

Massachusetts Service Alliance

March 2010

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["AmeriCorps 101"
Session Follow-Up](#)

[Federal Funding
Available](#)

[Teaching Fellowship
2010-2012](#)

[Be Big Community
Contest](#)



Save the Date!
**Massachusetts Statewide
Service-Learning
Conference**

Tuesday, May 4, 2010
Hogan Campus Center
College of the Holy Cross
Worcester, MA
8:15-3:30

For more information,
contact Kristen McKinnon
at
kmckinnon@doe.mass.edu.

"AmeriCorps 101" Session Follow-Up



The Massachusetts Service Alliance (MSA) hosted a series of "AmeriCorps 101" sessions in February to help nonprofits identify whether the AmeriCorps program is right for their organization.

We heard from many attendees that further assistance was needed to develop their ideas for an AmeriCorps program. In order to meet this need, MSA has created an AmeriCorps Initial Consultation Form and we invite agencies to submit a brief summary of your proposed program to MSA for feedback. MSA program staff will review each form submitted and provide comments to strengthen your concept.

If you would like to engage in this process, please complete the consultation form by Wednesday, April 14, 2010 and submit to Beth McGuinness via e-mail at bmcguinness@mass-service.org with the subject line "AmeriCorps Consultation Form." All organizations that submit their form by this date will receive feedback from MSA by mid-May.



"Service Programs Are Primed and Ready for Growth"

In a new paper released recently, the Center for American Progress calls for an accelerated expansion of national service. The author, Shirley Sagawa, reports that "increasing full-time service would create jobs, address pressing community problems, and reconnect youth who are neither employed nor in school with a pathway to opportunity. Existing federal programs and state and local networks have excess capacity and are well positioned to grow to serve this end if Congress makes the financial resources available."

[Click here](#) to read "How Quickly Can National Service Grow?" by Shirley Sagawa of the Center for American Progress.

Social Innovation Fund - NOFA Released

A Notice of Federal Funds Availability for the newly-created Social Innovation Fund has been released by the Corporation for National and Community Service.



The Social Innovation Fund, authorized by the 2009 Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, is designed to accomplish the following:

- Promote public and private investments in effective nonprofit community organizations to help them replicate and expand to serve more low-income communities;
- Create new knowledge about how to solve critical social challenges; and
- Develop the grantmaking infrastructure necessary to support the work of social innovation in communities across the country.

The Corporation for National and Community Service will award up to \$50 million in Federal funding to approximately seven to 10 intermediary organizations in Fiscal Year 2010. Annual awards to intermediaries will range from \$1 million to \$10 million. For every \$1 in Federal funding the Social Innovation Fund grants, \$3 in private funding will be leveraged, generating a total public-private investment of \$200 million in Fiscal Year 2010.

Applications are due by Thursday, April 8, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. ET. For more information, [click here](#).

Citizen Schools National Teaching Fellowship 2010 - 2012

Citizen Schools seeks a strong, diverse, talented cohort of candidates to join its National Teaching Fellowship.

In November 2009, the Center for American Progress released ["National Service and Youth Unemployment"](#) by Melissa Boteach, Joy Moses, and Shirley Sagawa, which details youth unemployment and explains the role for national service in creating jobs. "How Quickly Can National Service Grow?" follows this paper by describing the existing capacity for community-based organizations to absorb new positions efficiently and effectively.

Upcoming Training

Professionalizing Volunteer Roles for Leadership Development

Boston, MA

When: Wednesday,

April 7, 2010

9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

BE SAFE: A Holistic Approach to Prevention Services for Youth

Waltham, MA

When: Wednesday,

April 28, 2010

9:00 a.m. - 12:30

Registration Information:

[Click here](#) for more information including workshop descriptions, locations and

Citizen Schools is accepting applications for program sites in California, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, and Texas.

The National Teaching Fellowship is a unique and competitive AmeriCorps service program that offers a diverse range of professional and leadership development experiences to people of varied backgrounds who have high potential as educators and community builders. The opportunity includes service as a team leader at a Citizen Schools' campus, professional development in partnership with a community organization, the opportunity to enroll in a pioneering Master's program in out-of-school time education, and to be a part of a service movement to transform public education in our country. National Teaching Fellow Roles include Youth Developer, Academic Coach, Apprenticeship Leader/Supporter, Intern and Scholar.

National Teaching Fellow Compensation and Benefits

Teaching Fellows receive an annual stipend of \$22,800 (paid in monthly installments), plus a generous benefit package including full health care coverage, 50% dental coverage, three weeks' vacation annually, extensive training, in addition to a transportation allowance or transit pass. Teaching Fellows will receive a \$5,350 AmeriCorps Education Award upon successfully completing each year of service. Loan forbearance for qualified student loans is also available through AmeriCorps.

National Teaching Fellowship Application Process

The Fellowship application is available online by clicking [here](#). The admissions process is highly competitive and interested candidates are encouraged to apply by the designated deadlines. All National Teaching Fellows positions begin in Summer 2010. Please DO NOT submit more than one application. If you are interested in more than one location, you will have the opportunity to indicate this on your application.

Application Timeline and Final Notification - Spring Deadlines

Applicants who apply by March 19, 2010 will receive notification by April 30, 2010.

Applicants who apply by May 31, 2010 will receive notification by June 30, 2010.

registration information. To register, [click here](#).

Contact Naomi Weiner at 617-542-2544, x218 or e-mail nweiner@mass-service.org for more details.

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Be Big in Your Community Contest



Enter now to see your little idea turned into a BIG Idea! Clifford The Big Red Dog® is looking for individuals and/or community groups doing great things to make a difference in their community.

The BE BIG!™ Campaign is designed to communicate that small, simple actions can make a BIG difference. The campaign invites everyone, big and small, to take action and raise awareness for how Clifford The Big Red Dog's BIG IDEAS (Share, Play Fair, Have Respect, Work Together, Be Responsible, Be Truthful, Be Kind, Believe in Yourself, Be a Good Friend, Help Others) can make the world a better place.

Clifford welcomes volunteers, schools or community partners to enter for a chance to see their BIG idea win \$75,000 in community grants!

Scholastic's "Be Big in Your Community" Contest launched on February 1, 2010 and will continue accepting entries until June 30, 2010.

30 finalists will be selected by a multi-tiered judging process:

- One entry will be honored with a \$25,000 community grant;
- Ten entries will be honored with a \$2,500 community grant; and
- Nineteen entries will be honored with a \$1315.79 community grant

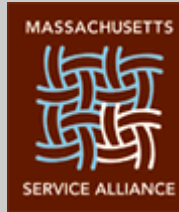
All projects will be executed with the help of Scholastic, HandsOn Network affiliates and BE BIG's corporate sponsor, American Family Insurance! [Enter Now](#).

Kristen McKinnon
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