

## Movin' On and Keepin' On

We say good-bye to some members,  
welcome returning members

Goodbye and good luck to our outgoing AmeriCorps members!

Beth Adams, Heather Almer, Chelsey Batterman, Lori Bejcek, Rachel Deterding, Carmen Halvorson, Lois Jenkin, Monica Jenkins, Mary Kay Johnson, Meg Juedes, Justin Kierzek, Jake Larsh, Max Lubarsky, Lynn Miller, Jody Peck, Brittany Pyatt, Andy Shadick, Dawn Suiter, Minimay Tuchscherer, Christina Vik, Emily Villwock, Douachee Xiong.

Welcome back to our returning AmeriCorps members!

Amber Boudreau – Edgar, Erica Dorsch – Madison, Colleen Douglass – Ashland, Ari Lake – Madison, Nicole Lamb – Spring Valley, Yulia Rich – Northwoods, Shannon Riley – Ashland, Sharon Schmidt – Grantsburg, Dione Schoenherr – Johnson Creek, Jen Schomer-Grezenski – Almond-Bancroft, JD Shatswell – Green Bay, Patricia Steen – Northwoods, Liz Stenroos – Hurley.

## Recommended Resources

These resources are recommended by your fellow AmeriCorps members. Please let us know about your favorites!

### Reading

- America Reads: [www.ed.gov/inits/americanreads](http://www.ed.gov/inits/americanreads)
- [How to Help Your Child Become a Better Reader: A Parent Guide from the Kansas Parent Information Center](#)
- SEDL Afterschool Training Kit: [Literacy](#)

### Math

- America Counts Programs: <http://www2.ed.gov/inits/Math/roadmap/6/index.html>
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics: [Tips for Tutors](#)
- SEDL Afterschool Training Toolkit: [Math Tutoring](#)

### Coordinating Volunteers

- [National Days of Service 2011-12 Calendar](#)
- [Seattle Public Schools](#)
- Effective Practices for volunteer programs: <http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/effective-practice>



## Oh, the Things We DID This Summer!

AmeriCorps members in the Every Student a Graduate effort used the summer to help young people continue and expand upon classroom learning. Here are just a few of the many summer activities they accomplished:



Strengthened teens' skills in decision-making and conflict resolution while playing basketball in open gym – **David Hood, Kenosha**



Created a Facebook page to keep students learning during the summer, in addition to texting and e-mailing them – **Lauren Haugh and Ronda Kincheloe, Green Bay West High**



Donated vegetables grown by students from seed in the school garden to the local food pantry -- **Beth Adams and Lynn Miller, Hayward High School**



Helped students make arts and crafts with and give manicures to senior citizens in a nursing home – **Rachelle Little, Kenosha**

# What I Wish I Knew

## During My Year of AmeriCorps

September means that many wonderful ESAG AmeriCorps members will soon embark on new adventures, with new SL&L AmeriCorps members poised to begin their year of service. What have veteran members learned about starting and sustaining a successful program of service since they started a year or more ago? We asked a few of them, and here's what they said:

**Start something!** Don't be afraid to try out a new idea or activity. You may feel overwhelmed with information at first, but your AmeriCorps position is a rare opportunity to "create your own job." It's your chance to tweak, adapt, and eventually grow your own program of service. The important thing is to take your first step.



**Get to know your school principal.** Even if s/he isn't your supervisor, the principal provides leadership, direction, and authority for what gets done by whom at your site. Schedule a meeting to introduce yourself, learn about school goals, and exchange ideas for the year.

**Understand your site** -- its children and challenges. Visit the Wisconsin Information Network for Successful Schools ([WINSS](#)) for a data snapshot of how your school is doing. Visit the U.S. Census Bureau's [American Fact Finder](#) for economic information about your community.

**Attend conference and meetings** you're invited to – as many as possible. Even if the meetings don't immediately appear to relate to your efforts, the knowledge, ideas, and friendships you'll make with co-workers present untold opportunities.

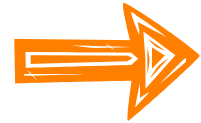
**Leave daily planning time!** Even though you'll be tempted to fill up every minute helping students, leave at least one period a day open to figure out what work children need to do, plan projects, meet with teachers, or do paperwork. Scheduling flexibility is important.

**Be prepared to explain** to staff and parents – over and over again -- who you are and what AmeriCorps members do. Called an "elevator speech," your 15-second explanation can help make you immediately identifiable as a go-to person for tutoring and service learning in your school as the year progresses.

**Connect to your fellow members.** E-mail or phone them if you want to know more about their good ideas. Take a road trip to visit their site if you want to witness their program in action -- DPI can reimburse your mileage. Look for a directory of members and sites coming soon.

**Question why? Ask DPI!** The staff supporting AmeriCorps members' efforts at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction stand ready to answer your questions, whether it's filling out a form or making things happen at your site. Call us anytime!

## Upcoming Events



### September 13-14:

**AmeriCorps Orientation and Training**, Madison Concourse Hotel, 1 W. Dayton St., Madison, WI 53703.

*Note: If you'd like to meet fellow AmeriCorps members for dinner on Monday night, Sept. 12, before Orientation, please e-mail Laura Paella (see below). Registration begins at 7:45 a.m., Welcome at 8:30 a.m. Get [directions](#).*

### October 6: AmeriCorps

**Opening Ceremony at [Fox Cities Stadium](#)**, 2400 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton. Welcome session starts at 10 a.m. **RSVP to Laura Paella, DPI, by Mon., Sept. 12.** Attendance required.

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