



AmeriCorps Texas Programs 2014-2015

Amarillo Independent School District

Program Name: Amarillo ISD AmeriCorps

Service Areas: Amarillo

Description: The Amarillo ISD AmeriCorps program utilizes AmeriCorps members for direct tutoring services in reading literacy targeted to at-risk students in fifteen district elementary schools. Additionally, program members will leverage local volunteers to assist in community service events. 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://amarilloisd.sharpschool.com/departments/ameri_corps/

American YouthWorks

Program Name: Texas Conservation Corps Emergency Response Teams

Service Areas: Austin; may also be deployed statewide for disaster response

Description: The American YouthWorks (AYW) Environmental Corps (E-Corps) Program engages AmeriCorps members in disaster relief and recovery efforts through the Texas Conservation Corps Emergency Response Teams. 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/>

Austin Independent School District

Program Name: AISD School Turnaround AmeriCorps Initiative

Service Areas: Austin

Description: Through the School Turnaround AmeriCorps Initiative, AmeriCorps members will provide dropout prevention services at Reagan and Travis High Schools in Austin, Texas. Members will be engaged in activities to increase learning time; improve community engagement; and support the social, emotional, and behavioral health of students, their families, and the community.

Program Contact: Raul Alvarez (raul.alvarez@austinisd.org)

Website: <http://www.austinisd.org/ameri-corps>

AVANCE, Inc. - El Paso Chapter

Program Name: AVANCE - Texas AmeriCorps

Service Areas: Alamo, Austin, Buda, Dallas, El Paso, San Elizario, Waco

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: Leticia Diaz Rios (lrrios@avance-elpaso.org)

Website: <http://www.avance-elpaso.org/#!americorps/c1e4j>

Boys & Girls Club of Austin

Program Name: Texas Club Corps

Service Areas: Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Dyess AFB, Edinburg, El Paso, Ennis, Ft. Sam Houston, Fort Worth, Goodfellow AFB, Greenville, Hearne, Killeen, Lubbock, Marlin, Menard, Pharr, San Antonio, Sheppard AFB

Description: AmeriCorps members conduct a Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) evidence-based academic support program, Project Learn, in 35 Boys & Girls Clubs in 21 Texas counties. AmeriCorps members will be responsible for increasing academic engagement for students ages 9 -- 14 as defined by factors to include school and club attendance, grade improvement, and data from BGCA's National Youth Outcomes Initiative on school connectedness and expectations of academic success.

Program Contact: Mary McRoberts (mmcroberts@txbgc.org)

Website: <http://www.bgcaustin.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: Abby Ames (abby@breakthroughaustin.org)

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

City Year, Inc.

Program Name: City Year San Antonio

Service Areas: San Antonio

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: Sarah Kasprzyk (sanantoniorecruitment@cityyear.org)

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

CitySquare

Program Name: N² Texas Corps

Service Areas: Dallas, Houston, 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://www.citysquare.org/programs/hope/ameri-corps/>

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: Monica Durham (mglasgow@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@ciscentraltexas.org)

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

Communities In Schools of the Heart of Texas

Program Name: CIS Community Servers

Service Areas: Chilton, Marlin, Mexia, Waco, West

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: Meredith Donovan (mdonovan@cis-hot.org)

Website: <http://cis-hotwaco.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 nine-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: Lori Warren (lwarren@frontsteps.org)

Website: <http://www.frontsteps.org/what-we-do/keep-austin-housed>

Harris County Department of Education

Program Name: AmeriCorps Kids' Day Project

Service Areas: Bellaire, Houston, Pasadena

Description: Harris County Department of Education engages the Cooperative for After-School Enrichment (CASE) AmeriCorps Kids' Day Project members will offer quality after-school programming for economically disadvantaged youth across Harris County and surrounding service areas. Members will provide homework assistance, organize and deliver enrichment based learning activities and implement service learning projects at 20 after-school sites.

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

Website: <http://www.afterschoolzone.org/default.aspx?name=AmeriCorps>

Literacy Coalition of Central Texas

Program Name: Texas Family Literacy Initiative

Service Areas: Austin, Bastrop, Houston, Pearland

Description: The Literacy Coalition of Central Texas will host AmeriCorps members in Austin and Houston. Members will provide vital, high quality, evidence-based literacy instruction to low-income adults and pre-school age children. Literacy instruction and tutoring includes English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education, GED, and Early Childhood interventions. The program is dedicated to supporting and expanding literacy services so that businesses can hire, people can work, and families can thrive.

Program Contact: Rip Rowan (rrowan@willread.org)

Website: <https://www.willread.org/>

Project GRAD Houston

Program Name: GRADuation Pathways

Service Areas: Houston, Austin, College Station, Huntsville, Nacogdoches, Beaumont, Prairie View

Description: GRADuation Pathways engages AmeriCorps members in leadership and service by providing college access and success support to underserved families and students, building community assets as young people explore and master career and college pathways. Members work through community organizations and public schools to engage families and students in aligning college degree or workforce certification aspirations with academic achievement, college and scholarship applications, and financial aid. Members also work in community colleges or universities to support student success in earning workforce certificates, two-year or four-year degrees. AmeriCorps members support the overall Project GRAD mission to significantly increase college attendance and workforce certificate or degree attainment for the largely low-income, first generation college students we serve.

Program Contact: Melissa Martinez (mmartinez@projectgradhouston.org)

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



Project Transformation

Program Name: Project Transformation AmeriCorps

Service Areas: Dallas, Denison, Farmers Branch

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://projecttransformation.org/dallas/>

Reading Partners

Program Name: Reading Partners - Texas

Service Areas: Dallas, Fort Worth, Richardson

Description: The Reading Partners literacy intervention program will be distributed in 17 Title I elementary schools throughout the greater Dallas area. Reading Partners AmeriCorps Members will recruit and support local community volunteers to provide one-on-one literacy tutoring to at least over 1,000 K-5 struggling readers twice a week during the program year.

Program Contact: Brittany Prince (brittany.prince@readingpartners.org)

Website: <http://readingpartners.org/dallas/about/>

Schulenburg Weimar In Focus Together, Inc.

Program Name: SWIFT AmeriCorps Program

Service Areas: Schulenburg and Weimar

Description: The SWIFT AmeriCorps program engages members as classroom tutors to improve K-6th grade student test scores, build relationships to increase tutored students confidence and develop their desire to learn. Annie E. Casey Foundation research finds third grade reading scores are a key indicator of future success in school. SWIFT tutoring outcomes build self-esteem needed for students to succeed.

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

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

Teach for America

Program Name: Teach For America – Texas

Service Areas: Dallas, Duncanville, Edcouch, Falfurrias, Fort Worth, Harlingen, La Joya, Lancaster, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Pharr, Raymondville, Rio Grande City, Roma, San Benito, Weslaco

Description: Teach For America-Texas provides a critical source of well-trained teachers who are helping break the local cycle of educational inequity. Corps members teach for two years in low-income schools in the Rio Grande Valley and Dallas Fort-Worth, going above and beyond traditional expectations to help their students achieve at high levels.



Program Contact: Erica Quintanilla (erica.quintanilla@teachforamerica.org)

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

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

Program Name: A Community for Education: ACE AmeriCorps

Service Areas: Austin

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@austin.utexas.edu)

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

The University of Texas at Brownsville

Program Name: UTB AmeriCorps Program

Service Areas: Brownsville, Los Fresnos, Port Isabel

Description: UTB 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/em/fa/Pages/Outreach.aspx>

Travis County through Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Services

Program Name: Travis County CAPITAL AmeriCorps Project

Service Areas: Austin

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: Lydia Domaruk (LRDomaruk@ag.tamu.edu)

Website: <http://agriflife.org/capital4-h/>

United Way of El Paso County

Program Name: Parents as Teachers

Service Areas: El Paso, Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo

Description: United Way of El Paso County (UWEPC) will have AmeriCorps members serving as certified Parent Educators delivering Parents as Teachers (PAT), an evidenced based home-visiting model, to El Paso County families served by six (6) community partners in eight (8) sites. AmeriCorps members will be responsible for increasing parents' knowledge of their child's emerging development and age-appropriate child development; improving parenting capacity, parenting practices, and parent-child relationships; increasing early



detection of developmental delays and health issues; and improving family health and functioning.

Program Contact: Gail Gale (ggale@unitedwayelpaso.org)

Website: <http://www.unitedwayelpaso.org/index.html>

University of North Texas

Program Name: Texas HIPPYCorps Initiative

Service Areas: Amarillo, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Houston, Irving, Jacksonville, Longview, McAllen, Odessa, Richardson, San Antonio, Wichita Falls

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/impact/pages/amicorps.html>