



AmeriCorps
Arizona

AMERICA'S
SERVICE
COMMISSIONS

Arizona Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism

Commissioner Retreat

March 23, 2022



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Welcome and Introductions



Introductions

- Name
- Role with the Arizona Commission
- Time associated with the Arizona Commission
- Professional title/role and organization



Desired Outcomes

- Orient commissioners to the national service landscape and their roles in supporting the Arizona commission; and,
- Provide opportunity for commissioners to become acquainted with one another.



Meeting Norms

- Ask questions and seek clarification
- Encourage engagement of all commissioners and staff
- Self-break, as needed
- Meet commissioners and staff that you do not know
- Recognize that national service is complex and learning about it is an ongoing process
- Define acronyms
- Have fun!



What is ASC?



**AMERICA'S
SERVICE
COMMISSIONS**



History

- State service commissions first established in 1993, when President Bill Clinton signed the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, creating AmeriCorps, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), and state service commissions
- ASC established in 1997 by commissioners and staff
- Association has expanded and contracted over the years
- Many previous members of CNCS/AmeriCorps Agency leadership team have been former ASC board members
- Read more history at: www.statecommissions.org/state-service-commissions.html

Our Vision: All states and territories embrace service as a strategy to build community in solving local challenges.

Values and Membership Principles:

Unity

Equity

Bi-partisanship

Devolution



**Goal 1:
Commission
Capacity
Building**

Increase the leadership and capacity of state service commissions so that by December 2023, 80% of commissions indicate that ASC services have increased their organizational capacity based on a retrospective assessment completed as part of the annual ASC Landscape Survey.



**Goal 2:
Public Policy**

Grow the total amount of federal funding to support state service commissions from \$27 million to \$31 million by FFY 2024 and increase state funding for service initiatives (commission support and programming) from \$44 million to \$50.6 million by July 1, 2023.



**Goal 3:
National Service
Ecosystem**

Strengthen ASC's role in and leadership of the national service ecosystem, to make national service more accessible and representative of communities served as measured by a research study documenting the impact of these efforts by December 2023.



**Goal 4:
Financial
Model**

Grow annual ASC income from \$1.7 million in 2020 to \$2.9 million by 2023 and strengthen ASC financial systems for tracking and utilizing funds.



**Goal 5:
Human &
Operational
Resources**

Secure and develop ASC's human and operational resources necessary to execute on the strategic plan in a remote work environment.

S4S Overview

- States for Service (S4S), is the privately-funded grassroots policy arm of America's Service Commissions
- S4S utilizes a grassroots approach to advocacy and mobilizes through peer-led networks to promote and advocate for state service strategies
- S4S works to advance both federal and state policy initiatives



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National Service History and Landscape



HISTORY OF NATIONAL SERVICE

PEACE CORPS, VISTA & SENIOR SERVICE

JFK establishes the Peace Corps (1961), while LBJ creates Volunteers In Service To America (VISTA) in 1964. Under the Older Americans Act (1965), demonstration projects are launched for Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), and Senior Companion Program (SCP).

A NEW ERA

The National and Community Service Act (NCSA) of 1990 supports national service demonstration and service-learning programs

THE CCC

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) is established by FDR

1910

1933

1940s

1960s

1970s

1990

THE BEGINNINGS

American philosopher William James writes "The Moral Equivalent of War"

G.I. BILL

National Service during WWII: The G.I. Bill is established, officially known as the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944

ACTION AGENCY

A new federal domestic volunteer agency, ACTION, is established by Nixon in 1971 to coordinate volunteer programs.



National and Community Service Trust Act

- Signed into law **September 1993** by President Clinton
- Established **Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)**
- Created “**AmeriCorps**” as we know it today, including new NCCC program
- Mandated formation of **State Service Commissions** for states to apply for funds



AMERICORPS | SENIOR CORPS





Celebrating 25 Years of National Service



AMERICORPS | SENIOR CORPS



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Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act of 2009

- First significant legislation signed into law by **President Obama (April 2009)**
- **Reauthorizes and expands** CNCS and its programs
- Creates new programs, including **Volunteer Generation Fund**





Agency Rebranding (2020)

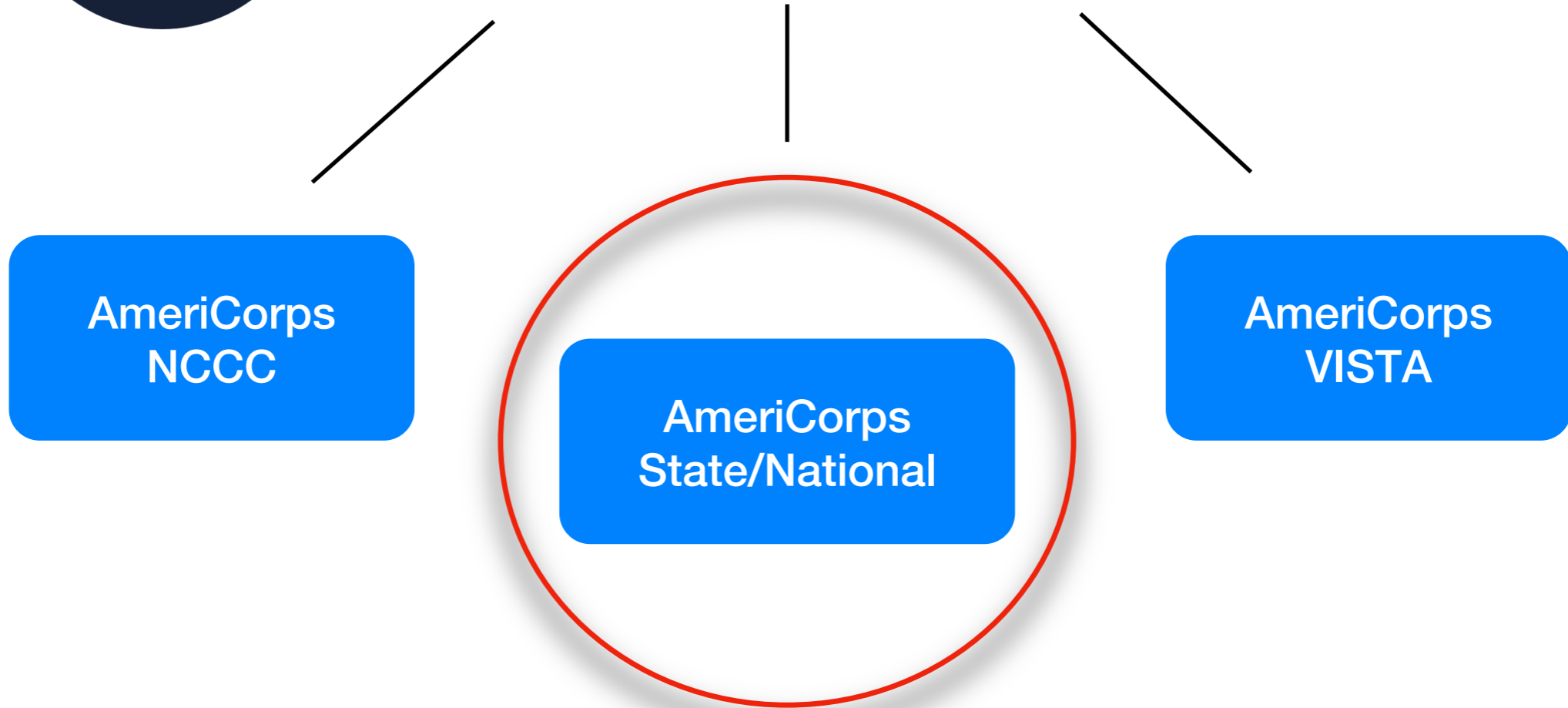
- Agency now known as the **AmeriCorps agency** rather than the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)



AmeriCorps



AmeriCorps





AmeriCorps Seniors

Foster Grandparents Program (FGP)

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

Senior Companions Program (SCP)



AmeriCorps
Seniors



220,000

Senior Corps Volunteers

50,000

Service Locations



AmeriCorps

75,000

AmeriCorps Members

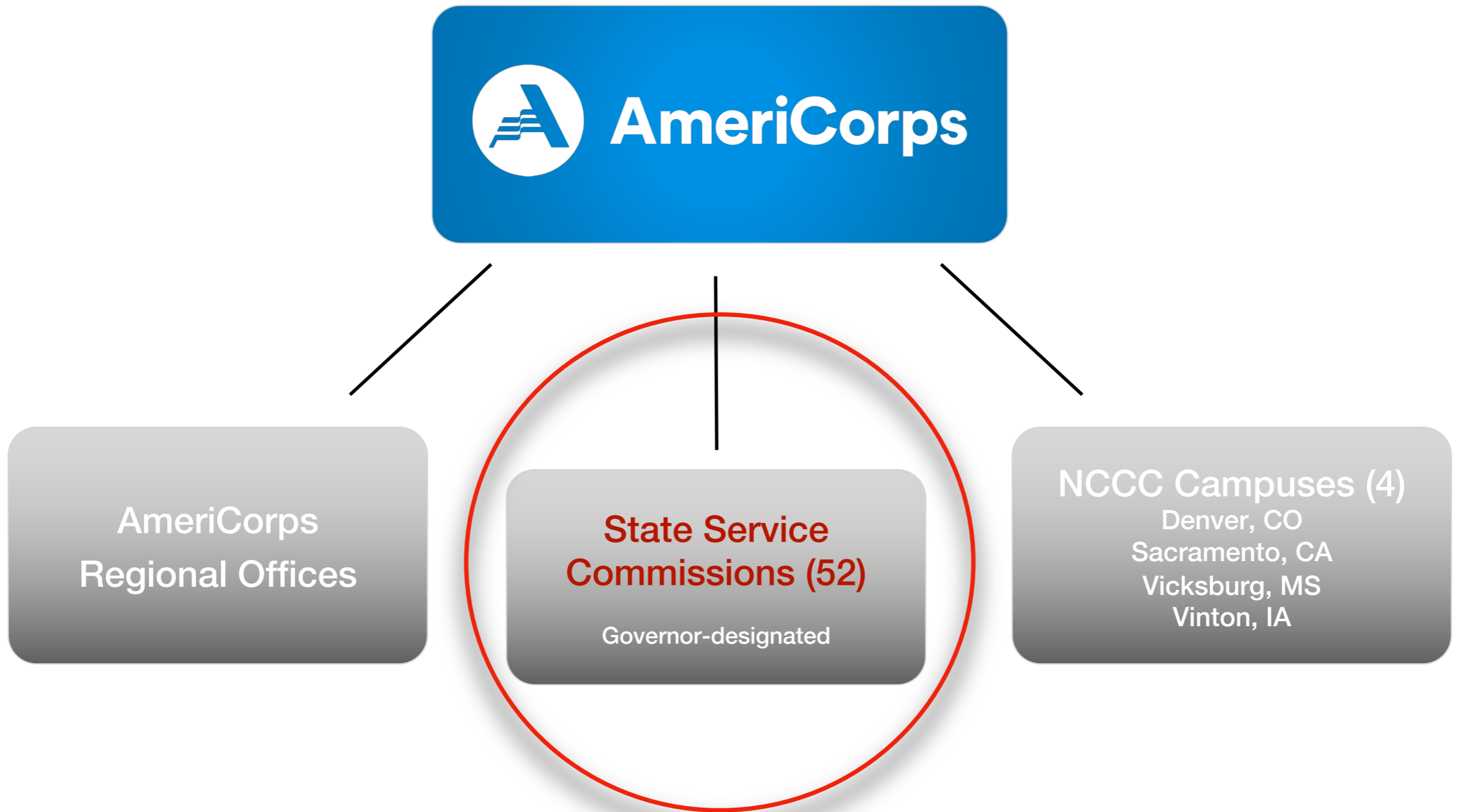
#GetThingsDone | NationalService.gov



Program	FY21 Enacted	FY22 WH	FY22 House	FY22 Senate	FY22 Final
AmeriCorps State and National	\$455.1M	\$501.1M	\$601.1M	\$480.1M	\$466.7M
AmeriCorps VISTA	\$97.3M	\$103.9M	\$103.9M	\$103.9M	\$100.3M
AmeriCorps NCCC	\$33.5M	\$37.7M	\$37.7M	\$37.7M	\$34.5M
National Service Trust Fund	\$185M	\$191M	\$196M	\$187M	\$190.5M
AmeriCorps Seniors	\$225M	\$244.5M	\$244.5M	\$244.5M	\$230.7M
- RSVP	\$53.3M	\$55.1M	\$55.1M		\$53.9M
- Foster Grandparents	\$118.8M	\$130.9M	\$130.9M		\$122.4M
- Senior Companions	\$52.9M	\$58.5M	\$58.5M		\$54.4M
Volunteer Generation Fund	\$6.4M	\$6.7M	\$6.7M	\$6.7M	\$6.56M
Commission Support Grants	\$18.5M	\$19.5M	\$19.5M	\$19.5M	\$19.1M
Days of Service	\$3.2M	\$3.4M	\$3.4M	\$3.4M	\$3.3M
Salaries and Expenses	\$86.5M	\$91.2M	\$91.2M	\$91.2M	\$88.1M
Total CNCS	\$1.121B	\$1.210B	\$1.315B	\$1.185B	\$1.150B
<i>Commission Investment Fund</i>	<i>\$8.5M</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$8.5M</i>	<i>\$8.5M</i>

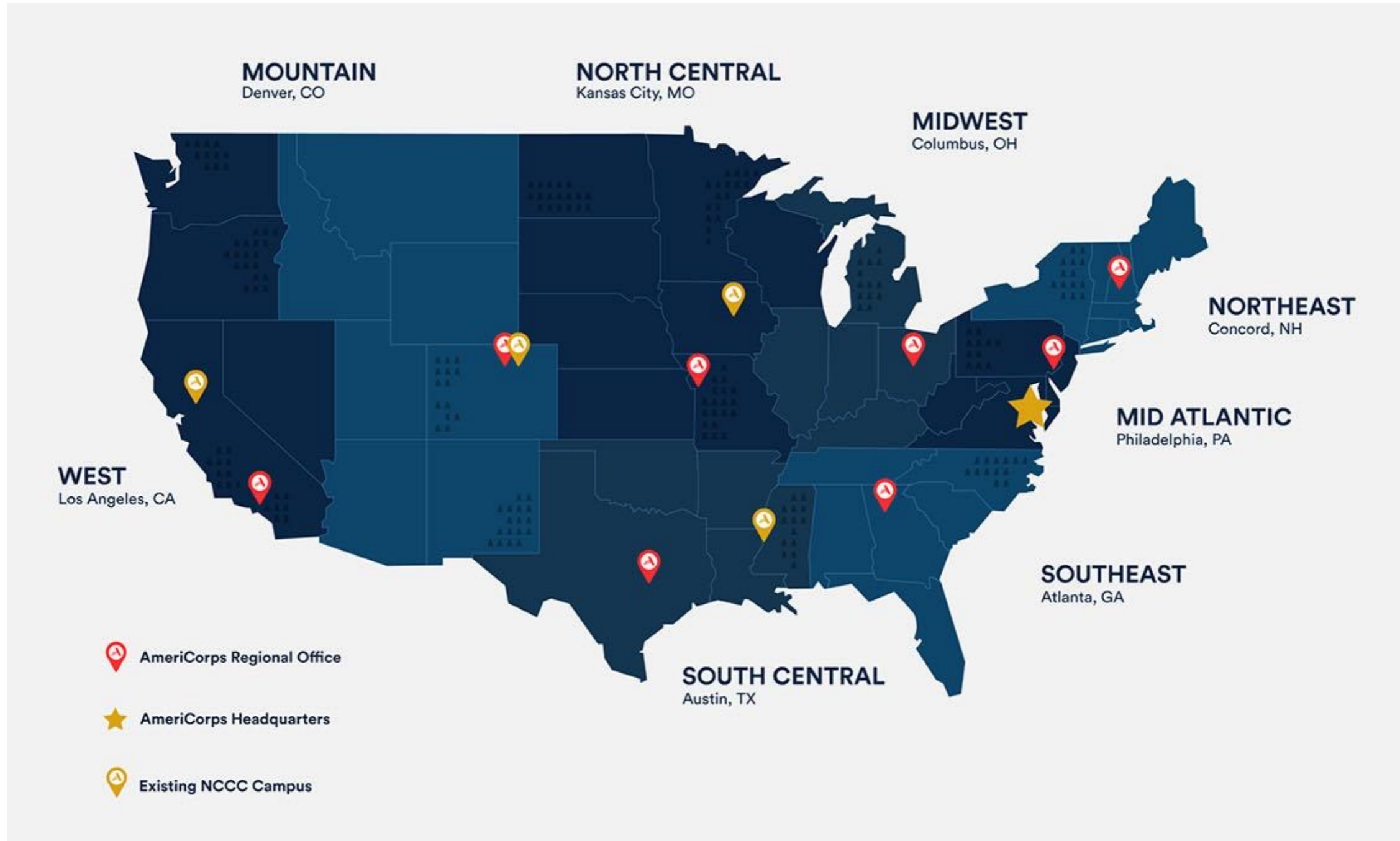


Administrative Entities





AmeriCorps Regional Offices (8)



<https://www.americorps.gov/contact/region-offices>



Commission Responsibilities

- **Administration** – commissions must develop a strong infrastructure capable of selecting and supporting high-quality national service programs and managing the commission's activities
- **Support** – commissions must provide support to local programs and work with them to ensure high-quality programming
- **Vision** – commissions must develop and communicate a statewide vision of service and foster an ethic of service and volunteerism throughout the state



Common Commission Activities

- While each commission is different, common commission activities (beyond statutory requirements) include:
 - volunteer recognition
 - statewide training events
 - mentoring
 - Volunteer Generation Fund
 - disaster coordination
 - service-learning
- Many states also have various other duties arising either through their state authorizing language or from the implementation of their state planning processes



State Commission Funding Sources

- **Commission Support Grant** – administrative funds for commission operations
- **Commission Investment Fund** – administrative funds to support program development and training/technical assistance
- **AmeriCorps Program Funds** – support AmeriCorps programming at local level – competitive and formula
- **Volunteer Generation Fund** – funding to support volunteer initiatives
- **AmeriCorps Administrative Funds** – up to 2% of program funds to support commission monitoring activities
- Other **public/state and private funds**



State Commissions Nationally

- State service commissions were established as a shared federal-state partnership, creating a central role for governors
- 52 state service commissions (49 states, District of Columbia, two territories)
- Most state service commissions are part of state government – 85%
- State service commissions administer **more than 75%** of AmeriCorps State and National funding
- Have a foundation/501(c)3 arm – 42%
- Receive state funding – 85%
- Are active in disaster preparedness and/or response activities – 62.5%
- Receive Volunteer Generation Fund grants – 20 in total



State Commissions Nationally

- Staffing:
 - Full-time – 1-24; median = 6
 - Part-time – 1-7; median = 2
 - Fifty-four percent of commissions have one program officer for 6-10 programs
- AmeriCorps programs:
 - Number of programs – 4-53; median = 15
 - Number of members – 43-4,923; median = 585

NATIONAL SERVICE IN ARIZONA



500

local service sites



6,800

AmeriCorps Seniors
& AmeriCorps
members



\$23.1

million AmeriCorps
and local funding



\$68.7

million AmeriCorps
scholarships earned
since 1994

AmeriCorps.gov/Arizona





Mountain Region Comparisons

Commission	Structure	Foundation Arm	State Funding	FT Staff	PT Staff
Arizona	Executive Order; Governor's Office	Volunteerism donation account w/ the Governor's Office	\$0	2	4
Idaho	Executive Order; Labor	Yes, allowed in EO	\$0	4	
Montana	Statute; Labor	No	\$171,064	5	
Wyoming	Executive Order; Nonprofit	N/A	\$150,000	6	
Utah	Statute; Lt. Governor	Cultural and Community Engagement Foundation	\$450,000	9	3
New Mexico	Executive Order; Labor	No	\$260,451	3	
Colorado	Statute; Lt. Governor	No	\$200,000 (+Relief Funds)	8	



Comparisons to Commissions with Similar Level of Federal Funding

Commission	Structure	Foundation Arm	State Funding	FT Staff	PT Staff
Arizona	Executive Order; Governor's Office	Volunteerism donation account w/ the Governor's Office	\$0	2	4
Indiana	Executive Order; Labor	State agency allowed	\$239,560	6	
Maryland	Executive Order; Governor's Office	No	\$89,027	6	
Massachusetts	Executive Order; Nonprofit	N/A	\$1,400,000	17	
Michigan	Statute; Economic Development	Children's Foundation	\$961,400	8 (+4 contractors)	
Minnesota	Statute; Nonprofit	N/A	\$9,350,000	24	3
Missouri	Statute; Economic Development	No	\$0	5	
Tennessee	Executive Order; Administrative Services	Friends of Volunteer Tennessee	\$297,600	6	
Virginia	Statute; Health and Human Services	Virginia Service Foundation	\$424,029	8	3
Washington	Executive Order; Office of Financial Management	Allowed by agency	\$405,758	10	
Wisconsin	Statute; Administrative Services	No	\$331,315	8	2



Commissioner and Staff Roles Discussion

- What do you see as the primary roles of both commissioners and staff in support of the Arizona commission?
- Skill or relationship you bring to the work of the Arizona Commission?
- What skills, relationships, or experiences are missing from the commission?



Commissioner Roles

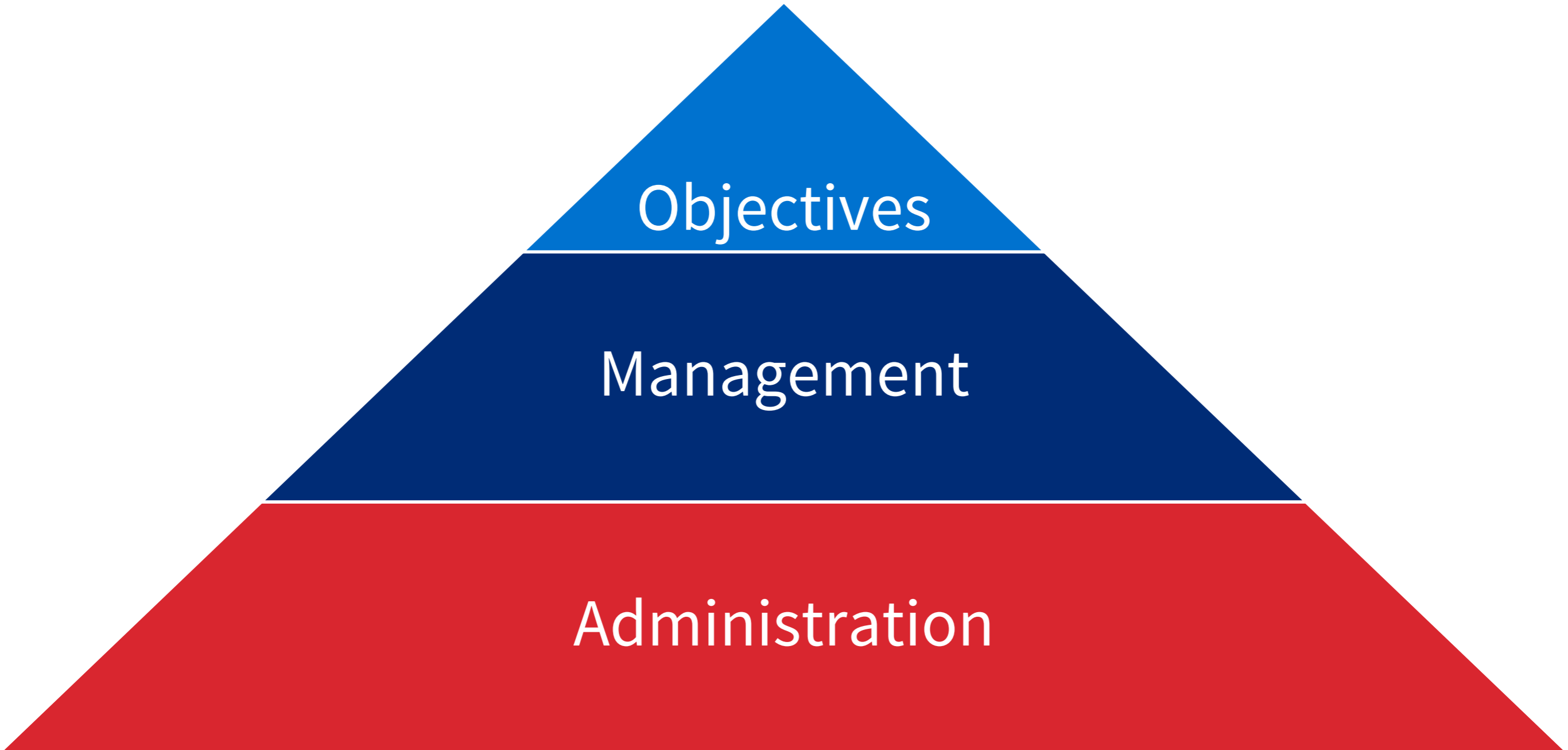
Vision

Mission/Values

Goals



Staff Roles





Commissioner Roles

- **Make decisions** – observe, interpret, respond
- **Accountability** – review, assess
- **Support achieving mission** – advise, assess, take action



What Hat Should Commissioners Be Wearing: Duties, Ambassador, and Volunteer



Three “Hats”

- Legal Hat = The 3 “D’s”
 - Duty of Care
 - Duty of Obedience
 - Duty of Loyalty
- Ambassador Hat for the Commission
- Volunteer Hat for the Commission





DUTY OF CARE

Stay informed and ask questions

DUTY OF LOYALTY

**Show undivided allegiance to the
Commission's welfare**

DUTY OF OBEDIENCE

**Stay faithful to the Commission's
mission**



Duty of CARE Hat

- Exercise reasonable caution in making decisions
- Use best judgment
- Know the budget
- Know the allocation for the state
- Work at the “big picture” level
- Help obtain additional funds or resources for programs
- Share a reasonable amount of time
- Be well informed about needs across the state
- Actively participate and pay attention
- Ask pertinent questions



Duty of LOYALTY Hat

- Be well informed about needs
- Put personal and professional interests aside
- Avoid conflict of interest and sign annual statement
- Avoid any appearance of monetary gain
- Include, if permitted, the work of the commission in your charitable contribution list annually
- Work for the good of service and volunteering as outlined by your commission
- Never do anything that would embarrass the commission if it were made public



Duty of OBEDIENCE Hat

- Stay true to the Commission's mission
- Obey the law, both public and organizational
- Oversee the funds for the purpose the commission was established
- Be familiar with state and federal statutes relating to your commission's oversight responsibility
- Know the rules that govern the commission, both federal and state
- Follow the rules in personal and collective activities
- Visit programs, participate in meetings, and other duties as outlined in the Commission Guidelines



Ambassador Hat

- Secondary importance to governance, but strongly recommended
- Commissioners are often in a better position to do this than others (more authority/clout/flexibility)
- Organizational sustainability is critical
- Examples might include giving presentations about the commission and service/volunteerism, educating elected officials, and writing newspaper editorials/social media



Volunteer Hat

- Volunteer opportunities that increase a commissioner's understanding of the organization
- Build a positive organizational culture through volunteer opportunities
- Commissioners are strictly volunteers in this role, NOT in charge, NOT possessing higher authority, NOT acting on behalf of the board



Common Commissioner Activities

- Actively participate in commission meetings
- Approve AmeriCorps funding decisions
- Review and approve the annual commission budget/review financial statements
- Chair and/or participate in commission committees
- Act as ambassadors for the commission – attend events, make introductions
- Advocate to state government on behalf of commission staff
- Encourage greater investment (state and private) in the commission and/or its programs
- Advance a state public policy agenda for the commission
- Assist commission staff with outreach to the state congressional delegation



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State Service Plan



State Service Plan Regulations

- Regulations available at [CFR](#) › [Title 45](#) › [Subtitle B](#) › [Chapter XXV](#) › [Part 2550](#) › Section 2550.80
- 3-year, comprehensive national and community service plan, and establishment of state priorities
- Annually update
- Consistent with the AmeriCorps agency's broad goals



State Service Plan Regulations

- Developed through an open and public process providing for maximum participation from broad cross-section of individuals/organizations
- Ensure outreach to diverse, broad-based community organization that serve underrepresented populations
- Set forth State's goals, priorities, and strategies for promoting national service and community service
- Other information considered appropriate by the commission or AmeriCorps agency
- Ensure outreach to municipalities and county governments



State Service Plan Regulations

- Provide for effective coordination of funding applications submitted to the State
- Include measurable goals and outcomes for national service programs funded by the state
- Subject to approval by the CEO of the state
- Submitted to AmeriCorps agency, as requested



State Service Plan 55+ Supplement

- Recommendations for policies to increase service for adults 55+
- Recommendations to the State agency on aging on marketing outreach plan
- Recommendations for civic engagement and multi-generational activities
- Incorporate current knowledge base regarding economic impact of roles of workers 55+ in the economy; social impact roles of such workers; health and social benefits for 55+
- Made available to the public and available to AmeriCorps as requested



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