



For Immediate Release

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Media Contact:

Guadalupe Castillo, 916.445.6229
Lupe.Castillo@CaliforniaVolunteers.ca.gov

CaliforniaVolunteers Announces AmeriCorps Week!

AmeriCorps Week events will take place from Saturday, March 10 through Sunday, March 18, 2012

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Each year during AmeriCorps Week, we recognize the commitment of AmeriCorps members and alums by highlighting the extraordinary impact AmeriCorps makes in California’s local communities. This year, AmeriCorps Week will take place from Saturday, March 10 through Sunday, March 18, 2012. The theme this year, **AmeriCorps Works**, communicates AmeriCorps’ triple bottom line return on investment – for the recipients of service, the people who serve, and the larger community and nation.

“AmeriCorps members and the programs they serve are an invaluable asset in tackling the increased challenges we face in California,” said Secretary of Service and Volunteering, Karen Baker. “During these tough budget times, AmeriCorps serves as an essential resource to our local communities.”

AmeriCorps engages more than 8,500 men and women in intensive service each year through nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the state. AmeriCorps members help communities tackle vital issues in the areas of education, health, the environment and other human needs while mobilizing millions of volunteers for the organizations they serve. Members gain valuable professional, educational, and life benefits; and the experience has a lasting impact on the members and the communities they serve.

Since 1994, more than 100,000 California residents have served more than 110 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$267 million dollars. Last year alone, AmeriCorps in California tutored or mentored more than 540,000 disadvantaged children and youth; provided more than 4.5 million hours of service valued at more than \$97.7 million; recruited more than 130,000 volunteers; and, raised more than \$66 million in cash or in-kind resources for the organizations they serve.

About CaliforniaVolunteers

CaliforniaVolunteers is the state office that manages programs and initiatives to increase the number of Californians involved with service and volunteering. Through its innovative web site, individuals and families can find more than 50,000 volunteer opportunities throughout the state involving the arts, education, animals, disaster preparedness, the environment and other areas of interest. Karen Baker, the nation’s first state cabinet Secretary of Service and Volunteering leads the organization. For more information, please visit www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.