



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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February 21, 2020

Honorable Patty Murray, Senator  
Honorable Suzan DelBene, Representative  
Honorable Jaime Herrera Beutler, Representative  
Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Representative  
Honorable Pramila Jayapal, Representative  
Honorable Adam Smith, Representative  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Maria Cantwell, Senator  
Honorable Rick Larsen, Representative  
Honorable Dan Newhouse, Representative  
Honorable Derek Kilmer, Representative  
Honorable Kim Schrier, Representative  
Honorable Denny Heck, Representative  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Honorable Members of the Washington State Congressional Delegation:

I am writing to express my appreciation for your ongoing commitment to federal investments that support engagement of Washingtonians in national and community service efforts. The unique state-federal partnership between Serve Washington (our state service commission) and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) provides vital, cost-effective services to communities statewide by harnessing the power of our state's most valuable resource – its people.

The federal funding our state receives each year supports more than 2,100 AmeriCorps members and 4,300 Senior Corps participants who tutor and mentor struggling students, support veterans and military families, and coordinate relief and recovery efforts in areas affected by natural disasters. The President's FFY 2021 budget proposal eliminates CNCS and its vital programs, effectively cutting more than \$31.3 million in resources to the state of Washington.

As Congress begins to move through the appropriations process for federal fiscal year 2021, I respectfully request that you support funding for the following programs:

**AmeriCorps State and National**

Corporation for National and Community Service

*FFY 2020 Enacted Level:* \$428.5 million  
*FFY 2021 President's Budget:* \$ 2.2 million  
***FFY 2021 State Request:* \$547.0 million**

The FFY 2021 request would support 100,000 AmeriCorps State and National members serving nationwide. AmeriCorps State and National grants provide financial support to public and nonprofit organizations that sponsor service programs around the country to recruit, train, and place AmeriCorps members to meet critical community needs in education, health, economic opportunity, veterans' affairs, disaster services, and the environment. State commissions like Serve Washington administer more than 80% of this funding. Serve Washington administers these funds and competitively awards AmeriCorps State grants to local nonprofits and agencies in Washington. Unlike many federal grant programs, the federal investment in national service generates matching support from private, philanthropic and local sources. Washington currently receives just under \$18 million in competitive and formula funding to support 19 organizations with AmeriCorps programs throughout our state.

### Volunteer Generation Fund

Corporation for National and Community Service

*FFY 2020 Enacted Level:* \$ 6.4 million  
*FFY 2021 President's Budget:* 0  
*FFY 2021 State Request:* **\$25.0 million**

Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) strengthens the nation's civic infrastructure by helping nonprofits recruit, manage, and support more volunteers. Serve Washington utilizes VGF grants to increase the number of volunteers, strengthen the capacity of volunteer connector organizations to recruit and retain volunteers, and supports both disaster response/prevention and youth service opportunities.

### State Commission Grants

Corporation for National and Community Service

*FFY 2020 Enacted Level:* \$17.5 million  
*FFY 2021 President's Budget:* 0  
*FFY 2021 State Request:* **\$21.0 million**

State commission support grants build the capacity and infrastructure of state commissions like Serve Washington to ensure appropriate oversight and effective compliance and performance monitoring. These grants are matched dollar for dollar and are allocated according to a population-based formula.

Not reflected in this request amount, but of equal importance, is the Commission Investment funds received through appropriations report language, which support implementing high quality, impactful and effective service programs in underserved communities across Washington.

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Although the programs above reflect Serve Washington's top priorities in FFY 2021, it relies on an array of federal programs that are critical to its success. I have attached a more comprehensive list of programs upon which Serve Washington relies. I urge your continued support for all of them.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Amber Martin-Jahn, Executive Director of Serve Washington, at [amber.martin-jahn@ofm.wa.gov](mailto:amber.martin-jahn@ofm.wa.gov) or Casey Katims, Director of Governor Inslee's Washington, D.C. Office, at [Casey.Katims@gov.wa.gov](mailto:Casey.Katims@gov.wa.gov).

Sincerely,



David Schumacher  
Director

cc: Amber Martin-Jahn, Serve Washington  
Casey Katims, Office of the Governor



**State of Washington**  
**Office of Financial Management (Serve Washington)**  
**Federal Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations Requests**

| <i>Federal Program</i> | <i>FFY 2020 Enacted</i> | <i>FFY 2021<br/>President's Budget</i> | <i>FFY 2021<br/>State Request</i> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
|------------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|

**Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee**

|   |                 |                |   |
|---|-----------------|----------------|---|
| <b>AmeriCorps State and National</b>  | \$428.0 million | \$2.2 million  | \$547 million   |
| <b>State Commission Support Grants</b>  | \$17.5 million  | \$0            | \$21 million  |
| <b>Volunteer Generation Fund</b>  | \$6.4 million   | \$0            | \$25 million  |
| <b>Senior Corps</b><br>- Retired and Senior Volunteer Program<br>- Foster Grandparent Program<br>- Senior Companion Program | \$221.0 million | \$0.3 million  | \$228 million:<br>\$63 million<br>\$116 million<br>\$49 million |
| <b>AmeriCorps VISTA</b>   | \$93.0 million  | \$4.7 million  | \$131 million   |
| <b>AmeriCorps NCCC</b>  | \$32.5 million  | \$22.8 million | \$42 million  |
| <b>National Service Trust</b>   | \$208.0 million | \$0            | \$263 million   |