COMMONWEALTH CORPS
SERVICE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

ABOUT THE CORPS
The Commonwealth Corps is a state-funded service internship program that engages Massachusetts residents of all ages and backgrounds in direct service and capacity building to strengthen communities, address critical needs and increase volunteerism.

The Commonwealth Corps provides opportunities for skill building and leadership development, and it encourages and enhances a lifelong civic vocation for Corps members.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
Since its inception in 2007, over 1,000 Commonwealth Corps members have served in the program, providing over 680,000 hours of service and directly benefiting over 600,000 individuals.

FOCUS AREAS
- Economic Opportunity
- Education (Early & K-12)
- Health/Nutrition
- Veterans' Support
- Youth Development

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS
- Greater Boston
- Northeastern Mass
- Central Mass
- South Coast
- Western Mass
- Berkshires

SERVICE MEMBERS
Commonwealth Corps members represent a more diverse cohort than the average year-of-service program. Members have ranged in age from 18-65+ and have come to the program from various personal, professional, and educational backgrounds, including current students, recent graduates, sector switchers, career-reentry, and retirees.
Because of the Commonwealth Corps, I had the power to reduce poverty on a local level, while serving intentionally and meaningfully. I grew up in a household that was in and out of public benefit assistance, which greatly affected the financial outcomes of my own mother. Once I had the opportunity to learn about the system, showcase the public benefit cliffs, and examine the local poverty loop, I was even more inclined to pursue a masters in economics.

— Krizia Valentino, 2017-2018 Corps Member, EDC of Western Mass

Before the Commonwealth Corps, I was unsure if switching careers from the service industry to working with youth was the right move for me. Through my service, I’ve been able to become a mentor to the students and help guide them to reach their full potential. Now, I feel like I’ve discovered that this may be my calling and I’m excited to continue serving youth and pursue a career in education or teaching.

— Fani Rosa, 2019-2020 Corps Member, Friends of the Hernandez

Our Commonwealth Corps members have been instrumental in our growth as an organization. The benefit we have seen in recruiting and training volunteers, for example, is not just the progress toward our numeric goals, but the increased capacity to manage the program as it grows to better serve underprivileged students in Western Mass.

— Dennis Quinn, Associate Director, Reader to Reader

**2019-2020 HIGHLIGHTS**

- Developed and delivered new programming to inspire girls
- Increased social opportunities for young people with epilepsy
- Recruited volunteers to ensure sustainability of community gardens
- Enhanced efficiency through data systems for job seekers
- Grew volunteer orientation and training capacity and quality

**2020-2021 PROGRAM**

The Massachusetts Service Alliance is partnering with 16 agencies to host 40 Corps members and impact 64 cities and towns across the Commonwealth. For a complete list of agencies, please visit www.mass-service.org/cc.