

Notre Dame AmeriCorps Atlanta

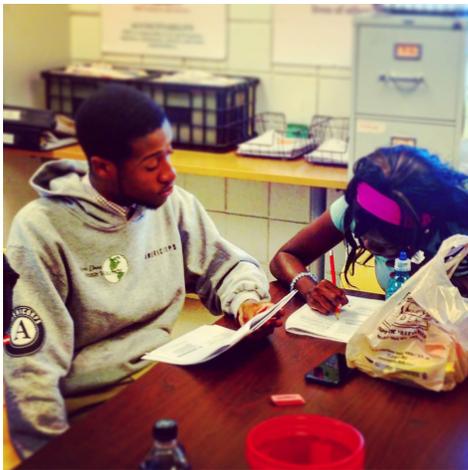


2019- 2020 Program and Application Information

Notre Dame AmeriCorps believes that education is the fundamental tool in the struggle of the poor for human dignity, self-esteem, and self-determination. We seek to build community among our members, as well as the people we serve, by reaching across culture and class. We are committed to helping people help themselves. Our goal is to promote and encourage education, community empowerment, leadership development and multicultural harmony.

INTRODUCTION

Notre Dame Mission Volunteer Program, founded by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1992, has been placing volunteers at sites nationwide to work alongside all people, especially the economically disadvantaged. The volunteers accomplish this mission by promoting literacy and education. AmeriCorps is a federally-funded service program, commonly referred to as the domestic Peace Corps, that brings together citizens of diverse backgrounds to serve communities in the areas of education, public safety, human needs and the environment. In 1995, NDMV sought a partnership with AmeriCorps to allow for an increase in the number of members, offering greater community service in financially-limited sites. This partnership formed Notre Dame Mission Volunteers-AmeriCorps.



Notre Dame AmeriCorps (NDA) members serve in 23 different cities as program assistants in education, environmental, and disaster relief programs. In Atlanta, 15 NDA members serve at a total of five different K-12 schools and non-profit organization. AmeriCorps members are serving at sites with high risk populations that range from schools, after-school enrichment programs, and adult refugee support programs and educational services.

One of the greatest strengths of the Notre Dame AmeriCorps program is the diversity of our members. We are a multicultural, ecumenical group of people from various ethnicities and diverse socioeconomic backgrounds, bound together by the common ideals of service and educational empowerment, community building.

AmeriCorps members are dedicated and passionate individuals who are committed to serving their communities as best they can. They are able to provide the supplemental instruction that helps improve the scores of those students who are at the highest risk of falling behind. NDA members can provide the attention to students who might not have initially had the opportunity, while at the same time, building their resume and earning money for school.

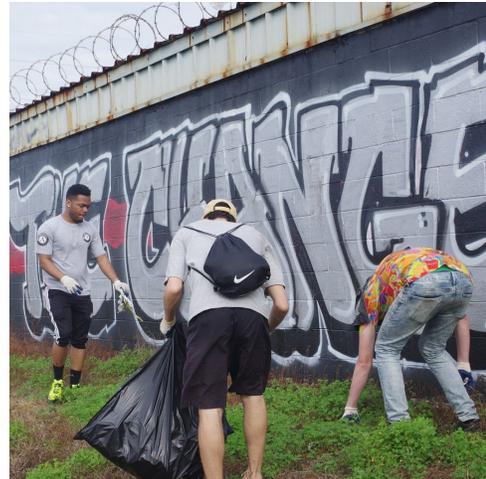
The impact that AmeriCorps members create through their service expand beyond that year and beyond that individual.

BENEFITS OF SERVING AS A MEMBER WITH NOTRE DAME AMERICORPS

Notre Dame AmeriCorps members commit to 11 months of service starting on September 1st through July 31st. During that period, they are required to complete 1700 hours of service. The majority of that will be spent at their Primary Site, and the remainder of those hours will be during AmeriCorps Team Meetings, community service projects, and independent study.

During the year of service, AmeriCorps members are eligible for:

- A living stipend of \$13,992 to cover living expenses (dispersed bi-weekly)
- Forbearance on eligible student loans
- Interest Accrual payment of all eligible student loans
- Health Insurance
- Childcare stipend



Upon successful completion of the service year, AmeriCorps members receive:

- A Segal Education Award of \$6,095 that can be applied to eligible student loans or future student costs.
- Membership in the AmeriCorps Alums Network
- Access to AmeriCorps Alum Job Boards and Recruiting Events
- Additional benefits such as free tax returns and other discounts from national partners

AmeriCorps creates leaders who can bridge divides and solve problems.

- 82% of members have described AmeriCorps as a personally defining experience
- 9 out of 10 AmeriCorps alumni reported that their experience improved their ability to solve problems.
- 80% of alumni feel confident they can create a plan to address a community issue and get others to care about it.
- 93% of alumni said that after service, they felt comfortable interacting with others different than themselves, as compared to 72% before their year of service.
- 8 out of 10 alumni say AmeriCorps benefitted their career path
- 7 out of 10 alumni say that AmeriCorps helped them achieve their educational goals, thanks to the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award received after service.

ATLANTA SERVICE SITES

Notre Dame AmeriCorps Atlanta partners with non-profit organizations and school to support their work in our communities. Here is an overview of the organizations that our program partners with in the Metro Atlanta area:



Agape Youth and Family Center

The Agape Youth and Family Center serves approximately 200 school-aged children year round in innovative after school and summer academic support programs. Two NDA members serve at Agape by helping implement educational and recreational activities and providing tutoring and mentoring to students.

Arthur Blank Family Youth YMCA

The Arthur Blank YMCA is dedicated to providing fun and engaging youth programs that help children build confidence, character, and lasting friendships. Two NDA members at this site 1) assist with afterschool and summer camp programs by helping plan and implement academic and enrichment activities for participating youth, and 2) help implement youth sports programming in coordination with Atlanta Public Schools.



Global Village Project

The Global Village Project (GVP) is an innovative high school preparatory program for refugee girls with interrupted schooling. Two NDA members work closely with GVP teachers to support students by offering individualized direct service through education, literacy, and academic support in core programs, including study hall, guided reading programs, and STEAM activities.

International Community School

The International Community School (ICS) is a public charter school that serves students in grades K-5 representing over 30 countries and speaking 25 languages. Three NDA members provide support in 1) the ESOL program by providing classroom support and small group instruction; 2) the school's media center and supporting school-wide literacy programming; 3) the school's nonprofit wrap-around service arm that helps connect families to community resources and promote family engagement.



International Rescue Committee

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) resettles refugees coming from nearly 50 countries to the Metro Atlanta area. Seven NDA members support with several of IRC's services to the community. The areas that members support with include 1) health and wellness; 2) financial literacy; 3) job readiness 4) afterschool programming for high school students; 5) providing clothing and basic needs to clients; and 6) adult education (two members).

For more information, please contact:

Notre Dame AmeriCorps Atlanta

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To apply, visit ndmva.org/apply