

# ASC ANNUAL REPORT

BUILDING MOMENTUM **2018**

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**AMERICA'S**  
**SERVICE**  
**COMMISSIONS**

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# A LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND CEO



Dear ASC members and friends,

2018 was a year of Building Momentum for America's Service Commissions (ASC) and our network of state service commissions and their programs. Our board and staff worked tirelessly this past year to expand our membership and services – both in quantity and quality. We also made strides in advancing our cause legislatively and with Congress, and invested tremendous time and energy in supporting our members in new and innovative ways to ensure your long-term success in the field of national and community service.

We also worked strategically – continuing with Year 2 of the ASC 2017-2019 Strategic Plan toward meeting our ambitious five major goals, 30+ objectives, and numerous milestones, all while measuring our progress each quarter. In particular, we are pleased to report that we made tremendous headway in 2018 on the following:

- Helped secure historic funding levels for state service commissions, AmeriCorps, and the Volunteer Generation Fund in the FY18 Omnibus Bill signed into law on March 23, 2018.
- Additionally, and as a direct result of the work of ASC, the state service network, and our new States for Service (S4S) Coalition, the legislation includes a new general provision to allow CNCS to establish a new and widely anticipated 1,200 hour service position, including a proportional reduction in the education award. This will provide AmeriCorps programs increased flexibility, and more closely align member service positions with the needs of local communities.
- CNCS issued guidance for 2019-2020 AmeriCorps Program year that included Fixed Amount Grants cost per MSY equal to Cost Reimbursement Grants and allows commissions to take the 2% administrative fee for Fixed Amount Grants as well.
- For the first time, ASC took the lead role in planning three regional National Service Training Conferences in collaboration with our partners and host commissions (Serve Illinois, South Carolina Service Commission, and Serve Washington);
- Piloted the ASC Commission Strengths Accelerator initiative with three states to build commission capacity through multi-day on-site visits to participating commissions with teams comprised of peer and expert consultants;
- Grew our staff from four to five staff, with the addition of an Administrative Coordinator to our Washington, DC office;
- Built out our new public policy arm, the States for Service (S4S) Coalition, which will be funded with non-federal dollars to ensure our ability to present a unified and collective voice on pressing public policy issues and legislation; and
- Continued to play an enormous role in national service grant management – with state service commissions continuing to administer more than 80% of AmeriCorps State/National resources nationwide.

That's a lot of momentum, and we couldn't have done it without your support and membership.

Moving into 2019, we hope to remain on this path of growth and expansion so we can continue to serve you better. Our work to unite states around service as a strategy to meet pressing community challenges has never been more important than it is today.

Thank you for being part of ASC and the state service network!



**LaDawn Stoddard**  
Chair, ASC Board of Directors  
Executive Director, UServeUtah  
ldstoddard@utah.gov



**Kaira B. Esgate**  
Chief Executive Officer  
America's Service Commissions  
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# TAKING THE LEAD: REGIONAL CONFERENCES

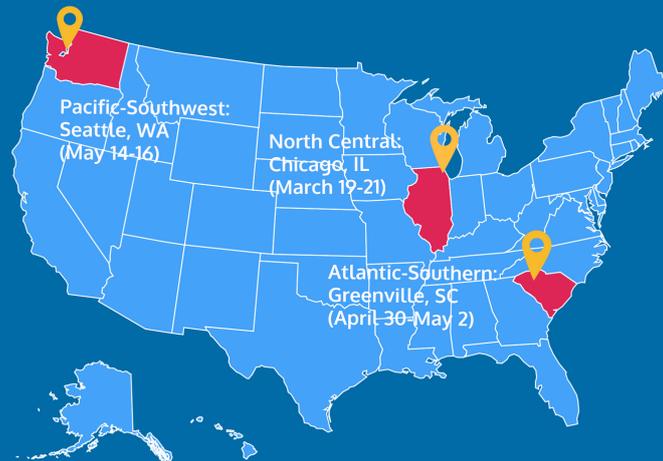


In spring 2018, America's Service Commissions supported the implementation of three regional national service trainings for more than 1,000 attendees that took place in Chicago, Illinois; Greenville, South Carolina; and Seattle, Washington. The 2018 conferences were held in partnership with **Serve Illinois, Serve Washington, and the South Carolina Service Commission (United Way Association of South Carolina)**.

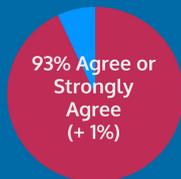
This was the first year that ASC took the lead planning role of the conferences as a full backbone organization, helping state service commissions pool their collective financial resources to make these conferences possible. ASC also took the lead with raising sponsorships, negotiating venue and speaker contracts, managing registration, on-site hospitality and logistics, and working with the host commissions and planning committees to oversee the call for proposals and conference agenda development. Feedback from attendees was extraordinarily positive: **94% of attendees reported gaining new knowledge and skills as a result of attending the events** (up 6% from 2017) and **89% said their organizational effectiveness would improve as a result of attending** (also up 6% from the previous year).

These regional events were made possible with generous funding from **Service Year Alliance** (Gold Sponsor), as well as **Cigna, Causality, Galaxy Digital, and NobleHour**. More information on the 2018 regional conferences at [www.nationalservicetraining.org/2018-event-materials.html](http://www.nationalservicetraining.org/2018-event-materials.html).

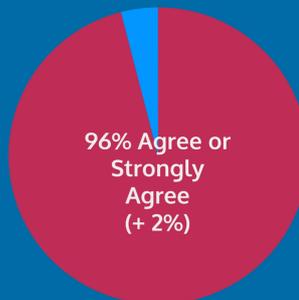
## 2018 Regional National Service Training Events



The trainers were effective:



I plan to apply what I learned:



I gained new knowledge & skills:



Valuable investment of my time:



My organization effectiveness will improve as a result of attending:



Thank you to everyone who made these events possible!





# MEMBERSHIP SNAPSHOT: 2018



**450**  
AMERICORPS STATE  
SERVICE PARTNER  
MEMBERS

**52**  
STATE  
COMMISSION  
MEMBERS

**ASC**

**47**  
STATES 4 SERVICE  
COALITION  
MEMBERS

**29**  
INDIVIDUAL  
MEMBERS

**TOTAL  
MEMBERSHIP:  
578**

## WHO WE ARE

**Our Mission**  
We lead, support and  
elevate the state  
service network.

**Our Vision**  
All states embrace service as a  
strategy to build community in  
solving local challenges.

**Values and Principles**  
Unity  
Bipartisanship  
Devolution



# TRAINING & SPECIAL INITIATIVES: 2018

Strengths Accelerator Pilot Visits

3 Commissions



AmeriCorps Program Start-Up Boot Camp

67 ATTENDEES FROM 13 STATES

AmeriCorps Member Assistance Program (MAP) Mental Health and Support Services Hotline

16,812 AmeriCorps Members

Mott Foundation Initiative - Expanding Afterschool Opportunities Through National Service

8 STATES, 8 AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS DEVELOPED

Opioid Program Development Support Initiative

10 STATES PARTICIPATING

Fiscal Officer Training Series

21 trainees



# Public Policy Recap:



## FY 2018

After months of tense negotiations, on March 27, 2018, President Trump signed into law the \$1,063,958 billion FY 2018 omnibus appropriations bill. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) received a total of \$1,063,958 billion in funding.

It increased CNCS funding by \$33.6 million over FY 2017 funded levels, despite the President's recommended elimination for CNCS in his FY 2018 budget.

**AmeriCorps State & National** and state service commissions received significant increases. AmeriCorps was increased by \$26 million, while the **Commission Support Grant (CSG)** received an historic \$17.538 million — a \$1 million increase over FY 2017. The **Commission Investment Fund (CIF)** increased by \$1 million to \$8.5 million, and the **Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF)** that goes through state commissions received an historic \$5.4 million, an impressive increase of \$1.6 million.

2018 was a pivotal year for state service commissions and the entire service sector with both FY 2018 and FY 2019 appropriations bills being completed just a few months from each other. Both spending bills included significant increases for service programs and state service commissions, as well as significant policy enhancements.

However, these gains came after a shaky and uncertain start as action on the FY 2018 spending bill was delayed for several months as congressional leaders hammered out a budget deal to raise the statutory spending caps for both FY 2018 and FY 2019.

Ultimately, the deal on budget caps increased investments in domestic programs and the military by roughly \$300 billion over those two fiscal years.

## \$26 million increase

for AmeriCorps State/National programs



## \$2 million increase

for state commissions to build their capacity  
(CSG & CIF)

## \$1.6 million increase

to Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF)

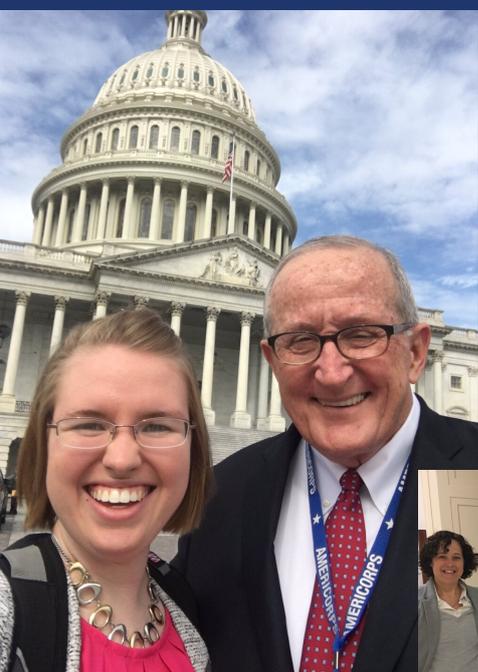


# One Year, Two Spending Bills

Additionally, and as a direct result of the work of ASC, the state service network, and our new States for Service (S4S) Coalition, the legislation included a general provision to allow CNCS to establish a **new and widely anticipated 1,200 hour AmeriCorps service position**, including a proportional education award.

This provides AmeriCorps programs increased flexibility, and more closely aligned member service positions with the needs of local communities and educational institutions.

**STATES** ★  
*for* **SERVICE**  
— AN INITIATIVE OF —  
**AMERICA'S SERVICE COMMISSIONS**



## new 1,200-hour



new AmeriCorps position established for maximum flexibility



## FY 2019

## \$6 million increase

for Senior Corps programs



On September 28, 2018, the President also signed into law the \$855.1 billion FY 2019 appropriations bill funding the departments of Defense, Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. It funded CNCS at \$1.083 billion, an increase of \$19 million over FY 2018.

AmeriCorps State and National received an all-time high amount of \$425 million, a \$13 million increase over FY 2018 and **Senior Corps** received a \$6 million increase.

This appropriations bill was **bipartisan** and was completed on-time before the expiration of the fiscal year for the first time in 22 years.

# INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2018



On September 13, 2018, **nine outstanding community leaders** from across the nation were recognized at a reception in Arlington, VA for the fifth annual America's Service Commissions (ASC) Innovation and Leadership Awards. The awards program is held by ASC each year in the Washington, DC area to recognize the hard work, leadership, and accomplishments of state service commission staff, commissioners, service programs and their champions throughout the United States and its territories.

In the words of ASC CEO, Kaira Esgate, "We applaud these nine honorees for their outstanding contributions to the field of national and community service. The collective talent and vision of this group is truly extraordinary -- their dedication to improving communities through service has inspired their colleagues and partners across the nation. From being role models and mentors, to advocates and champions in state government and Congress, these nine individuals have gone above and beyond to strengthen the state service network at the local, state, and federal level."

Thank you to our sponsors for making this event possible, especially Gold Sponsors City Year and Serve Illinois.



# INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2018



Congratulations to the following awardees from 2018:



## **Friend of ASC Award**

**Senator Roy Blunt (R-Missouri)**



## **State Service Leadership Award**

**Governor John Hickenlooper (D-Colorado)**



## **Outstanding Commissioner**

**Kate Kelly (ServeMinnesota)**



## **Outstanding Commission Executive Director**

**Scott McFarland (Serve Illinois)**



## **Outstanding Commission Staff Member**

**Caitlin Brooking (Volunteer Mississippi)**



## **Outstanding Commission Staff Member**

**Ia Moua (California Volunteers)**



## **Outstanding Service Program**

**YMCA of Central Alabama AmeriCorps - Building Communities, Bettering Lives (BCBL)**

## **ASC 2018 Honor Roll Inductees**



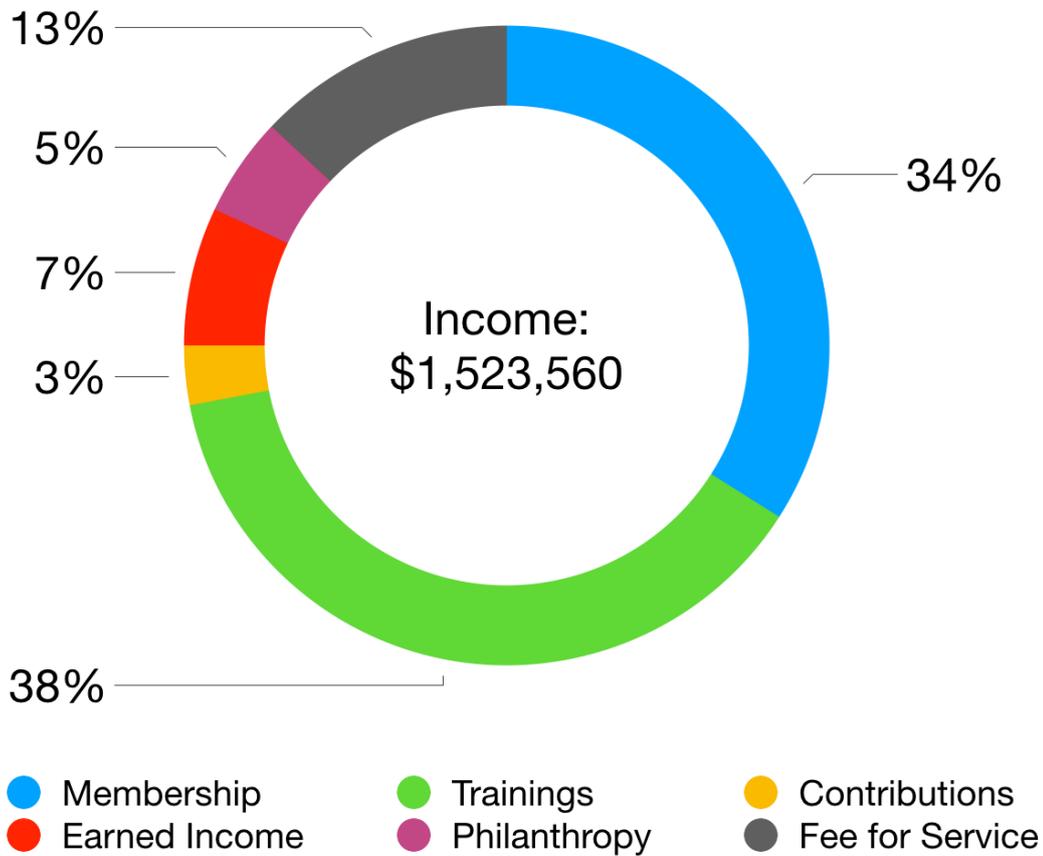
**Debbie Schuffenhauer**

**Serve Washington**



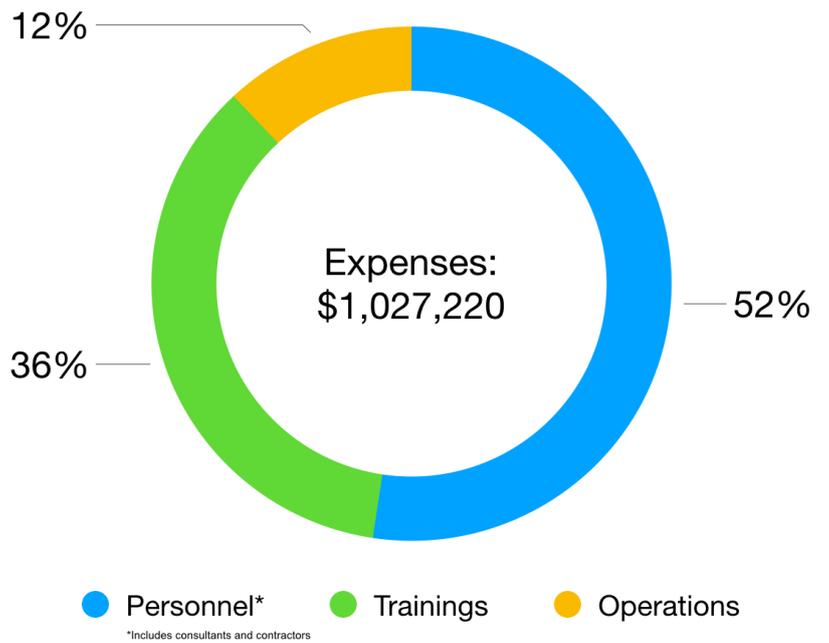
**Elizabeth Darling**

**OneStar Foundation**



### Key Indicators:

- 7% growth in income from 2017
- All 49 state-based service commissions and the District of Columbia paid membership dues



# ASC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## **Thank you to the following outgoing ASC Board Members who departed in 2018:**

Diana Algra – MI (2013)  
Celeste Connors – at-large (2014)  
Liz Darling – TX (2016)  
Emily Haber – MA (2012)  
Stacy Higa – HI (2012)  
Jeff Mixon – at-large (2016)  
Peter Sacco – DC (2015)  
Jim Snell – TN (2012)  
Don Stamper – MO (2017)  
Audrey Suker – MN (2012)

## **2018-2019 Board Officers:**

LaDawn Stoddard, UServeUtah - *Chair*  
Amber Martin-Jahn, Nevada Volunteers - *Vice Chair/Public Policy Chair*  
Scott McFarland, Serve Illinois - *Treasurer*  
Lindsay Dolce, Reading Corps - *Resource Development Chair*  
Maureen Eccleston, PennSERVE - *Membership Chair*  
Phil Kolling, SerVermont - *Secretary*

## **2018-2019 Board Members:**

Katie Abbott, Serve Alaska  
John Albright, Missouri Community Service Commission  
Jeanne Duffy, Serve Wisconsin  
Caroline Farmer, Volunteer NC  
Ginna Holmes, Michigan Community Service Commission  
Beverly Hoster, Oklahoma Community Service Commission  
Bill Hulterstrom, United Way of Utah County  
Judd Jeansonne, Volunteer Louisiana  
Julia Keehner, Volunteer West Virginia  
Cat Keen, Volunteer Florida  
Adam Lounsbury, Volunteer Iowa  
Shelly McAlpin, Serve Wyoming  
Beth McGuinness, Massachusetts Service Alliance  
Antonio Mendez, Serve Colorado  
Kate Scheuritzel, Serve Connecticut  
Leslie Silverman, The Giving Practice, Philanthropy Northwest  
Linda Thompson, Georgia Commission for Service and Volunteerism  
Richard Swartz, Peace Corps



# THANK YOU, 2018 DONORS AND SPONSORS



## Commission Sponsors and Individual Donors:

Adam Donaldson  
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Amy Salinas, On3Learn, LLC  
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Cole McMahon, McMahon Consulting  
Emily Haber  
Emily Steinberg  
Heather Foster  
Hope Braveheart  
Jeanne Duffy  
Julia Keehner  
Kaira Esgate  
Kris Tecce, Tecce Consulting  
LaDawn Stoddard  
Leslie Silverman  
Lindsay Dolce  
Liz Darling  
Matt Wilhelm  
Maureen Eccleston  
Michigan Community Service Commission  
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Serve Illinois  
ServeMinnesota  
ServeMontana  
Serve Washington  
Shelly McAlpin  
Susan Meche, Meche Consulting  
UServeUtah  
Volunteer Mississippi



## In-Kind Sponsors:

Cabot Cheese  
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