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New Hampshire AmeriCorps Programs and Alums Celebrate Service during AmeriCorps Week

Campus Compact for New Hampshire joins other groups in highlighting the impact of AmeriCorps on communities and individuals across the state.

Concord, NH, March 7, 2012—During AmeriCorps Week, March 10-18, thousands of service organizations are gathering to celebrate—and strengthen—the impact of AmeriCorps programs on communities and individuals across the nation. In New Hampshire, the NH AmeriCorps Alums Chapter is partnering with Campus Compact for New Hampshire (CCNH), the CNCS State Office of ME/NH/VT, and Volunteer NH's state commission for a week of activities with the theme, "AmeriCorps Works in the Granite State: Live Free and Serve!" These and other groups will hold a series of events during the week to express their commitment to strengthening New Hampshire communities and to reinforce service as a lifelong endeavor.

AmeriCorps is a national program through which college students, seniors, and other members work to meet pressing education, environmental, health, economic, and public safety needs. In addition to providing direct service, AmeriCorps members recruit, train, and manage more than 3 million community volunteers a year. In New Hampshire alone, more than 4,200 AmeriCorps members have contributed 6 million hours of direct service since 1994. Events held during AmeriCorps Week provide an opportunity for current and past members to exchange stories, strategies, and opportunities for continuing this work.

"AmeriCorps is a results-driven initiative that provides millions of dollars in vital services to communities in New Hampshire while building lifelong leadership skills," says CCNH Executive Director Debby Scire. "We've seen its impact first-hand in our own AmeriCorps programs, through which college students tutor at-risk youth, work to mitigate the causes and impact of climate change, support family health services, and increase access to higher education, among many other projects."

New Hampshire offers a variety of AmeriCorps programs through which citizens can serve their community, including City Year NH, AmeriCorps Victims Assistance Program, NH Student Conservation Association, GREEN Corps, AmeriCorps*VISTA, and the Wediko Professional Corps Program.

New Hampshire events during AmeriCorps Week will include:

- An AmeriCorps Alumni Reception on March 11 bringing together current and former AmeriCorps members to connect, celebrate, and share approaches and success stories;
- A New Hampshire State House Recognition ceremony on March 12, during which 100 AmeriCorps members, alumni, and staff will have the opportunity to talk with Governor John Lynch about the impact of service in New Hampshire;
- An AmeriCorps Panel on March 12 at NHTI – Concord's Community College, which will offer AmeriCorps service opportunities to high school and college students, as well as other community members;
- A Life After AmeriCorps training session on March 16 at the University of New Hampshire Manchester that will explore next steps for 170 current AmeriCorps members; and
- A day of service on March 16, during which New Hampshire AmeriCorps programs will work with Manchester City Parks on a clean-up project and with Blue Star Families on a project serving military personnel and their families.

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About AmeriCorps Week
AmeriCorps Week is an annual event that celebrates the commitment of AmeriCorps members and alumni by highlighting the impact AmeriCorps makes across the country every day. Its goals are to unite AmeriCorps members so they feel they are part of a nationwide network and to communicate AmeriCorps' impact on critical problems and on the lives of its members and alumni. For more information about AmeriCorps Week, visit www.americorpsweek.gov.

About AmeriCorps
AmeriCorps engages more than 80,000 Americans each year in intensive service to meet community needs in education, the environment, public safety, homeland security, and other areas. AmeriCorps is administered by the federal Corporation for National and Community Service, which also oversees Senior Corps. For more information, visit www.americorps.gov.

About Campus Compact for New Hampshire
Campus Compact for New Hampshire (CCNH) is a statewide consortium of college and university presidents and private-sector partners who are united in their commitment to the civic purposes of higher education. As part of a national coalition of college and university leaders, CCNH serves as a catalyst to integrate community service and civic responsibility throughout academic and student life. CCNH is part of the national Campus Compact organization, which encompasses more than 1,100 college and university presidents representing some 6 million students. For more information, see http://www.compactnh.org/.