Missouri legislation in 1994
“My grandchild turned three in March and was able to attend the Jumpstart Program from March until May. A “good day” was a “Jumpstart” day. His development during that time was amazing to watch. I am very thankful for this program and the staff and volunteers that support it.”

- Grandmother of a Jumpstart AmeriCorps Beneficiary
“When starting my service within the Social Work department, I had a misconception that our goal was to take care of clients. What I’ve learned is that our goal is to guide and teach them”

- Brittany Sarhage
International Institute of Metro St. Louis AmeriCorps Program Member
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Russ Unger, Chair  John Albright, Vice Chair

Molly Turner, Ex-Officio  Janis K. VanMeter  Nina North Murphy  Lt. Governor Peter Kinder (Jay Eastlick, Proxy)

Dr. Marge Vandeven, DESE Director  (Cindy Heislen, Proxy)  Forrest W. Miller Jr  Randall J. McArthur  Cheryl Hibbeler

Nicole Roach  Reena Hajat Carroll

Commission Committees

Executive Committee
Russ Unger, Chair
John Albright, Vice Chair
Forrest Miller
Cheryl Hibbeler
Nichole Roach

Program Committee
Nichole Roach, Chair
Russ Unger
Cindy Heislen
Janis VanMeter

Service and Development
Cheryl Hibbeler, Chair
John Albright

Public Relations
Forrest Miller, Chair
Nina Murphy

Legislative Education
John Albright
“I’ve had the unique ability to start the change at the most focal point: with the children who can shape the future. My job is multifaceted. On the surface, I teach. I teach math; I teach reading; I teach writing. I teach students the skill they need to be successful in the future.”

-Britney Phillips
Teach for America AmeriCorps Program Member
The AmeriCorps Pledge

I will get things done for America - to make our people safer, smarter and healthier.

I will bring Americans together to strengthen our communities.

Faced with apathy, I will take action.
Faced with conflict, I will seek common ground.
Faced with adversity, I will persevere.

I will carry this commitment with me this year and beyond.

I am an AmeriCorps Member and I will get things done.

AmeriCorps Values

Focus on Impact

To strengthen accountability, AmeriCorps programs demonstrate their impact using standard performance measures in the following focus areas: disaster services, economic opportunity, environmental stewardship, education, healthy futures, and veterans and military families.

Expanding Educational Opportunity and Building Future Leaders

In addition to gaining career skills, AmeriCorps Members receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award that helps pay for college or pay back student loans.

Strengthening Nonprofits and the Volunteer Sector

AmeriCorps builds capacity, encourages local control and advances social innovation.

Leveraging a Powerful Return on the Investment

AmeriCorps programs promote efficiency through volunteer mobilization and a funding model that utilizes public and private partnerships.
“During my service I can honestly say that I have played in the dirt, shared laughs and stories, and felt moved by the people around me. I have learned that what makes community is something so much bigger than one group or organization. At its heart, it is the day to day interactions and relationships we build with each other. Community grows from connections, one step, one conversation, one smile at a time until it connects us all in the web of humanity. As I think back on all those little moments, the web continues to expand. For all of this and more, I am humbled by the small part I play in the world and grateful for the opportunity.”

Charlie McIntosh, International Institute of St. Louis AmeriCorps Program Member
“Recently I have been lucky enough to return to project sites that had solidified my love for the Ozarks and its people in my first term of service. It’s strange how fate delivered me a return trip to the area on the exact day a year after the tornado had changed so many lives. It reminded me that the things I do in this life do make a difference, even if I can’t always see it. Would that everyone could see the tangible results of the ripples they leave in this pond we call life. I left Baxter Springs, again, with tears in my eyes.”

-Dathan Tinney, AmeriCorps St. Louis-Safety Corps Member
“Today we took the LEAP students to ring bells for the Salvation Army. This project was to teach students what giving back to the community by volunteering was like. The students thoroughly enjoyed it. I actually had one student who went above and beyond what she was asked. This student was ringing the bell and caught a glimpse of an elderly woman that was all by herself trying to put groceries in her car. She then walked over to the woman and asked her if she could help! I told her that was an amazing thing to do. She responded, ‘So this is what volunteering is about. It is fun to be a volunteer!’ I thought that it was amazing to watch a young lady just want to help without being asked. These students are the leaders of the future and to watch them grow is most amazing sight.”

-Elizabeth Shipley, Eldon PAVE AmeriCorps Member
***The numbers located within each county represent the number of AmeriCorps Programs in that area.***
Program Directory
Visit the Programs’ website or call for more information

Columbia Area
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri
573.874.3677
866.738.3208
http://www.bigsofcentralmo.org/

CLAIM AmeriCorps
573.817.8300 ext 214
www.missouriclaim.org

Jumpstart Missouri – Columbia University of Missouri
573.882.8942
www.jstart.org

Missouri College Advising Corps
University of Missouri
573.884.1928
http://mcac.missouri.edu

Missouri River Communities Network
573.256.2602
http://www.moriver.org

Eldon Area
PAVE AmeriCorps
573.392.8060
www.paveamericorps.weebly.com

Independence Area
Child Abuse and Prevention Association
816.252.8838
www.childabuseprevention.org

Jefferson City Area
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
800.592.6020
http://thinkoutside.mo.gov

Kansas City Area
Harvesters-The Community Food Network AmeriCorps Community Outreach
816.929.3000
www.harvesters.org

Jumpstart Missouri – Kansas City University of Missouri- Kansas City
816.235.1003
www.jstart.org

Teach for America – Kansas City
816.753.0774
www.teachforamerica.org

Purdy Area
Purdy Reading Coaches
417.442.3217 ext 5
www.purdy.k12.com/pages/Americorps.aspx

Poplar Bluff Area
Poplar Bluff’s Promise
573.778.2650
www.poplarbluffspromise.org

Sedalia Area
Missouri Alliance of the Boys and Girls Club
573.884.1963
www.mcac.missouri.edu

Springfield Area
American Red Cross-Prevent, Prepare, Respond
http://volunteerredcross.org

St. Louis Area
AmeriCorps St. Louis Safety Service Corps
314.772.9002
www.americorps-stl.org

College Bound AmeriCorps
314.361.4441
www.collegebound.stl.org

InspireSTL
http://inspirestl.org/

International Institute of Metropolitan St. Louis
314.773.9090
www.iistl.org

Teach for America – St. Louis
314.621.9100
www.teachforamerica.org

Waynesville Area
Waynesville AmeriCorps
573.433.2030
www.waynesville.k12.mo.us
American Red Cross of Greater Ozarks Chapter: Prevent, Prepare, Respond AmeriCorps Program

The American Red Cross “Prevent, Prepare, Respond” AmeriCorps program meets the needs of underserved people in the rural areas of Missouri. Members work within specific counties to: recruit new disaster relief volunteers to tend to the needs of those displaced by natural or man-made disasters; teach life-saving skills such as CPR, First Aid, and Disaster Preparedness to their communities; and strengthen relationships and partnerships with many disaster-related organizations to improve the services delivered to those affected by disasters. Through this program, communities in Missouri are revitalized with a spirit of service to their neighbors, and are better prepared when disaster strikes.
Thirty-five full-time AmeriCorps Members serve in teams to prepare for and respond to disasters across Missouri and, by invitation, in other states. The Emergency Response Team (ERT) has deployed to disasters in more than fifty Missouri counties and thirty states. During non-disaster times, Members serve on a conservation corps across Missouri, Illinois, and Montana. The Safety Service Corps partners with the Missouri Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the United Way, FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), SEMA (Missouri State Emergency Management Agency), the US Forest Service, state and local disaster agencies, and other State Commissions and Emergency Managers.
The Central Missouri Mentoring Partnership Project trains AmeriCorps Members to work side-by-side with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri mentors and staff, serving more at-risk children who have educational needs.

AmeriCorps Members recruit mentors in Columbia who serve children in elementary and middle schools. Members recruit and coordinate volunteers, paying special attention to training the Big Brothers/Big Sisters who assist their Little’s in areas of academic performance. The Big/Little matches may be in either the community-based or school-based Programs.
AmeriCorps Poplar Bluff’s Promise

Members serve to improve academic achievement among at-risk youth in Butler County. Members conduct after-school learning activities, tutor students, increase program enrollment, and recruit volunteers to serve. Members serve in eight school sites within the Poplar Bluff R-I School District and six sites in the Boys and Girls Club after-school program.
The mission of the AmeriCorps Program at Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA) is to prevent all forms of child abuse by creating changes in individuals, families, and society in order to strengthen relationships and promote healing. CAPA Members provide free therapeutic counseling services to children and families who have experienced abuse or related traumas. Members also provide weekly in-home health education and case management for high risk families with infant and toddler children. They provide educational activities addressing prevention across the Kansas City Metro area. These activities include safety skills and other workshops for children and parents.
College Bound’s mission is to provide promising high school students from under-resourced backgrounds with the academic enrichment, social supports, and life skills needed to apply, matriculate and succeed in four-year colleges. AmeriCorps Members serve as College Coaches, Persistence Coaches, or as a Program Coordinator. College Coaches mentor high school students through the processes of preparing for and applying to college; Persistence Coaches support college students as they pursue their bachelor’s degree; and the Program Coordinator implements enrichment programming such as service learning, cultural enrichment, and leadership programs for College Bound students.
PAVE AmeriCorps Members provide one-on-one and small group tutoring to at-risk students in the Eldon R-I School District. Tutoring in communication arts, reading, and math occurs at five campuses and includes Pre-Kindergarten through twelfth grade students as well as students enrolled in the (alternative high school) Mustang Academy. Members also provide opportunities for at-risk students to be successful by supporting healthy lifestyle activities; designed to improve knowledge of nutrition and physical activity.
Harvester’s mission is to feed hungry people today and work to end hunger tomorrow. A network of over 620 agencies make it possible to provide food to children, families, and seniors throughout a 26-county bi-state region. AmeriCorps Members serve in key areas, including nutrition, community engagement, and community outreach. Members increase awareness about hungry issues, secure perishable, and non-perishable food donations, ensure volunteer support in acquiring and distributing donations quickly to those in need, and educate and assist individuals in applying for SNAP. Members also provide children and adults who receive food assistance with nutrition education, hands-on cooking classes, along with resources to enable them to make healthy lifestyle choices.
inspireSTL empowers high potential, underserved scholars to emerge as a collective of lifelong leaders. inspireSTL provides scholars with preparation for, access to, and support throughout a transformative educational journey. inspireSTL’s scholars have clear academic and leadership potential, but need the right opportunities to bring that potential to life. Through inspireSTL’s placement and support, students become informed and empowered young people, ready to reinvest in their neighborhoods and communities. Today inspireSTL serves 100 scholars across the city of St. Louis with year-round academic, social, and emotional support, as well as leadership development.
“Since starting my service with AmeriCorps, I have learned so much about myself. I have found an inner strength that I did not know was there, because someone showed me how to bring it out. That is my goal this year, to show some kids how to find that inner strength even if it’s just one.”

- James Snow
Eldon PAVE AmeriCorps Member
Members of the International Institute of Metropolitan St. Louis AmeriCorps program help refugees rebuild their lives, integrate into their new communities, and become self-sufficient as soon as possible. Members are assigned to areas including: arrival orientation, education, employment, child services, economic development, medical services, benefits, social work, and the Global Farm. Depending on their assignments, Members may greet families at the airport, assist clients with completing applications, link clients to services and programs, schedule appointments, teach life skills, job preparation, farming/marketing classes, prepare clients for the citizenship test, recruit and manage volunteers, and assist with special events.
To combat the crisis in early education, Jumpstart joins together dedicated college students, called Corps Members, and pre-school children from low-income communities. During the course of the school year, Jumpstart’s AmeriCorps Members utilize Jumpstart’s supplemental programming to help young children develop the language, literacy and social skills essential for success in kindergarten and in life. Through this relationship, Jumpstart inspires children to learn, adults to teach, families to get involved, and communities to progress together. Jumpstart is working toward the day every child in America enters kindergarten prepared to succeed.
The Missouri Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs provides engaging learning and fitness activities to at least 640 young people annually in communities served by three Boys & Girls Club organizations throughout the state—Sedalia, Columbia, and Springfield. The primary focus of this project is Education, with the goal of improving the academic performance among youth participants in literacy and/or math. The secondary focus of this project is Healthy Futures, with the goal of reducing childhood obesity and decreasing youth participants’ Body Mass Index-for-age percentage by at least 3 point.
The Missouri College Advising Corps (MCAC) helps Missouri students gain access to college. MCAC headquarters are located at the University of Missouri (MU). MCAC is a full-time non-profit college access advising program. Members help students understand that they can complete a college degree, find their “best fit” post-secondary institution, and navigate the process of applying for admission.

MCAC advisers are AmeriCorps Members who are trained, at both the state and national levels. These Members provide resources to students to assist them in planning continuing education. They facilitate college entrance workshops such as FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), financial literacy, and college admissions. They take students on campus tours providing the students an opportunity to experience college life and “see” themselves as belonging and succeeding there.
The Missouri Department of Natural Resources’ Division of State Parks’ State Parks Youth Corps (SPYC) – AmeriCorps Leadership Program develops AmeriCorps Members to lead meaningful natural resource stewardship, trail maintenance and preservation projects with Missouri State Parks.
The Missouri Healthy Food Access and Education Project partners AmeriCorps Members with nonprofit organizations in three communities—Ashland, Columbia, and Kirksville. AmeriCorps Members are responsible for training teachers in garden-based nutrition education methods; creating lesson plans to be used in garden classrooms addressing appropriate Grade Level Expectations and Common Core Standards; presenting one-hour lessons to economically disadvantaged students; and coordinating nutrition education workshops. In addition, AmeriCorps Members leverage volunteers who engage in expanding school gardens; teaching nutrition education lesson plans; tending, weeding, harvesting, and cleaning the fruits and vegetables from their garden; and helping students, parents, and teachers expand access to healthy food in the school lunch program.
Primaris/Community Leaders Assisting the Insured of Missouri (CLAIM AmeriCorps)

AmeriCorps Members provide counseling for Medicare beneficiaries, their family members and caregivers. This counseling is related to Medicare benefits and the availability of financial assistance programs. Members also educate beneficiaries and others on Medicare matters, promote the CLAIM program and related services, and recruit additional volunteers. This statewide AmeriCorps program expands the reach of the CLAIM program and improves access to services for seniors and disabled citizens of Missouri.
AmeriCorps Members provide literacy-based tutoring to Kindergarten through fourth grade students. A varied approach is used which includes one-on-one tutoring for students who are reading significantly below grade level, and small groups enrichment activities for those students who are reading at or above grade level. In addition to traditional tutoring methods, Members also provide vision based tutoring to students who struggle with reading because of dyslexia or similar issues. AmeriCorps Members form an integral part of the district-wide Response to Intervention (RTI) program by providing services to nearly half of the student population.
“I have found myself inspired to find the time in the future to volunteer with other organizations with the goal of helping others in a time of need. I appreciate the chance to be a part of AmeriCorps and take my pledge seriously in hopes of seeing fruit from that labor.”

-Candice Ozbun

Purdy Reading and Renewal AmeriCorps Project
Teach for America

Teach for America recruits, selects, and trains college graduates to teach for at least two years in low-income, underserved schools throughout Kansas City and St. Louis. Corps Members are full-time, professional teachers dedicated to raising achievement in their placement areas. Members serve in over one hundred schools in all subjects ranging from pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade. Teach for America’s mission is that “one day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education”.
Waynesville R-VI School District/AmeriCorps
Waynesville

The AmeriCorps Waynesville project is designed to provide academic support to struggling kindergarten through eighth grade students at all district schools. The program is based on providing service to students who are at the greatest risk of school failure. The program provides tutoring intervention to students in communication arts, reading, and math. Members also assist with the Club TIGER after-school program.
AmeriCorps Team Members plan, recruit, and implement high quality tutoring/mentoring and service learning experiences for youth that help increase academic engagement in Kansas City, Missouri.
“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

- President Barack Obama
43rd President of the United States
Funding

The Missouri Community Service Commission receives funding from the Corporation for National Community Service and Missouri General Revenue.

Funding is used to support operations and administer grants to the AmeriCorps programs. In order to strengthen the public-private partnership, all programs must leverage other funds in addition to the federal funds received.

In addition to federal funds received by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Commission received approximately $33,151.00 in State General Revenue.

Leverage—MCSC Investments

The Missouri Broadcasters Association supports the Missouri Community Service Commission by airing public service announcements on both radio and television. The Commission invests $24,000 annually. The total value of spots aired in 2014 (January-December) was $520,615. The equates to a net value of 496,615.
Demographics

Demographic reporting allows the Missouri Community Service Commission to better understand basic information about those volunteers serving, Members, and those receiving services, the beneficiaries.

Becoming an AmeriCorps Member is a privilege that many apply for but few are selected. This year 1,639 people applied to become an AmeriCorps Member in the State of Missouri and 542 people were selected to serve.

Once a candidate is selected to become an AmeriCorps Member, Members are required to recruit volunteers. This year, Missouri AmeriCorps Members recruited 27,741 volunteers; the 27,741 volunteers performed 100,014 hours of service across the state of Missouri impacting over 85,768 beneficiaries.

### AmeriCorps Beneficiaries Served

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiary Types</th>
<th>Number Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disadvantaged Children and Youth</td>
<td>75,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Mentored</td>
<td>5,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children of Incarcerated Parents</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans and Families Served</td>
<td>716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals Receiving Disaster Services</td>
<td>3,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals Receiving Independent Living Services</td>
<td>436</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AmeriCorps Members responded to seventy (70) local disasters and provided assistance to 3,452 individuals affected by disaster.
MCSC’s Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Service Project Results

FOOD DONATED
850 POUNDS
EQUIVALENT TO
$1,252.56 USA DOLLARS

CLOTHES DONATED
500
ITEMS OF CLOTHES DONATED

Events, Service, and Partnerships

The Missouri Community Service Commission encourages community service in addition to normal AmeriCorps programming throughout the year.
Mission: St. Louis VISTA Umbrella was named the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Awardee. The 2015 national day of service brought together 275 AmeriCorps VISTA Members and University of Missouri—St. Louis community members, who worked together to complete capital improvement projects helping the organizations maintain services to their community.

There were other service projects provided to the community as well. Examples of those projects are:

- Volunteers at Beyond Housing cleaned and painted the hallways and main room where neighborhood kids gather after school to complete homework.
- Volunteers at the Children’s Home Society worked with children in the Developmental Disabilities Program creating crafts and reading to the children who live in the home.
- Volunteers at Lydia’s House helped clean and organize the community center which provides safe and anonymous housing for those escaping domestic violence.
- Volunteers at River City Robots helped injured students on engineering projects and competitions. RCR is one of the earliest FIRST robotics clubs in Missouri.

This project reached 14 different agencies and non-profits throughout the St. Louis area. As a result, an estimated 2,000 Missourians were impacted.

Ralph Lambert was named the Show-Me Service Awardee for 2015. Ralph is a retired avionic engineer and is currently the Chief Technical Mentor and board member of River City Robots. River City Robots is an organization Ralph helped found in 2013.

River City Robots is a non-profit organization whose mission is to expose students to science needed to learn and accomplish goals while having fun. RCR provides a location for mentors to work directly with interested students on engineering projects and competitions. RCR is one of the earliest FIRST robotics clubs in Missouri.

Ralph dedicates hundreds of hours each year to mentoring, fundraising, community improvement, and facilitating events supported by RCR. His enthusiasm to teach structured design processes and problem solving results in students constructing a robot in a 6-week period. This translates into a competition in which the students learn not to rely on the mentor for help.

Ralph has trained students from 14 public and private schools, in addition to home-schooled students. His commitment and focus has evolved into a movement causing Missouri to be recognized nationally as a leader in science and technology.

Missouri is nationally recognized as a leader in science and technology.

Annual Celebration of Service and Volunteerism

The Missouri Community Service Commission sponsors an annual celebration to recognize the dedication of both individuals and organizations engaged in community service.

Show-Me Service Award

The Show-Me Service Award was established to honor individuals demonstrating dedication, outstanding service, and volunteerism in the pursuit of improving communities and changing lives. The award was created to recognize the late Governor Carnahan’s commitment to service and to the citizens of the State of Missouri.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Award

The Missouri Community Service Commission awards a citizen, educational institution, not-for-profit or faith-based organization in our great state for working on a project that serves the community on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

2,000 Missourians were impacted
The Rotary Club of Pulaski County was one of the organizations named as MCSC’s Partners in Service. In 2014, the 42 member Rotary Club provided over 3,378 hours of service to the community. They also donated over $5,000 to support community projects. Through their partnership with the Waynesville—St. Robert Chamber of Commerce, both organizations provided 69 hours of training and presentations on the Choices program to 28 eighth grade classrooms. This program teaches students how choices they make today could impact future opportunities. The rotary club also donated $1,000 to cover part of the licensing fee to continue the program. Their relationship with Drury University provides 600 dictionaries to third graders each year in Pulaski County. In support of Waynesville R-VI Snack in a Pack program, the Rotary Club donated $1,300 worth of peanut butter and jelly. This donation helped supply food to 315 students over the Christmas break. Additionally, 14 Rotary Club members volunteered 22 hours to package the food. The Rotary Club motto is “service above self”, this motto has been motivation for the members to continue support to their community and to involve others by developing meaningful partnerships.

St. Louis Social Venture Partners (SVP) was another organization named MCSC’s Partners in Service. SVP is a philanthropic program of the Regional Business Council. This provides financial and “hands-on” resources from reputable business executives, to help non-profit organizations become sustainable and to maintain long-term stability. The non-profit organizations that are selected provide educational programs to at-risk youth. In addition to building capacity in select non-profits, SVP has given more than $1.9 million in grants and in-kind support; as well as over 16,000 hours of volunteer and staff time to 21 area non-profits. The significance is that thousands of youth in the St. Louis area will continue to receive supportive services from non-profits that may not have been able to stay in operation. This is due to the oversight provided by SVP so service to the community can continue.

Monsanto was named MCSC’s Partners in Service and Education Awardee.

“Monsanto is a sustainable agriculture company that delivers agricultural products to support farmers all around the world.”

Monsanto is the sole contributor of the MCSC/Monsanto Scholarship Award Program. They make it possible for Missouri high school students to attend the college or university of their choice. Because of Monsanto’s commitment, MCSC has awarded Monsanto Company the Partners in Service and Education Award in 2013, 2014, and 2015.

**Partners In Service Award**

The Partners in Service Awards Recognizes outstanding companies, both for-profit and not-for-profit, across the State of Missouri, that recognize the importance of service and encourage and instill those values in their employees.

**Partners In Service and Education Award**

The Partners in Service and Education Award is presented to the sponsor of the scholarship for the High School Youth Awards as well as a company who recognizes the importance of service with their employees.
Each year, eight high school students receive a $1,000 scholarship to attend the college or university of their choice. These awards are offered to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors of all high schools in the State of Missouri.

These awards are made possible by the Monsanto Company.

*Thank You Monsanto*

The Corporation for National and Community Service supports the Missouri Community Service Commission by providing funding for AmeriCorps State programs in Missouri. These funds are granted to the Commission and sub-granted to qualifying organizations that implement AmeriCorps programs in Missouri. They also support the Commission by providing administrative funds to cover operating cost of the Commission.

*Thank you to the Corporation for National and Community Service*

As employees of the Missouri Department of Economic Development, The Missouri Community Service Commission receives all of the support as any other employees of the Department, including but not limited to services such as human resources, accounting, legal, office space, processing of payroll, etc.

*Thank you to the Missouri Department of Economic Development*
Missouri Community Service Commission

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