Notre Dame AmeriCorps
Bend

2021-2022 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

The 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 30 different cities as program assistants in education, environmental, and disaster relief programs. In Bend, 6 NDA members serve at 4 different non-profit organizations. AmeriCorps members are serving at sites that range from after-school enrichment programs, environmental education programs, and emergency housing shelters.

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, educational empowerment, and 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 expands 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, 2021 through July 30th, 2022. During that period, they are required to complete 1700 hours of service for full-time member positions, or 900 hours of service for part-time member positions. 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 $15,100 (pre-tax) 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 $6,495 that can be applied to eligible federal student loans or future education costs.
- Membership in the AmeriCorps Alums Network
- Access to AmeriCorps Alumn Job Boards and Recruiting Events

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.
BEND SERVICE SITES

Bend partners with non-profit organizations that serve diverse communities across the Central Oregon area. Here is an overview of the organizations we partner with in our community.

Bethlehem Inn

Bethlehem Inn is a community supported emergency shelter committed to providing a safe, secure and accountable environment for residents to meet basic needs and connect to community resources. Their mission is to support single adults and families in making life-affirming choices and measurable progress towards self-sufficiency. Two NDA members serve at Bethlehem Inn by completing shelter intakes, educating residents on available resources and social support, and providing case management services. Find the position description here.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Bend

Boys & Girls Clubs of Bend provide quality after-school enrichment programs for youth ages 5-18. Boys and Girls Club seeks to create a safe and supportive environment for all youth with programs designed to empower them to succeed in school, and lead healthy, productive lives. One NDA member serves at Boys and Girls Club through youth mentorship, planning and implementing educational programs and activities, and creating individual education plans for club members. Find the position description here.
Camp Fire Central Oregon

Camp Fire Central Oregon offers a variety of year-round, co-ed enrichment opportunities that empower youth, staff and volunteers to discover their sparks, gain confidence, build essential life skills, and be active contributors in their communities. Two NDA members serve at Camp Fire through leading youth programs, developing relationships with and supporting youth, planning and implementing engaging activities, and providing program support. NDA members will assist with Camp Fire’s Afterschool program, the Teen Service and Leadership program, and SummerKids and Tumalo Day Camp. Find the position description here.

Children’s Forest of Central Oregon

Children’s Forest is a network of over 25 organizations that work to connect children and families to nature through learning, exploration, and play. One NDA member serves at Children’s Forest by developing and implementing a NatureHood science curriculum and other opportunities for local K-5 students to engage with and learn about nature in their local parks. Find the position description here.
For more information, please contact:

Christi Smith, Site Director

Email: bend@ndmva.org

To apply, visit:

www.ndmva.org/apply

Want to stay updated on NDMVA Bend? Check out our Instagram page!

@bendndmva