History of National Service

1960s

- **Retired Senior Volunteer Program**
- **Foster Grandparent Program**
- **Senior Companion Program**

Demonstration projects launched for these three programs to show the effectiveness of the service model and to engage older Americans in a range of service activities.

1964

VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America)

Created by President Lyndon B. Johnson as a part of the "War On Poverty."

1970s

Senior Service Programs + Peace Corps + VISTA form the ACTION Agency

1973

Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973

RSVP, Foster Grandparent Program, and Senior Companion Program are authorized through this act.

1989

Points of Light Foundation

President George H.W. Bush creates the Office of National Service in the White House and the Points of Light Foundation to foster volunteering.

1990

National and Community Service Act of 1990

Signed by President Bush, this legislation authorizes grants to schools to support service-learning through Serve America and demonstration grants. Learn and Serve America is created.

1992

AmeriCorps NCCC created

National Civilian Community Corps

http://www.nationalservice.gov/about/who-we-are/our-history/national-service-timeline

Modified by Volunteer Tennessee to include more recent additions

1993

Corporation for National and Community Service created

AmeriCorps created; Senior Corps incorporates the three senior-focused programs: RSVP, Foster Grandparents, and Senior Companions.

AmeriCorps incorporates VISTA and NCCC

AmeriCorps created

1994

Congress establishes MLK Day as a day of service.

King Holiday and Service Act of 1994

2002

After 9/11, President George W. Bush asks all Americans to devote **two years or 4,000 hours to volunteer service** during their lifetimes.

2002 State of the Union Address

2006

Launched by CNCS to honor the nation's top colleges and universities for their commitment to community service, civic engagement, and service-learning.

President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll

2007

Officially launched in May 2007

First AmeriCorps Week

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2009

April 21, 2009: President Obama signs bipartisan law to expand and strengthen national service programs.

Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act signed

First September 11th Day of Service and Remembrance held

2010

Ensures that high-impact nonprofits are able to attract the resources they need to grow and improve the economic, education and health prospects of low-income communities.

Social Innovation Fund launched

2011

The plan details the specific objectives, strategies, and performance measures that determine how CNCS will evaluate success during the next five years.

5-Year Strategic Plan

2012

An innovative new partnership designed to strengthen the nation's ability to respond to and recover from disasters while expanding career opportunities for young people.

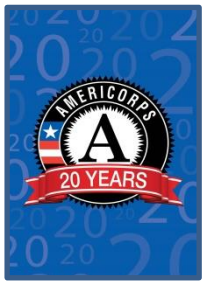
FEMA Corps launched

FEMA + Corporation for NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

2014

CNCS held a nationwide swearing-in ceremony on September 14th to commemorate 20 years of AmeriCorps.

AmeriCorps 20th Anniversary



2016

AmeriCorps passed the 1 million member milestone.

1 Million AmeriCorps Members

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