



AmeriCorps St. Louis


See the Need, Meet the Need


2021-22 Impact Report




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The mission of AmeriCorps St. Louis is to enhance the professional skills and life-long service ethic of the people who serve; to respond to critical unmet needs in the areas of emergency response and environmental conservation; to leverage service of volunteers; and to build the capacity of our partnering agencies and communities we serve.

Founded in 1994, AmeriCorps St. Louis (ACSTL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, engaging AmeriCorps National Service Volunteers in community service initiatives addressing critical unmet needs in the areas of Disaster Response, Environmental Stewardship, & Wildland Firefighting. ACSTL focuses on the training and development of the next generation of leaders while building the capacity of partner agencies to achieve impactful community results. To our partners, friends, donors, volunteers, Members, and alumni, we thank you for your continued support of AmeriCorps St. Louis.

On the cover: (L - R) Dom Derfler, Kalan Cole, Brett Heinkel, Emily Ray, Austin Lininger, and JP Reppeto performing timber stand improvement at Spring Creek Gap Conservation Area.

SEE THE NEED MEET THE NEED

Dear Friends, Partners, and Alumni of AmeriCorps St. Louis,

This past year AmeriCorps St. Louis embarked on its first stakeholder-driven strategic planning process. A common theme that kept sprouting throughout the discovery and research phase, particularly when it came to identifying who we are and what we do, was the word "resilience." Resilience is defined as the capacity to withstand or to recover from difficulties. We aim to embody resilience in our programming while striving to improve when facing challenges and emergent needs. As we have learned along the way, every challenge contains within it an opportunity for growth.

AmeriCorps St. Louis practices this resilience daily by investing in environmental stewardship practices, including wildland fire, so our natural areas can be more sustainable and climate resistant; we respond to communities stricken by natural disasters and instill systems and process to support an individual's recovery and community resilience against future disasters; and we have the responsibility and means to aid our neighbors facing homelessness so they may receive care and comfort on their personal journey of resilience.

These programs take the investment of our time, energy, and resources, and the duty of care to make investments towards improvement along the way. These investments are seeds that require patience, perseverance, dedication, and diligence, to come to fruition. By investing in our organization's long-term outlook, we can ensure that we are well-equipped to face the challenges of the future and seize new opportunities.

This translates to taking a strategic approach to our work, building stronger relationships with our stakeholders, and focusing on our team's development and growth. A few of the investments we made this past year include strengthening our operations through accreditation from the Center for Corps Excellence to certify our practices and policies are nationally endorsed; partnering with Washington University in St. Louis' Brown School of Social Work to initiate a program impact evaluation to ensure our programmatic impacts and outcomes are in alignment with the organization's logic model; and increasing our staffing across all program areas to ensure we have the support to sustain these initiatives and others outlined in our strategic plan draft.

We hope these investments bear fruit in ways known, and yet to be known, for the future of this organization. In the meantime we will continue the service efforts highlighted in this report, aimed at improving our local community and environment.

A huge Thank You to the dedicated team that supports these initiatives here daily, and collectively we thank you for your investment of any kind - time, energy, funding - and for being a part of our community, striving to make our organization stronger and more resilient. We look forward to continuing this important work together, and we greatly appreciate your support in allowing us the privilege to serve.

Thank You,



Kenan Ender
Executive Director

MEET THE TEAM

AmeriCorps Program Staff



Kenan Ender
Executive Director



Amanda Henderson
Director of
Operations



Kelley Hower
Member Services
Director



Tim Elwell
Development
Manager



Nick Ciaramitato
Program Director



Eli Schmit
Field Supervisor



Meredith Brown
Wildland Fire
Program Manager

AmeriCorps Fellows



Alder Forrester
Field Specialist



Jane Kersch
Outreach
Coordinator



Saroja Schwager
Disaster Training &
Exercise Coordinator



Holly Morris
Stewardship
Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ryan Nicholls | Chair
Assistant Director of Emergency Management
Washington University School of Medicine

Erin Rohan | Vice Chair
Nonprofit Consultant
2005-2006 ACSTL Alumni

Rebecca Estes | Secretary
Columbia/Boone County Dept. of Public Health & Human
Services, Missouri Emergency Managers Association

Mark Fitzpatrick | Treasurer
Retired, BOK Financial

Dante Gliniecki
Emergency Preparedness Manager
City of Independence, Missouri

Brandon Robbins
Business Continuity Program Manager of Emergency
Management
Washington University

Jim Schleiffarth
Attorney, Schleiffarth Law Firm LLC

Kevin Peach
COO at Disaster Services Corporation SVDP-USA
2008-2009 ACSTL Alumni

MEET THE MEMBERS

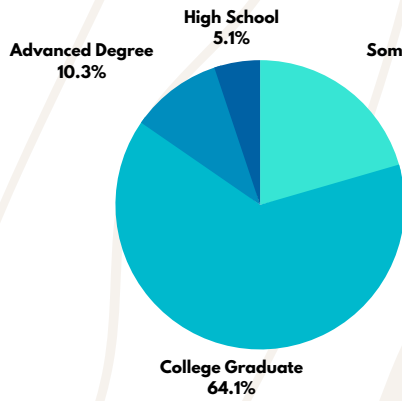


Year 28 ... at a glance

65,290
hours served in the areas of disaster response, environmental stewardship, and wildland firefighting

4 Fellows
5 Team Leaders
29 1st Year Members
One common goal:
Get Things Done!

Education



Some College or Associate Degree
20.5%

Common Areas of Study:

- ★ Political Science
- ★ Biology
- ★ Psychology
- ★ Anthropology

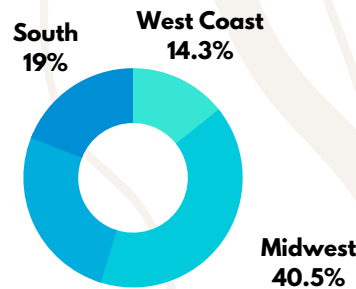
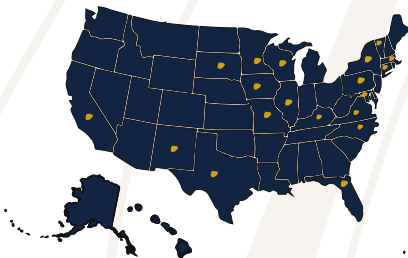
Due to COVID-19, many of our Members chose to take a gap year from school, rather than attend online classes.

Previous Service Experience

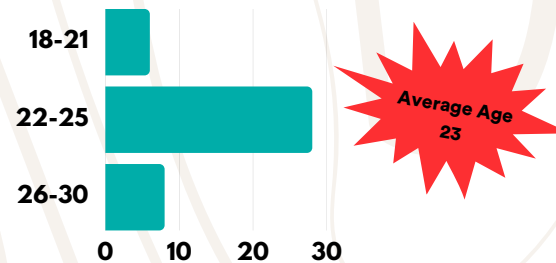


11 Members have previously served with another service organization!

19 States Represented



Age Range



MEET THE MEMBERS

Team Leads



TRACY



LA



FEN

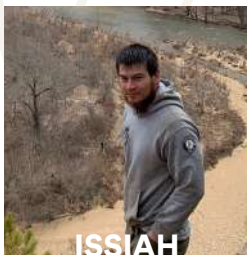


RYAN



MATT

First Year Corps Members



ISSIAH



DANIEL



FINN



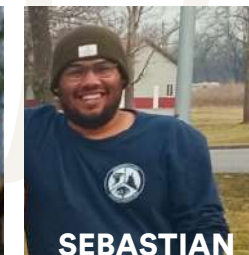
ELLIE



KALAN



ZOEY



SEBASTIAN



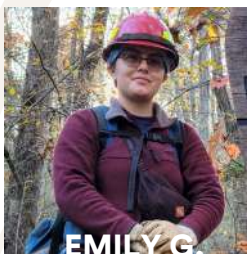
CHELSEA



DOM



PHOEBE



EMILY G.



LOUISE



BRETT H.



ISAAC



WILLIE K.



ALLEN



AUSTIN



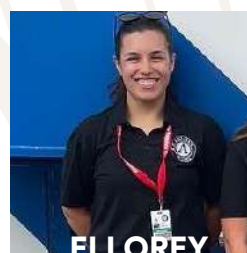
CASEN



JARED



BRETT M.



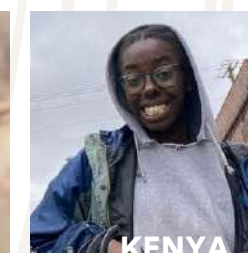
ELLOREY



EMILY R.



JP



KENYA



DUSTIN



LARKIN



SEAN



AMELIA



JOSIAH

2021 - 2022 SERVICE PARTNERS

Environmental Stewardship & Wildland Fire Partners:

Federal/National

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest
Mark Twain National Forest
Shawnee National Forest

State

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Missouri Department of Conservation
Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Local & Nonprofit

Bellefontaine Cemetery & Arboretum
City of Brentwood, Missouri
Forest Park Forever
Great Rivers Greenway
Greenwood Cemetery Preservation Association
Ozark Trail Association
Shaw Nature Reserve

Disaster Response/Emergency Management Partners:

Federal/National

AmeriCorps NCCC
American Red Cross
Federal Emergency Management Agency

State

Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services
Missouri State Emergency Management Agency
New York VOAD

Local & Nonprofit

AIM Laboratories
COVID-19 Regional Response Team
New York City Emergency Management
New York Interfaith Disaster Services
St. Charles Public Health Department
St. Charles County Regional Emergency Management
Springfield-Greene County Public Health Department

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Community service and engagement is a key component of what we do here at AmeriCorps St. Louis. In addition to our environmental stewardship and disaster response partners, we volunteer with many community organizations to strengthen our presence in the community, while also giving our Members more opportunities to learn about different organizations and neighborhoods in St. Louis.



The Green Center is an arts and environmental education organization dedicated to helping people connect with the natural world through Hands-on Experience, Restoring Native Habitats, and Encouraging Artistic Expression Inspired by Nature

Other Partnerships & Memberships

- 21st Century Conservation Corps
- Missouri Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster
- Nestle Purina Near Southside Coalition
- St. Louis Community Organizations Active in Disaster
- St. Louis COVID-19 Regional Response Team
- St. Louis Winter Outreach
- The Corps Network
- United Way of Greater St. Louis

Year 28 Community Service Sites

- Ujima Project
- Pocket Parks
- Operation Food Search
- 24:1 Beyond Housing
- Urban Harvest - Fresh Starts Community Garden
- EarthDance Organic Farm School
- The Green Center
- Greenwood Cemetery Preservation Association



Fresh Starts is an award-winning community garden in the JeffVanderLou neighborhood founded and run by the dynamic Rosie Willis. They maintain 15 garden beds at Fresh Starts, sourcing hyper-local, fresh produce to their nonprofit community partners

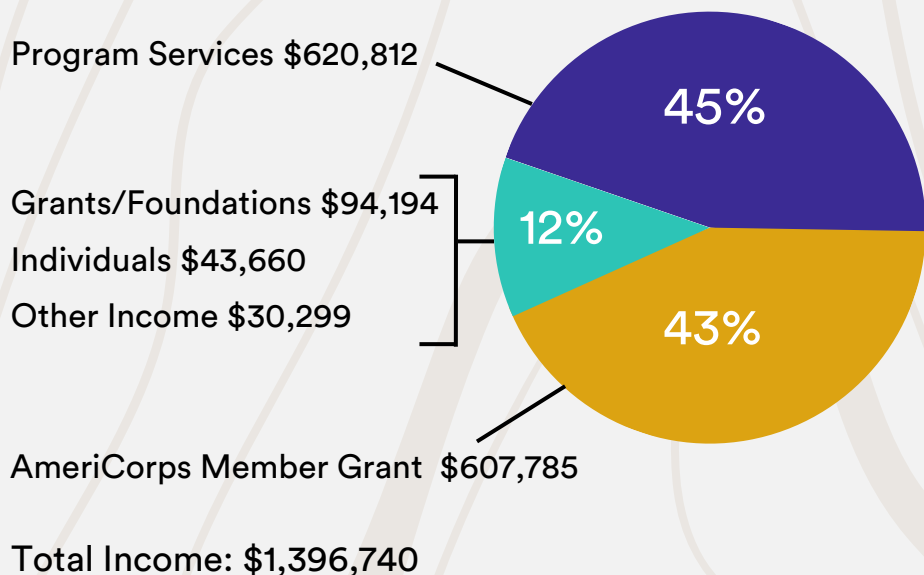
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FOR PROGRAM YEAR 28



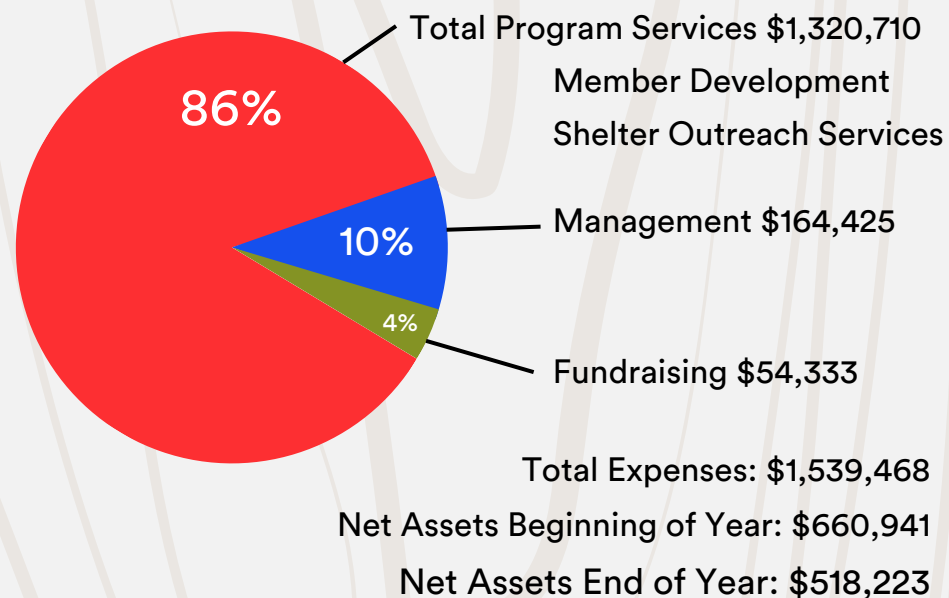
Fiscal Year October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022

At AmeriCorps St. Louis, we are committed to being a responsible steward of your investments. This past year we took the opportunity to make some long-term investments in organizational development - program evaluation, strategic planning, and staffing increases - that increased our overall expenditures with the return on investment to be realized in coming years. We use every opportunity to leverage and maximize funding dedicated to our programming to assure the biggest impact. The support from our community and partners allows us the independence to strengthen communities, improve the environment, and serve those in need.

Where Our Funds Come From



How We Use Our Funds



COMMUNITY SUPPORT, FOUNDATIONS, AND GRANTS

Our community is our greatest asset, and we greatly appreciate your support now, and throughout, to allow us to keep serving others.

Partnerships, Grants and Foundations

AIM Laboratories
City of St. Louis Dept of Human Services
Earthbound Beer
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Faultless Linen Company
First Unitarian Church of St. Louis
Hubbard Radio
Intuitive Foundation
L-A-D Foundation
MDC Volunteer Firefighter Assistance

Nestle Purina PetCare Company
Our Lady of Sorrows
Pettus Family Foundation
Roeslein & Associates
St. Louis Area Foodbank
St. Louis Community Foundation
St. Louis Green Business Challenge
St. Louis Winter Outreach
Steel & Ink Tattoo Studio
Triangle Community Foundation, Inc.
West Community Credit Union
Washington University



Donor Spotlight

Josh (Smith) Aycock

from San Francisco, CA

How did you get connected with us?

I was a member of AmeriCorps St. Louis Year 11-12, and a Fellow in Year 13.

Why did you decide to become a donor?

I live across the country, so it's the easiest way to continue to support the organization.

Can you tell us how you approached your employer for a matching contribution?

I'm fortunate to have an employer with an existing match program. If someone is considering approaching an organization without a match program in place, I'd recommend explaining why the nonprofit is important to you and how their work aligns with the company's values or mission. Gather information about the nonprofit's impact, financial transparency, and any potential tax benefits for your employer. Provide your employer with a written request or email outlining the details of your contribution, and indicate flexibility in the amount or even the organization.

What do you want your gifts to accomplish?

I would love for the organization to still be thriving when my daughter Sarah May is old enough to join ERT (~Year 45).



Members from Year 28 say THANK YOU!



Mardi Gras Trivia Event Attendees



Volunteer Appreciation Event

INDIVIDUAL DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

We are grateful to these individuals and families who have contributed to AmeriCorps St. Louis. Our donors are critical to our operations, and we thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Individual Donors

Adam Zachary
AJ Lyman
Alfredo Lagos
Amber Schanter
Andrea Willard (Richardson)
Andrew Sindell
Angela Dunay
Angela Page
Ashley Wiegand
Betty Engen
Brandon Miller
Brigid Mulroe
Bruce Levine
Calla Massman
Callahan Stewart
Carly Neumuth
Carmen Blubaugh
Carolyn Bauer
Chad Caza
Charity Lake
Charles Yoo
Charlie & Trish Goodie
Christine Ingrassia
Clare Holdinghaus-Ireland
Colleen Kersch
Corey Royer

Dan & Emily Elwell
Dana & Ann Elwell
Dante Gliniecki
David Culhane
David V Butruille
Debi Kupferer
Deborah Char
Dianne Henderson
Dominic Derfler
Dustin Roberts
Elizabeth Flannery
Ellen Alston
Emily O'Brien
Erin Rohan & Chris Nosko
Ernest Perez
Hayley Bradley
Heather McSherry
Hilary Hitchcock
Hillary Holstein
James Thorndike
James Truschel
Jane Kersch
Jason O'Malley
Jason Ort
Jeremy Brok
Jess Peter

Jim Holtzman
John Sinclair
Josh (Smith) Aycock
Joshua Lewis
Katrina Stierholz
Kelly Barber
Kevin McDonagh
Kristen Leslie
Kyle Henning
Laura Wachsmuth
Lauren Aiello
Lauren Elwell
Lindsay Armstrong
Logan Bleyl
Lori Brok
Lorraine Mcsherry
Luke Wigle
Malcolm Hardy
Margaret Gerker
Mari Watanabe
Marian Stuart
Marie Ceselski
Mark Fitzpatrick
Mark Hower
Matthew Cedar
Meaghan Lakey

Melissa Johnson
Michael Holder
Michael McLemore II
Michael Scheller
Mikala Waldrup
Miles Bilka
Monique Huynh
Nancy DelPresto
Nathan Epp
Nick Ciaramitaro
Rebecca Estes
Ronald Frerker
Sandy Hower
Sara Ann Ender (Levine)
Sarah Orman
Sarah Wood
Saroja Schwager
Scott Steinberg
Stuart Keener
Sunny Jiang
Susan Eldred
Terragan Brouk
Thomas Ball
Tim Elwell
Tim McElwee
Tim Weiss

Timur Ender
Vicki LaRose
William Siedhoff
Wren (Hannah) Wells
Zoe Jennings



Landscape Brick Fundraiser, Summer 2022



Shelter Coordinator, Mary Hoelterhoff (left) with volunteers

DISASTER RESPONSE



Federal Deployment: Hurricane Ida (DR-4615-NY)

In partnership with FEMA and New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM), Members of AmeriCorps St. Louis were deployed to impacted areas in the counties of Bronx, Kings, Queens, and Richmond to assist in the recovery of underserved community residents. Services conducted were mucking and gutting, mold suppression, and community needs assessment. ACSTL served as the initial AmeriCorps Command Team (ACT), responsible for establishing an Incident Command Post, coordinating incoming AmeriCorps field teams, and identifying and scheduling work orders at homes damaged by the storm. Additionally, six Members later acted as an independent strike team providing direct service as well as overseeing day-to-day operations, planning, and logistics for the overall mission.



Matt Temple (center) and JP Reppeto (right) with a homeowner in Queens



Center to right: Ryan Rodriguez, Tracy Burton Bravo, and Saroja Schwager of ACSTL at the FEMA Region II Headquarters with FEMA and AmeriCorps personnel

"Ayyy I'm Muckin and Guttin Here!"

by JP Reppeto

"Serving on a disaster deployment in New York City afforded us a remarkably unique view of the place and its people. Six days each week our team drove to worksites throughout the boroughs, mucking and gutting water-damaged residences that had yet to receive help since Hurricane Ida three months earlier. We spent most of our time in moldy basements, and yet I feel I've connected more with New York than any tourist wandering around Manhattan. Homeowners from all walks of life and myriad backgrounds opened up their homes to us for service, and more often than not opened up about their lives as well. In the lulls between work, some residents shared their stories of waking up to two feet of water covering the floor, others of returning to the city to help their parents with damaged boilers and swamps of debris. First- and second-generation Americans in Brooklyn, third-generation Queens residents, and families raising kids in the Bronx all had stories of despair and resilience. It was a treat to witness firsthand the impact of our service on those we helped, and even more of a treat to connect with the character of the city, one household at a time."

"If it was not for AmeriCorps St. Louis and other AmeriCorps teams out in the field providing muck and gut, mold remediation, and debris removal, many New Yorkers would still have the damage or have to pay out of pocket for the work which can be very expensive."

- Eric Stoessel, New York City Emergency Management

DISASTER RESPONSE



Local Deployments: Missouri Severe Storms, Flooding, and COVID-19



October 2021: EF-3 Tornado - Farmington and Fredericktown, MO



December 2021: EF-3 Tornado - Defiance, MO



January-February 2022: COVID-19 Pandemic - St. Louis and Springfield, MO



July 2022: Severe Storms and Flooding - St. Louis, MO



Allen Lambert, Saroja Schwager, Ellie Burnett, and Elloreya Mora at a Multi-Agency Resource Center in Farmington, MO - October 2021



Zoey Craun and Allen Lambert after hazardous tree removal near Defiance, MO - December 2022



COVID-19 drive thru vaccination event in St. Charles, MO - January 2022



AmeriCorps St. Louis and AmeriCorps NCCC Members at a Multi-Agency Resource Center in St. Louis, MO - July 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



AmeriCorps St. Louis serves with partnering agencies to improve and maintain the health of various ecosystems and improve recreational access in Missouri, Illinois, and Montana. These projects include invasive species removal, natural habitat restoration, and timber stand improvement. Special projects include wildlife surveying, native planting, bridge building, and other recreation projects.

2,748



**hazard trees
felled for habitat restoration
or removed from trail**



340 Acres

**of invasive species
treated/removed**

227 Miles

**of trail
constructed and
maintained**



Native prairie seeding with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources



Glade restoration project with the Missouri Department of Conservation - Spring Creek Gap

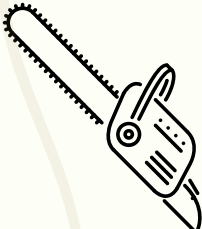


Trail maintenance with the Ozark Trail Association



WILDLAND FIRE

AmeriCorps St. Louis is a registered volunteer fire department with the state of Missouri. All Members complete the core wildland firefighting training through the National Wildfire Coordinating Group. Upon completion of training, Members assist national, state, and local conservation and fire agencies in all types of wildland firefighting and prescribed burning techniques.



59 Miles

of fireline prepped



23,208 Acres

Prescribed Burning

Highest acreage recorded in recent years!

Prescribed burn at Prairie State Park with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources



72 Acres

Wildfires Fought

Members assist the Missouri Department of Conservation on a wildfire response in the Ozarks

Prescribed burn at White Ranch Conservation Area with the Missouri Department of Conservation

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

During the summer of 2022, AmeriCorps St. Louis once again returned to Montana's Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest to wrap up the service year!

In response to 2021's severe wildfires, this summer our Members spent the majority of their projects assisting with Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) service. Wildfires can cause damage to trails that requires special efforts to prevent problems afterwards. Loss of vegetation exposes soil to erosion; water runoff may increase and cause flooding; sediments may move downstream and damage houses or fill reservoirs putting endangered species and community water supplies at risk.

Members also assisted with restocking recreation cabins with firewood, cross cut downed trees from hiking trails in wilderness areas, and maintained trails and campgrounds/recreation areas.



Clearing trails in the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness area using cross cut saws



Members of our leadership team after receiving their B Sawyer certifications with USFS staff



Installing waterbars on a trail as part of the BAER project

"Looking back over my time with AmeriCorps, I've had quite an adventurous journey, and Montana was the perfect end to that. I was able to come back from Montana feeling more confident in my skills. I was able to develop myself to be better sawyer and a much better hiker. Montana helped me realize that I can do a lot more than I ever thought I could."

- Josiah Sutton, AmeriCorps St. Louis Member from Kansas City, MO





PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Greenwood Cemetery: 2021 - 2022 Project of the Year



Tracy Burton Bravo, Team Lead for the project, supervises an AmeriCorps NCCC Member removing bush honeysuckle from the cemetery

Greenwood Cemetery was organized in 1874 as the first commercial non-sectarian cemetery for African Americans in the St. Louis metropolitan area. More than 50,000 African Americans are buried within Greenwood's 31.85 acres. After the final burial in 1993, the cemetery was no longer cared for and was left to a state of great neglect. In an effort to assist the Greenwood Cemetery Preservation Association (GCPA), ACSTL hosted a number of volunteer clean up events with program alumni and community partners. Additionally, GCPA and ACSTL partnered with AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC). ACSTL hosted an NCCC Team from May through August 2022, with ACSTL Staff and Members providing site orientation, technical training, and project support. The success of this partnership was recognized by the Southwest Region of NCCC when they awarded Greenwood Cemetery with the 'Sponsor of the Round Award.' The Corps Network awarded ACSTL with its Project of the Year Award the following year.



ACSTL alumni and current Members at a service day in Greenwood



NCCC Member Daniel Subdiaz assisting with tree removal

“

We were incredibly thankful to be able to partner with AmeriCorps St. Louis to receive indispensable guidance on how to properly use and maintain chainsaws and pole saws; without their help, we absolutely would not have been able to deal with the endless tide of bush honeysuckle and strands of vine-draped trees. ACSTL was a delight to serve alongside and develop friendships. Our team overwhelmingly shared about their friendliness, teaching ability, and how they were just fun to serve with.

-Zeta Lai, AmeriCorps NCCC Member

”

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Shawnee National Forest Fire and Fuels Management: 2021 - 2022 Project of the Year

In partnership with the Shawnee National Forest Fire and Fuels Management Project, the AmeriCorps St. Louis Emergency Response Team has continued preservation and conservation efforts in Illinois's ecosystems. During the 2021 - 2022 service year, ACSTL Members assisted with prescribed burns; created fuel breaks; blew fireline to prep burn units; cleared downed trees from trails; rehabilitated firelines; served on standby for the U.S. Forest Service's fire division; patrolled fireline to ensure containment; removed brush from understory; bucked logs, felled trees, and limbed low hanging trees to create firebreaks; and responded to wildfires.



Fire Rotation with Smokey



Members during an S212 (Wildland Fire Chainsaw Operations) course with the Shawnee National Forest in Illinois

“In February, my second project of the month was a 9-day fire rotation in the Shawnee National Forest. This was a unique opportunity and allowed me to see what winter/Illinois fire season looks like on an engine. It was filled with various projects, but the last three days we were given the opportunity to participate in three burns. Each burn taught me something different, but what I loved the most was watching the Forest Service follow the ICS module on each of their fires. They were extremely formal in this sense, and it felt as if we were on a mini disaster. Watching how professional and important each person was to the final goal was awesome, and it was great to see some of the online courses we have taken being played out in the field.”

- Allen Lambert, AmeriCorps St. Louis Member



MY MOTHER'S HOUSE EMERGENCY SHELTER



At our location in Soulard, we operate an emergency Winter Warming Shelter (known as "My Mother's House") and offer weekly services for the unhoused community in St. Louis, such as showers, meals, laundry, mail service, and more.

In order to provide these services, ACSTL partners with St. Louis Winter Outreach, a network of emergency shelters and volunteers who ensure that those in need have a warm place to sleep and food to eat during nights when the temperature drops below 20 degrees. The emergency shelter at ACSTL provides two hot meals and a safe place to sleep for roughly 60 men, women, and children per night.

"I'd like to express how much I enjoyed working at the shelter. I've learned a great deal, and appreciate the opportunity to get to know [shelter staff] John and Zippy. They are wonderful human beings. At the same time, I'm very appreciative to have had the opportunity to get to know quite a few of the guests. THEY have taught me a great deal, and humbled me as a human being. I think the world of this shelter. I think the world of all of you. My sincere gratitude." - Kevin FitzGerald, Shelter Volunteer

2021 - 2022 Impact



19
Nights Open for
Emergency Shelter



740*
Shelter Beds
*222 Individual
guests served



1,567
Meals Served



675
Volunteer Hours
Leveraged

My Mother's House Shelter Staff



John Pawloski
Shelter Facilitator



Zipporah Lee
Shelter Facilitator

Thank you to our Donors & Partners!



BACK@YOU

Because Awareness, Compassion & Kindness
Yield Open Understanding for the Homeless.





MY MOTHER'S HOUSE OUTREACH SERVICES



2021 - 2022 Impact

9/2021 - 9/2022

In addition to our Emergency Shelter Operations, AmeriCorps St. Louis currently offers weekly outreach services to people in the community who do not have a permanent residence.

Weekly Outreach Services:

- Hot breakfast, lunch, and snacks
- Hot showers
- Toiletries & hygiene items
- Clean clothing
- Laundry
- Mail Pickup
- Haircuts

Additional Services:

- Mobile Health Clinic provided by Washington University
- Places for People (behavioral and mental health services)
- Veterans Affairs (housing assistance)
- EPICC Addiction Services



1,134

Showers Provided



1,792

Guests Served



3,584

Meals Served

"It made me a bit nervous, never been completely homeless before! But overall the staff were cool and laid back; also friendly and attentive to my needs. I was able to get hooked up with a medical doctor, which is one thing that I really needed. God Bless You 😊"
Outreach Services Recipient

My Mother's House Outreach Staff



Mary Hoeltherhoff
Outreach Services
Supervisor



Nate Neal
Outreach Services
Coordinator

Thank you to our Partners in Service!



Washington University Physicians®

Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis



PURINA





CULTIVATING NEW LEADERS

Year 28 Award Recipients

Corps of Discovery Leadership Award: Emily Guzman
 Golden Pulaski Exemplary Leadership Award: Allen Lambert
 Ethic of Service Award: Will Kupferer
 Spirit of Service Award: Nick Ciaramitaro
 Bedrock Award: Phoebe Ellis and Amelia Stuart
 Team Award: Josiah Sutton
 Legacy Award: Isaac Jones
 Perseverance Award: Ellie Burnett and Austin Lininger
 One More Tree Award: Louise Hauptert

Spotlight: Emily Guzman

Hometown: Miami, FL

Education: Florida International University

Where are they now? After AmeriCorps, Emily joined a seasonal stewardship crew with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, where she serves with several other AmeriCorps St. Louis alums!



Spotlight: Allen Lambert

Hometown: Texarkana, TX

Education: University of Arkansas

Where are they now? After his first year of service, Allen decided to stay for a second term and is now a Team Lead. After he completes his year as a Team Lead, Allen will attend medical school in Texas, focusing on rural health.

"Coming into this year with AmeriCorps, I was not sure what to expect. Everything was new and I was in an environment I was not familiar with at all. I was excited for the next year but also worried that I might not fit in. Looking back I could not be more thankful for the people that I experienced this first year with. These people have become some of my closest friends. I will cherish this past year with them for the rest of my life."



A Great Story by Ellie Burnett

Hometown: Bowie, MD

Education: Salisbury University

Where are they now? After AmeriCorps, Ellie pursued a career in emergency management with the Prince George's County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

"There are two things I will definitely remember the most as I embark on my new journey and leave ERT. The first one would be the relationships I developed. I have told a handful of people here that I have never had friends like this. People that show up for me in ways that I couldn't help me become a better person, all while teaching me excellent service skills. I couldn't have asked for better friends than the one I have made during this program, and I hope to keep in touch with them in the years to come. The second thing is the whole experience. I was challenged physically, emotionally, and mentally throughout the years from many failures and successes. Even going through so much in and out of service, I wouldn't have wanted my year to go any other way, and I will be telling my kids about their mom, who was on an Emergency Response Team and a licensed sawyer!!! I aim to cultivate this same sense of community aid past AmeriCorps, and throughout my life."

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT



Calling all Education Corps and ERT Alumni:
Stay in touch by joining our networking group!
[facebook.com/groups/acstlalums](https://www.facebook.com/groups/acstlalums)

Want help scheduling a virtual reunion for members of
your service year? Reach out to us and we can help!



Members of Year 24 (2017-18) celebrated their 5 year anniversary with a trip to Montana! Here they are pictured at Vigilante Cabin.



Several alumni joined us for a Juneteenth service day at Greenwood Cemetery.



Members serving at Don Robinson State Park with Missouri DNR seasonal crew member Mikala Waldrup (Year 25-27).



Year 27 Members Katie Sherman and Trey Barthol served as seasonal trail crew members for the Ozark Trail Association, and had the opportunity to serve with us in the field.



Katie Sherman (Idaho Conservation Corps), Tiara Johnson (FEMA), and Will Burks (Helena Hotshots) visited the corps while this summer in Montana!

Members enjoying Rocky Falls after service
with the Missouri Department of Conservation



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Special thanks to our Members who took great
photos of their service year! This report was
designed by ACSTL Outreach Manager Jane
Kersch and Outreach Coordinator JP Reppeto.



1315 Ann Ave St. Louis, MO 63104

314-772-9002

admin@americorps-stl.org

americorps-stl.org

