

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301

Gov. Perdue Announces \$3.5 Million in AmeriCorps Grants for 2010-2011

10 Programs Receive Funding for Community Services

RALEIGH—Gov. Bev Perdue today announced that the North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service has awarded more than \$3.5 million in grants to 10 AmeriCorps programs across the state for the 2010-2011 program year.

“North Carolina AmeriCorps programs are an important asset to our state because they help support our communities,” said Gov. Perdue. “I applaud AmeriCorps members for the services they provide by mentoring our youth, fighting childhood obesity, increasing the literacy rates and ending homelessness. With these grants, North Carolina can continue its efforts in giving back to its citizens.”

AmeriCorps members serving with these organizations will assist in community outreach and education efforts, provide conservation services, participate in mentoring programs and work in other service activities.

The following are AmeriCorps programs that will be funded for 2010-2011:

The Capital Area Workforce Development Board, a \$252,681 grant to fund Access Job Link: Members will serve at JobLink Centers and assist individuals with disabilities, at-risk youth, older adults and ex-offenders with the process of becoming productive citizens by way of employment. The program offers services in Johnston and Wake counties.

Stokes Partnership for Children, a \$273,000 grant to fund AmeriCorps and Children Together (ACT): Members serve as assistant preschool teachers and enhance the quality of childcare by providing enrichment activities to the children and release time for teachers to further their studies in early childhood education. This program offers services in Alexander, Cabarrus, Forsyth, Guilford, Harnett, Lee, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Stokes and Surry counties.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a \$306,709 grants to fund the North Carolina Literacy Corps: Members work to increase literacy skills in adults, children, adolescents and English-language learners at campus and community-based literacy programs. They tutor and/or teach , recruit, train and manage volunteer tutors. The program offers services in Alamance, Burke, Chatham, Durham, Forsyth, Guilford, Moore, Orange and Wake counties.

The Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy, a \$390,000 grant to fund Project Conserve. Members provide community outreach and education to landowners about conservation practices and recruit volunteers to participate in conservation service projects. The program offers services in Buncombe, Burke, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, Polk, Transylvania and Watauga counties.

East Carolina University College of Education, a \$757,693 grant to fund Project HEART(High Expectations for at Risk Teens): Members tutor elementary, middle and high school students who are struggling to succeed in core content areas such as language arts, English, math, science and social studies. The program offers services in Beaufort, Craven, Greene, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, Pitt, Sampson and Wilson counties.

Children First of Buncombe County, a \$465,000 grant to fund Project POWER (Putting Opportunities within Everyone's Reach): Members provide enrichment services to youth in grades K-12 in school and during after-school hours. Members also facilitate service learning and conflict resolution projects for students and recruit, train and manage volunteers to work with at-risk youth. The program offers services in Buncombe County.

The Child Care Services Association, a \$256,942 grant to fund T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Corps: Members improve the quality of child care with children ages 0-5 by providing educational release time for child care providers in an effort to maintain and improve a four or five-star license status. The program offers services in Durham, Orange, and Wake counties.

The Servant Center Inc., a \$201,488 grant to fund The Partnership to End Homelessness: Members participate in a variety of activities aimed at ending homelessness, such as emergency assistance, food distribution, transitional and permanent supportive housing, case management, employee assistance, medical assistance, outreach, counseling and referral. The program offers services in Guilford County.

The UNCG – Center for New North Carolinians, a \$699,403 grant to fund ACCESS (AmeriCorps Cross Cultural Education Service Systems): Members provide English as a Second Language (ESL), citizenship education, social services, case management, disaster preparedness and related services to immigrants and refugees. Member development includes professional interpreter training for bilingual members. All members receive an opportunity to earn a credential in cross-cultural human services through the UNCG Center for New North Carolinians. The program offers services in Alamance, Buncombe, Burke, Catawba, Chatham, Durham, Forsyth, Guilford, Mecklenburg, New Hanover, Orange, Randolph, Surry and Wake counties.

The Black Child Development Institute Inc., a \$194,971 grant to fund The Spirit of Excellence: Members provide in-school and after-school one-on-one supplemental academic assistance using the Great Leaps curricula for students at-risk of academic failure. Members also maintain a strong presence in the community by participating in service projects and collaborating with other community agencies that serve children. The program offers services in Guilford County.

The Volunteer NC, a federally and state-funded agency housed in the Governor's Office, administered funding to 10 N.C. AmeriCorps programs for the 2010-2011 program year. AmeriCorps is a national service initiative designed to increase volunteering and civic engagement in America. Since 1994, more than 12,153 individuals have participated in N.C. AmeriCorps programs. Members tutor and mentor school-aged youth, improve the quality of care for preschool children and address the need for energy efficient housing for low-income families. For more information on the N.C. AmeriCorps programs, visit the Commission's Web site at www.VolunteerNC.org or call 1-800-820-4483 or 1-877-877-1765 (TTY).

###