



Arizona
Governor's
Commission
on **Service** and
Volunteerism



Arizona Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism
Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 1:30 PM
Remote Meeting
Virtual Meeting:
By Phone: Passcode:
Arizona State Capitol, Phoenix, Arizona

A general meeting of the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism (GCSV) was convened on May 26, 2021, in a virtual meeting space, Arizona State Capitol, 1700 W. Washington, Phoenix Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the GCSV:

Members Present (10)	
Kim Rice	Robert Ashcraft
Donna McBride	Tori Carlson
Alex Gabaldon	Jennifer Manhoff
Michael Hammett	Helain Day
Donna Martin	
Chris Gibbs	
Members Absent (3)	
Thomas Winkel	Tyler Butler
Lillian James	
Staff & Guests (3)	
Emily Litchfield	Kim Brooks
	Ali Chana

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Ashcraft called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM. Quorum present.

2. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Ashcraft welcomed attendees and asked the Commissioners, guests and staff to introduce themselves.



3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting minutes from August 11, 2021 were reviewed. **Commissioner McBride** moved to approve the minutes. **Commissioner Carlson** seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. UPDATES

- Emily Litchfield provided the update for the AmeriCorps State & National portfolio. The new AmeriCorps Program year began on September 1, 2021 with 7 organizations starting who have never held an AmeriCorps grant; it is exciting to see the growth of the portfolio. This year, Emily would like to engage commissioners in providing training within their areas of expertise directly to AmeriCorps Program staff. The first two monthly trainings are scheduled with the topics of navigating the federal grants management system and best practices in recruitment.
 - **Commissioner Ashcraft** requested an update on if programs within the current portfolio were serving in rural and tribal communities; most of the new organizations mentioned were in Maricopa County. Commissioner McBride seconded this request. Emily reviewed the ongoing programs providing services in rural and tribal communities; outreach to rural and tribal communities to expand access to AmeriCorps resources continues to be a priority.
- Jennifer Manhoff provided the update from the AmeriCorps federal agency. There are some significant staffing changes for the Mountain Region based in Denver, Colorado. Jennifer discussed the Child Tax Credit initiative that several VISTA and AmeriCorps Seniors programs will be participating in to reach non-filers. Current award opportunities include the Public Health Corps and the National Competitive FY22 NOFO.

5. BUSINESS

- **Commissioner Carlson** was able to connect with a commissioner from Washington State. Some similarities in duties between Serve Washington Commissioners and the Arizona Commissioners that **Commissioner Carlson** noted included grant review, volunteer service awards, creating state service plan, AmeriCorps Programs sharing their work at the meetings, and a primary focus on AmeriCorps (as opposed to general volunteerism initiatives).

Commissioners enjoyed the information. They discussed what was shared and are interested in hearing more from other states. They additionally discussed a desire for a Commissioner retreat after the New Year to develop the State Service Plan.

- Commissioners also indicated a renewed interest in expanding the focus of the commission to include general volunteerism, not just AmeriCorps.



- Suggested Reading: [The Value of State Service Commissions Evaluation Report commissioned by America's Service Commissions](#) as this could provide some ideas for formulating priorities and measuring successful impact.
- The **Schools of National Service** workgroup created. The workgroup will be staffed by AmeriCorps Program Administrator Ali Channa. **Commissioners Ashcraft, Rice and Day** will serve on the workgroup. The purpose will be to review the Schools of National Service toolkit provided by the AmeriCorps federal agency and develop a strategy for better partnership with colleges and universities in Arizona for assistance with member recruitment and also educating schools about AmeriCorps alumni as a resource to their campus.

6. NEXT MEETING

The Commission will meet again on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 1:30 PM. The primary purpose of this meeting will be to review the AmeriCorps National Competitive application package.

7. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made for adjournment by **Commissioner Gibbs**. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner McBride**. The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 PM.

Dated the 8th day of October, 2021
Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism

Respectfully Submitted By:
Emily Litchfield
AmeriCorps Director

Links Shared

[AmeriCorps Public Health Corps Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
[AmeriCorps National Competitive Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)