

## **PRESERVE JOBS, SUPPORT SENIORS....SAVE SERVICE FOR COLORADO v2**

In Colorado, more than 14,000 national service members each year, of all ages and backgrounds, help meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement. AmeriCorps and other national service members contribute to the economic health of our state and provide critical human services. They tutor and mentor children, support veterans and military families, provide health services, improve our recreation infrastructure, respond to disasters, increase economic opportunity, and recruit and manage volunteers.

Colorado benefits from **\$28.9 mil in national service funding annually** and national service grantees use these funds to **leverage an additional \$7 million** for local communities.

Elimination of national service would have a far-reaching effect on children, families, seniors, and local communities in Colorado.

### **2010-2011 Program Year Fast Facts**

- **\$18.1 million** in non-profit program support to 176 primary organizations and **408 partner groups**.
- **\$8.3 million in AmeriCorps Awards** for use at colleges, trade schools or for student loans to **3,651 people**.
- National service programs **leveraged an additional \$7 million** for local communities.

### **Lack of AmeriCorps and national service funding would result in:**

#### **Impacts on Youth & Young Adults:**

- More than **600 youth/young adults would lose jobs** – a population with an **unemployment rate of 25%**, more than twice that of adults.
- Young people would lose the opportunity to earn college scholarships - **\$1.3 million in AmeriCorps Awards** for youth corps members in 2010.
- Youth corps provided **38% of the non-agency labor** for public land managers in 2010. Public land managers would have fewer crews to rely on to maintain our state's critical recreation infrastructure, mitigate wildfire fuels, and improve wildlife habitat.

#### **Impacts on Seniors:**

- More than **9,300 seniors** each year would not contribute to their communities. Some of these seniors depend on the modest stipends they earn through Senior Corps programs **to meet daily living needs**.
- More than **7,600 special needs youth and 4,900 homebound seniors** would not receive the services that Senior Corps members deliver.

#### **Impacts on Colorado's Economy**

- National service grantees would be forced to eliminate **85 staff jobs**.
- Loss of higher education scholarships for **3,600 people and \$8.3 million** in funds for Colorado's higher education institutions and technical schools.
- Loss of youth corps labor weakens Colorado's **\$10 - \$15 billion outdoor recreation economy** with less maintenance for the trail system, wildlife habitat, and forest health.
- Labor loss undermines Colorado's travel & tourism sector – youth corps contribute **500,000 hrs** annually to recreation, stewardship, and conservation efforts.
- Eliminates cost-effective labor source – National Park Service study shows that youth corps **crews cost 44% less** than accomplishing work through internal means.

To take action to Save Service in Colorado visit [www.saveservice.org](http://www.saveservice.org)