

AmeriCorps continues fighting many battles

Within Reach

Perry County

Job & Family

Services (J&FS) Column

Since its inception, AmeriCorps members have served 860 million hours fighting poverty, hunger, and other issues that affect communities across America.

AmeriCorps provides individuals with an opportunity to take his/her education, skills, and experience into a community to become a bridge between people and resources. In order to successfully bridge the gap, AmeriCorps is divided into three main programs: AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps NCCC.

AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) is a 10 month, full-time, team-

based residential program for 18-24 year olds. NCCC members will do everything from clean up parks and trails to helping communities recover from disasters. AmeriCorps NCCC is about leaving your mark on society.

The AmeriCorps VISTA programs are all about fighting poverty with passion. VISTA members serve in some of the poorest areas in America to mobilize resources. VISTA is a one year, full time program designed to build up the capacity of local non-profits and community programs to better serve the community.

The State and National program is the most flexible of the three AmeriCorps programs. State and National members must be at least 17 years of age and can serve part or full time in national, state, or local

organizations. State and National members focus on direct service such as tutoring students, training volunteers, and caring for seniors.

Whether it is direct care or capacity building, the purpose of AmeriCorps is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster service. AmeriCorps is a way to give back to your community while gaining experience and real world knowledge. AmeriCorps makes a difference in the lives of individuals across America.

If you are interested in serving your community through AmeriCorps or in becoming an AmeriCorps host site, please contact Cassandra at 740-342-3551 ext 684 or visit www.americorps.gov for more information.

