RARE AmeriCorps
Orientation 2014
History

U.S. militia, 1600’s – 1900’s

Great Depression – 1920’s-30’s

CCC Camps - 1933

GI Bill - 1944
History of Atonal Service

1961 – JFK est. Peace Corps
History

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) - 1960’s

Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) - 1964

Youth Conservation Corps - 1970’s
History and Legislation

- **1970:** VISTA merges with PC and Sr. Corps

- **1990:** Pres. Bush signs the National Community Service Act of 1990 (Learn and Serve)

- **1993:** Pres. Clinton signs National Community Service Trust Act (AmeriCorps and Corporation for National and Community Service)
History and Legislation

- **1994:** 1st AmeriCorps - 20,000 people serving 1,000 communities
- **1999:** AmeriCorps has 150,000 members
- **2000:** Pres. Bush creates USA Freedom Corps, proposes 50% expansion of AmeriCorps
History and Legislation

- **2009: Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act**
  - Creates new service Corps
  - Increases AmeriCorps Positions from 88,000 today to 250,000 in 2017
  - Increases Education Award (starting FY 2010-2011)
Change over time?

- Military
- Pre-service aid
- Service to country Growth

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- Civilian
- Post-service Aid
- Personal

History of National Service
AmeriCorps

- Started in 1994, with more than 80,000 members per year
- Three programs now:
  - Senior Corps
  - Social Innovation Fund
  - AmeriCorps
    - AmeriCorps State and National
    - Vista
    - NCCC
Community Service Center, University of Oregon

- Initial program in 1974; assessment of impacts of Senate Bill 100
- Four programs now:
  - Community Planning Workshop (CPW)
  - Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience (OPDR)
  - Economic Development Administration University Center (EDAUC)
  - Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE AmeriCorps)
- Eight staff
- Breadth, Depth, Reach
A Strategy for Linking Service Learning and Oregon Communities

Establishing New Relationships to Solve Community Problems

- Students & Faculty
- Communities
- Government
- Professional Practice

CSC
RARE AmeriCorps Program

- Started in 1994
- Over 400 placements in past 20 years
- Categories
  - Community Planning, Economic and Community Development
  - Natural Resource Planning
  - Main Street/Downtown Development
  - Food Systems Planning
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits
General Conditions of Participation

- Eligibility
  - Background Checks
- Term of Service
  - Types of Hours
- Professionalism
- Performance
- Workplan
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits

Proscribed Conduct

- General Performance (2.3.I.A)
- Illegal Activities (2.3.I.B-I)
- Activities Prohibited While Serving (2.3.II.A-K)
  - H.1, Providing Direct Benefit to Business
- Fundraising (2.4)
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits

Sexual Harassment

- RARE AmeriCorps has a no tolerance policy regarding sexual harassment
- Two types
  - Quid Pro Quo
    - Term or condition of employment, academic advancement, etc.
    - Basis for decision regarding employment, academic advancement, etc.
    - Creates intimidating, hostile or offensive environment
- UO resources
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits
Drug and Alcohol Policy

- Illegal or controlled substances
  - Use, possession or sale while a member
  - Cause for dismissal

- Alcoholic beverages
  - Cannot be consumed while serving
  - Perception vs. reality
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits

Release from Program

- For Cause
  - Convicted of a felony
  - Leaves without compelling circumstance
  - Engaged in proscribed conduct

- Compelling Circumstance
  - Prorated benefits
  - Suspension
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits

Grievance Procedures

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Formal Complaint Process
- Binding Arbitration
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits

Benefits

- Stipend (can waive)
- Health Care
- Child Care
- Workers’ Compensation
- Unemployment Insurance
- Educational Award
- Loan Forbearance

- Interest Payment
- College Cost Reduction and Access
- Holiday, Sick and Vacation Leave
- Family Medical Leave
- Jury Duty
- Impact of Benefits
- Training
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits
More Benefits

- Armed Forces Reserves
- Voting
- Non Discrimination
- Civil Rights and Non Harassment
- Support Services
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits

Reasonable Accommodation

- Logical adjustment to let a person with a disability serve
- Case by case and in consultation with member
- Can disclose at any time during service
- Confidentiality
- Different Types of Disabilities
  - Seen and Unseen
Member Roles, Responsibilities and Benefits
Reimbursements and Accounting

- What does RARE pay for?
- What do communities pay for?
- How to protect members?
Supervision and Management

- Non-displacement
- Performance Evaluation
  - Daily
  - Weekly
  - Quarterly
- Workplan
- Safety Procedures
- Contracts and Billing
- Training
- Equipment and Supplies
- Travel Expenses
- CSC Assistance
- Communication
  - Working agreement with supervisor
RARE Program Responsibilities

- Performance Evaluation
- Timekeeping
- Workplan
- Training
- Technical Assistance
- Accounting and Expenses
- Safety Procedures
- Resources
Communication