Thank you for joining today’s webinar. We will begin promptly at 12:00 pm Central.
Your First STOP for Rural Health INFORMATION

Public Health AmeriCorps Programs
Housekeeping

• Slides are available at www.ruralhealthinfo.org/webinars/public-health-americorps
• Technical difficulties please visit the Zoom Help Center at support.zoom.us
If you have questions...
Featured Speakers

**Tom Morris**, Associate Administrator for Rural Health, Health Resources and Services Administration

**AJ Pearlman**, Director, Public Health AmeriCorps

**Jana Bodily-Roan**, Project Director, Idaho State University’s Gem State Public Health AmeriCorps

**Diamond LeSane**, National Program Director, American Heart Association’s HeartCorps AmeriCorps program
Public Health AmeriCorps
What is AmeriCorps?

• Federal agency that provides opportunities for Americans to serve. This includes direct service to people in need and indirect service that builds capacity within nonprofit organizations.

• Invests more than $800 million in local nonprofit, community, Tribal, and state organizations annually.

• Adults of all ages and life experiences can serve in AmeriCorps! AmeriCorps members address the nation’s most pressing challenges, improve lives, and strengthen communities.
Public Health AmeriCorps

• Historic partnership between CDC & AmeriCorps
• $400 million from American Rescue Plan Act
• Opportunities to serve across the country

Goals

1. Help meet public health needs of local communities
2. Provide pathways to public health-related careers

AmeriCorps.gov/PublicHealth | PublicHealth@AmeriCorps.gov
First Round Impact
Program Year 2022 - 2023

82 GRANTEES

• Regional & national nonprofit organizations
• Health Departments & public health agencies
• State & local governments
• Higher education institutions
• Community health centers
• Tribes

3,000 MEMBERS

• Full-time positions (1,700 hours)
• Part-time positions (ranging from 100 – 1,200 hours)

DIVERSE FOCUS AREAS

• Health equity & social determinants of health
• COVID recovery, testing & vaccination support
• Access to services & reducing barriers to care
• Behavioral health (mental health & substance use disorders)
Second Round Funding
Program Year 2023 - 2024

• Open now until **January 4, 2023**, at 5:00 ET

• Funding is open to a variety of organizations including **public health departments**

• Full Notice of Funding Opportunity, FAQs & technical assistance available at [AmeriCorps.gov/PublicHealth](http://AmeriCorps.gov/PublicHealth)

• Note: **Single-state applicants** should contact their State Service Commission ASAP as commission deadlines vary and may be approaching.
**Member Benefits**

• Hands-on experience  
• Training from experts  
• Living allowance  
• Education award  
• Loan deferment / forbearance  
• Alumni network  
• Career pathways

**Member Activities**

• Health education & training  
• Community outreach & engagement  
• System navigation, referrals, & linkage to care  
• Research, data collection, analyses & assessments

AmeriCorps.gov/PublicHealth | PublicHealth@AmeriCorps.gov
Make Your Mark with Public Health AmeriCorps
82 AmeriCorps positions to serve with local non-profit organizations and health district offices.
PROGRAM GOALS

- Increase, expand, and enhance the capacity of existing programs and services offered by public health agencies.
- Increase the number of trained suicide prevention interventionists (ASIST and QPR).
- Support member's interest in continuing to work in the public health sector.
CURRENT HOST SITES

- Lewis-Clark State College Counseling
- Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Behavioral Health
- National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Treasure Valley
- Southeastern Idaho Public Health
- Simply Hope
- Community Youth in Action
- South Central Public Health District
- Endeavor Elementary
- Benny’s Pantry
- Full Circle Health
- Idaho AHEC Program
- Bingham Memorial Hospital
- Envision Sight and Hearing
- Empower Idaho
- Idaho National Guard
- Panhandle Health District
A family outreach program for families in need of HOPE. Often, we think it is a weakness to admit our family is not perfect, or that we need help. Simply Hope meets in a confidential setting, with people who understand and care. We are here to help. Cross our threshold and find your road to strength.

Empower Idaho wants to change the conversation about behavioral health to one of compassion and understanding. The Empower Idaho team coordinates educational activities, both online and in-person, and advocates on behalf of adults with behavioral health conditions and their family members with the purpose of helping to improve the behavioral health delivery system of Idaho.
The mission of Southeast Idaho AHEC is to develop a diverse and sustainable healthcare workforce in rural and underserved communities in southeast Idaho.

The Idaho Area Health Education Center Program Office will use the AmeriCorps member to help us build our statewide healthcare workforce development program. They will assist us with stakeholder analysis and engagement through our advisory board. Other activities will include curriculum development for the AHEC Scholars program to ensure students are introduced to community-based health issues and topics. We plan to use their time to build our social media content and online presence to build awareness of the program.
Gem State Public Health will train AmeriCorps members and community members to become ASIST trained suicide prevention interventionists.

These classes are two days long and train attendees to use a suicide intervention model to identify persons with thoughts of suicide, seek a shared understanding of reasons for living, develop a safe plan based upon a review of risk, be prepared to follow-up, and become involved in suicide safer community networks.
Members at the South Central Public Health District have assisted with the Dental Hygiene program where staff and volunteers go into elementary schools during times when students are receiving free teeth cleanings to students. They are also planning suicide prevention activities and will be take part in the suicide prevention coalitions in the effort to educate community members. These members will also help the organization create the Know the Five Signs of Mental Distress curriculum.
Members serving at Community Youth in Action assist kids and young teens to achieve educational goals, stay away from drugs, and learn life skills.

I believe that the most important aspect of my term is that I am given the opportunity to make a difference in my community. I love that the organization aligns with my values and the opportunities I receive to attend professional development training.

~Samantha Hammond, AmeriCorps Member
Glorix, one of the members at Southeastern Idaho Public Health says the most important aspect of her AmeriCorps service is being more involved in her community and being a positive impact when it comes to mental health. She can’t wait to help remove the stigma behind suicide and mental illness. Glorix attends suicide grief support meetings that are held for the community. It has allowed her to see just how many people are afraid to face their emotions surrounding the topic. She also reaches out to stores that sell guns to learn more about their suicide prevention/awareness practices and offer more information and training opportunities.
To learn more about becoming a host site or a member with our program contact us at:

gemstate@isu.edu

208-282-4436
HeartCorps
Driving health equity in rural America
Call to Action: Rural Health
A Presidential Advisory From the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association

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February 2020
Advisory Called out Three Primary Issues

- Increasing Access to Care
- Improving Healthcare Quality
- Addressing Risk Factors
AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION
RURAL STRATEGIES

Definition: Any area, community or address outside of an urban setting

Public Policy
Medicaid Expansion
Maternal Health
Telehealth

Telehealth

Workforce

HeartCorps

Social Impact Fund

Health Equity

Increasing Access to Care

Improving Healthcare Quality

Addressing Risk Factors

Science

Get With the Guidelines

Stroke and STEMI Systems of Care

Controlling Blood Pressure

Reducing Tobacco Use

Research
Highlights: Access to Care

Public Policy

– Medicaid Expansion
– Expanding Post Partum Care Coverage
– Telehealth Coverage

Percent of population living in rural areas by state and Medicaid expansion status.
Source: AHA/ASA Call to Action: Rural Health Presidential Advisory, February 2020.
Highlights: Access to Care

- American Board of Telehealth/Certification
- Doctors with Heart Pilot
Controlling Blood Pressure

• 105 of the 350 National Hypertension Control Initiative funded centers (16%) are rural.

• Approximately 127 rural FQHCs are engaged in Target: Blood Pressure.

• Work with state Health Departments to leverage federal funds to improve self-measured blood pressure and team-based care.

• Our community teams have achieved sustainable impacts in 64 rural health centers.
Highlights: Improving Quality

• Goal: Improve the quality of care in rural hospitals through Get with the Guidelines

• Invest over $3.4M over the next three years to subsidize cost

• Modify criteria to fit rural hospital setting

• Impact:
  – Increase market engagement to 50%
  – Approximately 700 new GWTG hospitals
  – Module Priorities: Stroke, CAD & Heart Failure
  – More than 110,000 lives
Overview: HeartCorps

- Three-year grant from AmeriCorps through the joint Public Health AmeriCorps initiative with the CDC
- Purpose: Improve health in rural communities, grow public health workforce
- 100 HeartCorps members in 26 states for three years
- Focus:
  - Improve blood pressure control within Rural Health Clinics, FQHCs, health departments, community organizations
  - Address nutrition security
  - Reduce tobacco use among youth
How does HeartCorps align with AHA's 2024 Impact Goal?

Rural health is a core tenet of the AHA's 2024 Impact Goal.

Under-resourced communities and those living in rural areas face the highest death rates due to hypertension. Making matters worse, rural communities face a critical shortage of health care professionals, including public health workers, which negatively impacts the care rural residents receive.
What will HeartCorps Members do?

- Support blood pressure self-monitoring initiatives
- Increase adoption of evidence-based BP measurement and treatment practices
- Facilitate BP, tobacco and nutrition security screenings and referrals to care
- Community training and education opportunities; engage youth through engagement in schools
- Engage local media in blood pressure and healthy living promotion
Where will HeartCorps members serve?
Pathway to a successful program launch and implementation

Develop our infrastructure
- Develop policies and procedures
- Strengthen grant management
- Grow funding

Recruit community orgs as host sites
- Health centers
- Health departments
- Nonprofits
- Affordable housing communities

Recruit HeartCorps members
- Age 21+
- Local community members when possible
- Public health career interest
- Diverse candidates

Deliver training focused on sustainable impact and professional development
- Intro to the AHA and to national service
- CDC-required training
- Delivered by AHA staff and volunteers
- Career exploration series
- Professional development
Questions and Discussion
Questions?
Thank you!

- Contact us at ruralhealthinfo.org with any questions
- Please complete webinar survey
- Recording and transcript will be available on RHIhub website