

**MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE**  
**Media Advisory**  
**For Immediate Release**

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For more information call:  
Judy Stein  
601-432-6779 or 1-888-353-1793

**MCVS GRANTS \$6.98 MILLION TO MISSISSIPPI AMERICORPS PROGRAMS**

JACKSON – The Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service is pleased to announce federal funding of \$6.98 million to support AmeriCorps programs for the 2002-2003 program year. These funds, from the Corporation for National and Community Service in Washington DC, will support 13 entities, including twelve AmeriCorps programs which will allow 907 AmeriCorps members to provide direct service and get things done in communities statewide.

In 2002 and 2003 the MCVS will host one planning grant and AmeriCorps members will serve in twelve programs: America Reads – Mississippi “Tutors With A Mission,” Boys & Girls Clubs of North Mississippi, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast, Campus Link, Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities/ MPOWERS, Delta Reads Partnership, Hinds County Human Resource Agency/Metro Jackson Service Coalition, North Mississippi Regional Center/InterACT, Jackson State University School of Social Work, Jumpstart Mississippi, Mississippi CommunityNet/ Office of the Attorney General, Mississippi PowerPALS/Mississippi Department of Education.

AmeriCorps members meet educational, public safety, environmental and human needs. All AmeriCorps programs have a common mission: getting things done to help communities by bringing people together from all backgrounds to solve problems at the local level, encouraging responsibility through service and civic education, and expanding opportunity by helping to make education more affordable. In exchange for a year of service (1,700 hours), AmeriCorps members earn an education award of \$4,725 to finance higher education or repay student loans.

The mission of the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service is to engage and support Mississippians of all ages and backgrounds in service to their communities. As your state office of volunteerism, the MCVS oversees AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America programs. For more information on any program or service, please call 601-432-6779, toll free 1-800-393-1793, or visit [www.MCVS.org](http://www.MCVS.org).

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