



2012 - 2013 AmeriCorps*Texas Grantees

Amarillo Independent School District

Program Name: Amarillo ISD AmeriCorps

Service Areas: Amarillo

Description: The Amarillo ISD AmeriCorps program utilizes AmeriCorps members to provide tutoring services at 14 local elementary schools. Tutoring is provided in literacy, math, and science. The program's primary goals are to: increase grade performance in literacy, math, and science, improve literacy rates among youth, earn higher standardized test scores, and through success, improve attendance rates.

Program Contact: Jill Humphrey (jill.humphrey@amaisd.org)

Website: <http://www.amaisd.org>

American YouthWorks

Program Name: Texas Recovery & Response Corps

Service Areas: Austin

Description: The American YouthWorks (AYW) Environmental Corps (E-Corps) Program engages AmeriCorps members in disaster relief and recovery efforts through the Texas Response and Recovery Corps. Two teams consisting of 10 AmeriCorps members are trained and ready for rapid deployment in response to disasters across Texas. This initiative builds upon partnerships with Texas Forest Service, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, US Fish & Wildlife Service Fire and Disaster Response teams, TDEM, FEMA and many local, state and national partners and public land management agencies across Texas.

Program Contact: Chris Sheffield (CSheffield@americanyouthworks.org)

Website: <http://www.americanyouthworks.org/>

AVANCE, Inc. - El Paso Chapter

Program Name: AVANCE - El Paso AmeriCorps

Service Areas: Dallas and El Paso

Description: The AVANCE - El Paso AmeriCorps program focuses on school readiness and places members as child and family education aides in a results-driven child development, parenting and family literacy program. AVANCE uses team-based placement of members with staff to enrich program services and to expand services that will reach children and families across El Paso County and Dallas. AVANCE seeks to increase parents' involvement in their children's education and school readiness. The program focuses on increased attendance and grade-passing rates as well as higher reading and math scores.

Program Contact: Taylor Moreno (tmoreno@avance-elpaso.org)

Website: <http://www.avance-elpaso.org>

Breakthrough

Program Name: Expanding Community Impact

Service Areas: Austin

Description: Breakthrough's comprehensive program makes a long-term commitment, beginning in middle school, to help low income students become the first in their families to graduate from college. Breakthrough provides an academically rigorous Summer Program and intensive year-round services to students who, statistics say, would not go to college without significant intervention and support.

Program Contact: Barry Aidman (barry@breakthroughaustin.org)

Website: <http://www.breakthroughaustin.org/>



City Year, Inc.

Program Name: City Year San Antonio

Service Areas: San Antonio, Somerset

Description: City Year San Antonio (CYSA) engages AmeriCorps members, ages 17-24 to address gaps in educational attainment in San Antonio. These young adults are mentors, tutors and role models that focus on improving Attendance, Behavior, and Course (ABC) performance (Math and English) in low performing schools. To improve the ABCs, CY members engage with students before school, in school, after school. Members also provide Out-of-School Saturday service learning and leadership development.

Program Contact: Paul Garro (pgarro@cityyear.org)

Website: <http://www.cityyear.org/sanantonio>

CitySquare

Program Name: N2 Texas Corps

Service Areas: Dallas, San Antonio

Description: CitySquare serves as an intermediary organization, placing members in local organizations to provide hunger relief to adults and children; provide after-school and summer educational enrichment programs in underserved communities; and implement a physical education curriculum with the intent of reducing obesity rates for children.

Program Contact: Jennifer Rajkumar (jrajkumar@citysquare.org)

Website: <http://citysq.org/>

College Forward

Program Name: College Forward Partnership for Higher Education

Service Areas: Austin, Baytown, Buda, Del Valle, Georgetown, Houston, Kyle, Manor, Round Rock

Description: The College Forward AmeriCorps program provides college access and college persistence services to motivated, economically disadvantaged students to help facilitate their transition to college. The program not only seeks to help low-income and first-generation students gain access to college, but also provides support to their parents as well as the preparation needed to successfully complete college. The vision of College Forward is to change the face of education in Texas so that every student, regardless of family income or background, can graduate from college.

Program Contact: Erica Gordon (egordon@collegeforward.org)

Website: <http://www.collegeforward.org>

Communities In Schools of Central Texas

Program Name: Communities In Schools of Central Texas AmeriCorps

Service Areas: Austin, Buda, Kyle, Manor, Niederwald

Description: Communities In Schools of Central Texas AmeriCorps provides and leverages social service interventions that address both academic and non-academic barriers and promote the academic success of students. AmeriCorps members serve as supportive mentors, academic supporters and service learning project leaders to students on school campuses. Members provide mentoring and supportive guidance to students one-on-one or in small groups, provide academic support such as homework help and classroom support and recruit volunteers to help support the program. AmeriCorps members support the overall mission of Communities In Schools to help students stay in school and prepare for life.

Program Contact: Jennifer Jefts (jjefts@cisaustin.org)

Website: <http://www.cisaustin.org>



Communities In Schools of the Heart of Texas

Program Name: CIS Community Servers

Service Areas: Waco

Description: CIS Community Servers AmeriCorps members are placed in Waco area schools and with several partner agencies to help increase students' educational attainment by increasing grades and retention rates. The members placed in schools tutor individuals and small groups of students, and provide group academic activities during after-school programming at the campus. The members also mentor students individually and in small groups to help build rapport and address issues that are keeping students from focusing on and staying in school.

Program Contact: Jennifer Mikeska (jmikeska@cis-hot.org)

Website: <http://www.cis-hot.org>

Front Steps

Program Name: Keep Austin Housed

Service Areas: Austin

Description: Front Steps utilizes AmeriCorps members in its AmeriCorps homeless case management program through the Keep America Housed collaborative in Austin. The eight-agency partnership serves the full range of homeless adults, families with children and youth, including teen parents. Members provide intensive case management, mentorship and other supportive services to help clients develop skills for independent living, acquire jobs, and obtain and maintain long-term affordable housing.

Program Contact: Miranda Spiro (MSpiro@frontsteps.org)

Website: <http://www.frontsteps.org/>

Harris County Department of Education

Program Name: CASE AmeriCorps Kids' Day Project

Service Areas: Houston, Pasadena, Pearland

Description: Harris County Department of Education engages the Cooperative for After-School Enrichment (CASE) AmeriCorps Kids' Day Project members at existing after-school programs for homework assistance, academic enrichment activities, and Kids' Day activities that tie career-focused curriculum to hands-on programming and a culminating event.

Program Contact: Lisa Caruthers (lcaruthers@hcde-texas.org)

Website: <http://hcde-texas.org>

Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Independent School District

Program Name: AmeriCorps Youth Harvest

Service Areas: Alamo, Alton, Donna, Edcouch, Elsa, Hidalgo, La Joya, Las Milpas, Mission, Palmview, Pharr, San Juan, Weslaco

Description: The AmeriCorps Youth Harvest program engages high school seniors from nine local school districts to serve as tutors for students learning basic reading skills. Members are placed in local elementary schools, after-school programs, and community and faith-based organizations. At their sites, members implement tutoring programs to meet their individual client needs.

Program Contact: Amanda Sandoval (amanda.sandoval@psjaisd.us)

Website: <http://psja.schoolfusion.us>



Project Transformation

Program Name: Project Transformation AmeriCorps

Service Areas: Dallas, Denison, Farmers Branch, Mesquite

Description: Project Transformation AmeriCorps (PT) engages AmeriCorps members in leadership and service by providing educational after-school and summer programs for at-risk children and youth, building influential relationships and connecting volunteers, churches and other organizations to underserved communities. PT serves low-income communities in the Dallas area that suffer from problems associated with families' lack of financial resources--specifically, substandard classroom performance and poor nutrition. Members work with children and youth, grades one through nine, in after-school programs and summer day camps located in Dallas, Fort Worth and in outlying underserved neighborhoods. The program focuses specifically on improving student's literacy rates, academic performance in math, and retention rates.

Program Contact: Eric Lindh (lindh@projecttransformation.org)

Website: <http://www.projecttransformation.org>

San Antonio Youth

Program Name: Kids College Club

Service Areas: San Antonio

Description: AmeriCorps members will be engaged in service as "College Buddies" to instruct and provide extra individualized support for the Kids College Club participants. At the end of each school year and throughout the three year program, children will achieve math and literacy success as evidenced by an increase in math and literacy proficiency, school success or completion, and school attendance.

Program Contact: Cynthia LeMonds (cynthia@sanantonioyouth.org)

Website: <http://sanantonioyouth.org/>

Schulenburg Weimar In Focus Together, Inc.

Program Name: SWIFT AmeriCorps Program

Service Areas: Schulenburg and Weimar

Description: The SWIFT AmeriCorps program is designed to improve student test scores, re-engage parents in their children's education and improve health knowledge. SWIFT AmeriCorps members tutor in elementary classrooms and after-school at Boys & Girls Clubs. Parent education starts with early childhood development and ESL classes. Members coordinate age-appropriate Healthy Choices presentations on-campus annually to improve nutrition knowledge and reduce childhood obesity. Members assist 7-12 grade students and their families prepare for life beyond high school, focusing on families that have never had a member attend an institution of higher education.

Program Contact: Sylvan Rossi (rossi@gvvc.com)

Website: <http://www.swift.cc>

Teach for America

Program Name: Teach For America Rio Grande Valley

Service Areas: Alamo, Brownsville, Donna, Edcouch, Harlingen, La Joya, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Pharr, Rio Grande City, Roma, San Benito, San Juan, San Antonio, Dallas

Description: Teach for America Rio Grande Valley engages recent college graduates as teachers for a minimum of two years in low-performing Rio Grande Valley schools.



Program Contact: Robert Carreon (robert.carreon@teachforamerica.org)

Website: http://www.teachforamerica.org/about/regions/rio_grande_valley.htm

Travis County Health and Human Services and Veteran's Service

Program Name: Travis County 4-H CAPITAL AmeriCorps Project

Service Areas: Austin, Creedmoor, Del Valle

Description: The mission of 4-H CAPITAL is to reduce the risk for school failure and school dropout by increasing science and literacy skills while promoting healthy growth and development. AmeriCorps members help to fulfill this mission by providing high-quality after-school enrichment programs that focus on science, math, technology, and literacy throughout Travis County.

Program Contact: Charlotte Benbenek-Price (cebenbenek-price@ag.tamu.edu)

Website: <http://www.4-hcapital.org>

University of North Texas

Program Name: Texas HIPPYCorps

Service Areas: Dallas, Houston, Irving, Richardson

Description: The Home Instruction Program for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) integrated with AmeriCorps, known as HIPPYCorps, provides school readiness and parental involvement opportunity to underprivileged families in Texas. Member service activities include providing weekly home visits and periodic parent meetings in order to train parents to prepare their three-, four- and five-year-olds for school, and to encourage and support parents to volunteer in their children's school.

Program Contact: Carla-Marie Mowell (Carla.Mowell@unt.edu)

Website: <http://www.unt.edu/hippy>

The University of Texas at Austin - Charles A. Dana Center

Program Name: A Community for Education: ACE AmeriCorps

Service Areas: Austin, Manor

Description: The A Community for Education (ACE) program has been working in the Austin ISD since 1994 to improve school readiness in high-poverty schools. ACE is a research-based, bilingual early reading intervention program that intensively serves pre-K, K, first and second grade students using a Response to Intervention model that is proven effective in helping at least 75% of students served to reach or exceed grade level in key literacy skills. The ACE program engages AmeriCorps members to provide daily one-to-one and small group literacy support to students and their parents.

Program Contact: Mary Ellen Isaacs (meisaacs@mail.utexas.edu)

Website: <http://www.utdanacenter.org/ace>

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

Program Name: UTB/TSC AmeriCorps Program

Service Areas: Brownsville, Los Fresnos, Port Isabel

Description: UTB/TSC AmeriCorps College Opportunities and Readiness Network's goal is to increase the number of students who complete high school and continue on with training or education after graduation. AmeriCorps members assist students in developing, reviewing and revising their educational plans, monitor the academic progress of students, provide career planning and serve as liaisons for students in Dual Enrollment programs.

Program Contact: Daniel Yarritu (Daniel.Yarritu1@utb.edu)

Website: <http://www.utb.edu>