Ohio Community Service Council

Meeting Minutes: June 16, 2011

Meeting Location: Grange Insurance, 11th Floor Auditorium, 671 South High St., Columbus, OH

In Attendance: Maureen Drummond, Charlotte Jones-Ward, Johnmark Oudersluys, Susan Rogers, William Russell, Clifford Smith, Chuck White, Margaret Wildi. Ex Officio: Tina Dunphy, John Matthews. Staff/Counsel: Bill Hall, Ryan Schmiesing, Mark Holtzapple, Walter McNamara.

Absent: Willie Peterson, Sande Johnson, Nina Keller, Jeff King, Peggy Lehner, Anne Marie Mann, Gerald Stebleton.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Susan Rogers at 10:05 a.m.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from April 21, 2011 meeting

It was moved Drummond, seconded by Wildi to accept the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report (Attachment 1)

Bill Hall reviewed with the group his report that had been distributed in advance. He provided additional details regarding the federal FY11 funding results for the Corporation for National Service and invited Tina Dunphy and Charlotte Jones-Ward to share perspectives regarding Senior Corp and Learn & Serve America, respectively. A copy of the new Commission on Service & Volunteerism logo also was distributed in preparation for the agency name change on July 1, 2011.

New Business

Approval of the 2011-12 AmeriCorps formula funding portfolio was the sole item of new business (Attachment 2). Director of Programs Ryan Schmiesing reviewed the Funding Priorities document approved by the Council last year, the continuing emphasis on documented impacts, and the general application review process which led to the funding recommendations presented to Council. Recommended for funding were 19 programs (17 operational, 2 planning) totaling $4,235,340 and providing service opportunities for 387 AmeriCorps members. Eight applicants were not recommended for funding.

Following questions and discussion the submission was approved as follows:

Funded Agency	Funding	Members	Moved By	Second	Abstain
*Ohio State University Extension (P)	$50,000	-	White	Wildi	Oudersluys, Russell
*City of Warren (P)	$45,720	-	Wildi	Jones-Ward	N/A
American Red Cross of Greater Columbus	$351,000	27	Wildi	White	N/A
*Big Brothers Big Sisters Assoc. of Central Ohio	$266,000	20	Russell	Smith	Wildi
*City Year, Inc. Columbus	$325,000	25	Wildi	Drummond	N/A
Council on Rural Service Programs, Inc.	$266,000	20	Drummond	Wildi	N/A
Columbus Housing Partnership, Inc.	$207,318	16	Drummond	Jones-Ward	N/A
Family & Community Services, Inc.	$161,702	25	Wildi	White	N/A
First Grace United Church of Christ	$193,176	15	Smith	Drummond	N/A
Montgomery County Educational Svc Center	$259,993	20	Smith	Wildi	N/A
National Church Residences	$129,999	13	Wildi	Jones-Ward	White
Northeast Ohio Literacy Cooperative	$259,971	24	Jones-Ward	Drummond	Russell
Ohio Historical Society	$272,320	21	Russell	Jones-Ward	N/A
Ohio University	$260,000	20	Wildi	Drummond	Russell
*Partnerships Make a Difference, Inc.	$107,878	25	Wildi	Drummond	Jones-Ward
Rural Action, Inc.	$170,169	14	Jones-Ward	Russell	N/A
United Way of Greater Toledo	$388,564	41	Smith	Drummond	N/A
Urban Appalachian Council	$296,213	36	Wildi	White	Oudersluys, Russell
YWCA of Columbus	$224,317	25	Drummond	Smith	N/A
TOTALS	$4,235,340.00	387			

*New program (P) = Planning Grant

[Note: Schmiesing and Drummond recused themselves from consideration of the planning grants due to potential conflicts of interest concerning OSU Extension and City of Warren, respectively. Hall summarized the planning grant programs, including those not recommended for funding, and addressed

questions prior to the votes. Schmiesing and Drummond returned for the remainder of the decision process, with Schmiesing presenting the recommended/non-recommended programs and addressing questions in preparation for the voting.]

Committee Meetings

Council recessed at 12:45 p.m. for committee meetings over working lunch (food costs non-reimbursable). Planning & Development and Outreach & Education committees met jointly. Reconvened at 2:00 p.m. for committee reports and announcements.

Committee Reports

Drummond suggested that committees report by email. Agreed by consensus.

Adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Next meeting: September 15, 2011 at Grange Insurance.

Executive Committee Meeting

Committee convened immediately following Council meeting with Drummond, Oudersluys, Wildi, Hall and Holtzapple in attendance. Hall advised of pending elimination of two Program Officer positions and posting of two new positions, an AmeriCorps Compliance Officer and Training Manager, effective 7/1/2011. The two existing staff members may apply for the new positions if they choose to do so. The changes relate both to cost savings and programmatic reconfiguration.

Committee adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by Mark Holtzapple.

Ohio Community Service Council

Meeting Minutes: ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: **Executive Director's Report**

Attachment 2: **Formula Funding Recommendations 2011-12**

Ohio Community Service Council

June 2011

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **State Budget Update**

Testimony was provided to the Senate Finance Committee on May 10. As passed by the Senate, the Council's budget remains unchanged at the executive recommendation of $129,998 in FY 2012 and $126, 664 in FY 2013. The budget bill will head to conference committee with final approval expected by the end of June. We are utilizing the executive budget numbers and the expectation of another federal administrative waiver in our budget models.

- **Federal Budget Update**

Several CNCS programs received substantial reductions in FY 2011 – including RSVP ($12.6 million), AmeriCorps State and National ($22.5 million), Learn and Serve America ($39.5 million). The President's FY 2012 Budget requests $1.26 billion for CNCS; including $399,790 million for AmeriCorps State and National Grants.

- **Office Relocation to Rhodes State Office Tower**

Later this year, the Council/Commission will relocate its office to space on the 24th Floor of Rhodes State Office Tower. The move will result in substantial cost-savings in rent; we are currently negotiating relocation-related expenditures and timelines with state officials.

- **Logo/Website Update**

The new ServeOhio logo has been approved. Work has been initiated on the website construction – focusing on three primary audiences – Program Leader, Convener, and Service Champion.

- **AmeriCorps Week**

Two roundtables were held during AmeriCorps week to educate elected officials on the impact of National Service. The 5/17 Roundtable in the 15th District (Stivers) included representation from Catholic Social Services Senior Companion Program; AMVETS AmeriCorps Program; Hard-Hatted Women VISTA Project; and Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks VISTA and AmeriCorps Programs. The 5/18 Roundtable in the 8th District (Boehner) included representation from Council on Rural Services AmeriCorps and VISTA Programs; Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks VISTA and AmeriCorps Programs; and Ohio Campus Compact VISTA Project.

- **Stewards of Service Update**

As you know, the Council has secured Stewards of Service funds from two corporate sources – AEP Ohio and Honda of America Manufacturing. To date these funds have been utilized to support our ServeOhio Awards and the Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism. The remainder of the funds will be utilized to provide service project support grants for Make A Difference Day (10/22/11) and MLK Day (1/16/12).

Corporation for National and Community Service

	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 President's Request	FY 2011 Enacted*	Difference Between President's FY 2011 Request & FY 2011 Enacted
VISTA	**99,074,000**	**98,000,000**	**98,875,852**	**875,852**
Senior Corps	**220,900,000**	**221,100,000**	**207,883,400**	**(13,216,600)**
Foster Grandparent Program	110,996,000	111,100,000	110,774,008	(325,992)
Senior Companion Program	46,904,000	47,000,000	46,810,192	(189,808)
RSVP	63,000,000	63,000,000	50,299,200	(12,700,800)
AmeriCorps State and National	**372,547,000**	**488,033,000**	**349,300,000**	**(138,733,000)**
Innovation, Demonstration & Assistance	**60,500,000**	**76,000,000**	**60,379,000**	**(15,621,000)**
Innovation, Demonstration & Other	5,500,000	6,000,000	5,489,000	(511,000)
Social Innovation Fund	50,000,000	60,000,000	49,900,000	(10,100,000)
Volunteer Generation Fund	4,000,000	10,000,000	3,992,000	(6,008,000)
Nonprofit Capacity Building Program	1,000,000	0	998,000	998,000
Training & Technical Assistance	**7,500,000**	**13,000,000**	**7,485,000**	**(5,515,000)**
Disability Grants	**5,000,000**	**6,000,000**	**4,990,000**	**(1,010,000)**
Evaluation	**6,000,000**	**8,000,000**	**5,988,000**	**(2,012,000)**
NCCC	**29,000,000**	**34,593,000**	**28,942,000**	**(5,651,000)**
Learn & Serve America	**39,500,000**	**40,198,000**	**0**	**(40,198,000)**
State Commission Administration	**17,000,000**	**18,000,000**	**16,966,000**	**(1,034,000)**
Subtotal Program Operations	**857,021,000**	**1,002,924,000**	**780,809,252**	**(222,114,748)**
National Service Trust	**197,000,000**	**293,662,000**	**199,259,682**	**(94,402,318)**
Total - Program Operating Expenses	**1,054,021,000**	**1,296,586,000**	**980,068,934**	**(316,517,066)**
Salaries and Expenses	**88,000,000**	**109,000,000**	**87,824,000**	**(21,176,000)**
Office of the Inspector General	**7,700,000**	**9,000,000**	**7,684,600**	**(1,315,400)**
Agency Total	**1,149,721,000**	**1,414,586,000**	**1,075,577,534**	**(339,008,466)**

* Incorporates a 0.2% across the board rescission to all CNCS programs.

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SERVE OHIO
Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism

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Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism

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SERVE OHIO
Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism

OHIO COMMUNITY SERVICE COUNCIL

Formula Funding Recommendations

Ohio AmeriCorps Programs

2011-12

WWW.SERVEOHIO.ORG

To: Ohio Community Service Council Members

From: Bill Hall, Executive Director
Ryan J. Schmiesing, Director of Programs

Date: June 13, 2011

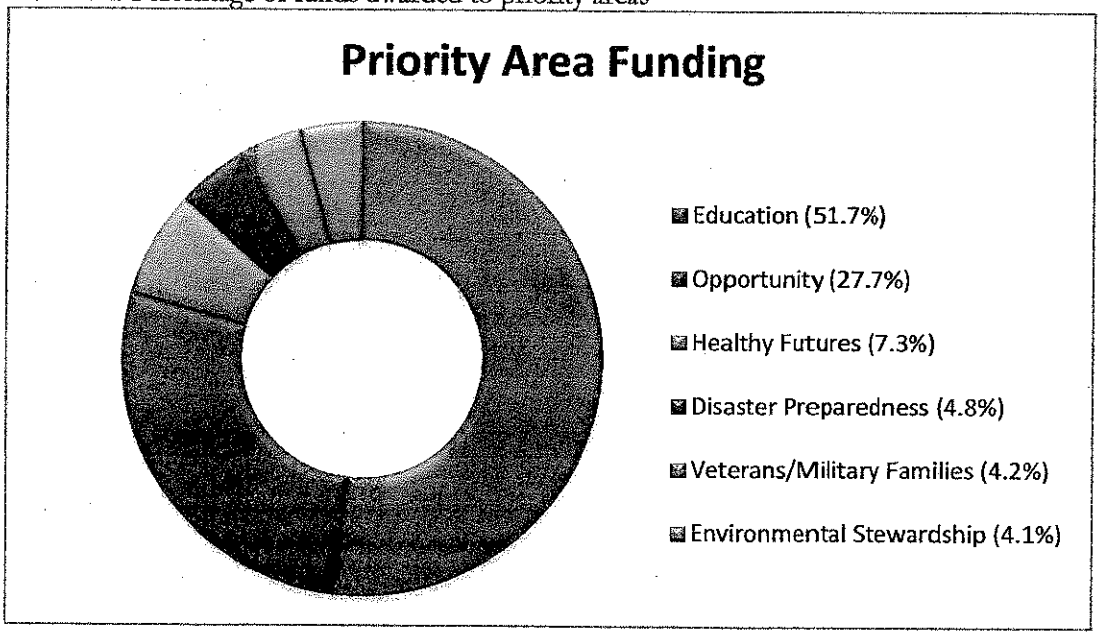
We are pleased to share with you the recommendations for the expenditure of the Ohio Community Service Council formula allocation for program year 2011-12. The following pages detail the recommended funding level, program overview, and number of members. Additionally, we have provided several tables that show a broad financial overview of the Ohio portfolio as well as a brief comparison to program year 2010-11.

With the passage of the Kennedy Serve America Act, AmeriCorps has been on an upward trajectory, engaging more Americans in service to their community. With expanded, and in some cases new, authorizations, Congress demonstrated bi-partisan support for national service in the 2010 appropriations process with historic funding levels, resulting in more AmeriCorps members serving in more communities across Ohio.

The 2011 appropriations process resulted in reduced federal funding; however, steps taken by the Ohio Community Service Council have mitigated this funding loss in Ohio and will result in more members in the 2011-12 program year compared to the previous year. Ohio organizations were very successful in securing $3,034,625.00 in competitive funds for the 2011-12 program year; a 34% increase over the previous year. With approval of the enclosed recommendations, 711 individuals (9% increase over previous year) will have the opportunity to serve as AmeriCorps*State members with 24 organizations; 26 total programs, when planning grants are included.

Throughout this highly competitive process, we continued to focus all of our attention on high quality proposals that have a clear focus and are meeting the critical needs in communities where members will serve. Additionally, we have increased our attention on the member service roles to ensure that individuals will have a significantly positive, life-changing experience while having a direct impact on and with service recipients.

Table 1: Percentage of funds awarded to priority areas



Ohio Community Service Council
Ohio AmeriCorps Program Funding Priorities

Through the awarding of AmeriCorps grants, the Ohio Community Service Council (OCSC) addresses the most critical issues facing Ohioans. Funding priorities have been identified through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and will be a focus of the OCSC AmeriCorps grant program. The following are the priority areas:

1. Education
2. Opportunity
3. Healthy Futures
4. Veterans
5. Environmental Stewardship
6. Disaster Services

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) establishes the national priorities for AmeriCorps State & National funding and is responsible for the evolution of these priorities to meet current challenges. It is recognized that these priorities will change depending on the administration and/or current realities facing the country.

Characteristics

The OCSC must maintain flexibility, yet be intentional about funding programs that meet local and statewide needs and issues within the context of national priorities. The following criteria will guide the Ohio AmeriCorps funding process:

1. Programs focusing on measureable outcomes, that can be replicated or brought to scale, and address the difficult and often challenging issues facing Ohioans;
2. Innovative strategies and programs that engage more citizens in national service and volunteerism, providing opportunities to solve real world problems;
3. Program models that leverage private and public resources;
4. Programs that focus on service as a solution and instilling the ethic of service in AmeriCorps members and volunteers.
5. Organizations that have the capacity, commitment, and administrative leadership to effectively develop, implement, and evaluate an AmeriCorps program;
6. Programs that engage citizens where they live and gather so as to reduce the participation barriers of time and transportation; and
7. The allocation of all formula funds and maximizing opportunities to be successful in the national competitive funding process.

The Ohio Community Service Council Planning and Development Committee will review the current portfolio, performance measures being addressed and identify potential gaps where opportunities could be further explored and pursued with organizations.

Committee Members: Jeff King, Johnmark Oudersluys, Nina Keller, Charlotte Jones-Ward, Bill Russell, & Tina Dunphy. OCSC Staff: Bill Hall, Ryan Schmiesing (Approved: September, 2010)

The following are recommended for funding through the Ohio Community Service Council formula allocation from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

American Red Cross of Greater Columbus ($351,000.00; 27 members; 27 MSY) – Disaster Preparedness
The American Red Cross (ARC), a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its Congressional Charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disasters and help people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies in Central Ohio and select counties statewide. AmeriCorps members deliver educational programs, recruit and engage volunteers, and raise awareness of proper emergency response strategies.

***Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Central Ohio** ($266,000.00; 20 members; 20 MSY) - Education
Project Mentor is an initiative of Columbus City Schools (CCS) and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio to provide thousands of at-risk CCS students with valuable mentoring relationships. The goal of Project Mentor is that through strong mentoring relationships students demonstrate improvement in developmental assets and life skills that lead to better academic performance and greater success in life; specifically, at least 70% of youth participants will report improvements in at least one of six outcome areas (academic performance, attitudes towards risk, educational expectations, parental trust, scholastic efficacy and social acceptance).

***City of Warren** ($45,720.00; Planning Grant) – Education
Warren recognizes that its future is tied to the success of its children. To this end, the City is seeking an AmeriCorps Planning Grant for the purposes of planning for a successful program that recruits, trains and mobilizes members for service to local public schools and other community based child service organizations. The City has selected to incorporate outcome-based social emotional learning as the cornerstone of its Member's service activities.

***City Year, Inc. – Columbus** ($325,000.00; 25 members; 25 MSY) – Education
City Year is a full-time, team-based AmeriCorps program serving low-income children in public schools in neighborhoods in Franklin County, Ohio. Our AmeriCorps members, ages 17-24, provide targeted and school-wide interventions in literacy, math, attendance and behavior to students in grades 3-9 who are identified as at risk to drop out. Below-grade level students will be enrolled in our targeted Academic Program and those who complete tutoring will show significant academic improvement.

Council on Rural Service Program, Inc. ($266,000.00; 20 members; 20 MSY) – Opportunity
Council on Rural Services and AmeriCorps Members will prepare vulnerable youth and young adults to successfully join the workforce and maintain economic self-sufficiency. AmeriCorps for Entrepreneurial Success, through utilization of Junior Achievement and career and post-secondary education exploration, will equip participants to create and operate social enterprises.

Columbus Housing Partnership, Inc. ($207,318.00; 16 members; 16 MSY) – Education
Housing is a platform for academic achievement and family wellbeing. CHP's AmeriCorps Program provides direct support to residents at CHP's Community Learning Centers. Members are responsible for the facilitation of Out of School Time Programming (OSTP) and interaction with residents. Through OSTP, Members provide 125 children and families with academic enrichment, tutoring and mentoring, and leadership development opportunities. The program helps 100 students meet grade completions on time.

Family & Community Services, Inc. ($161,702.00; 25 members; 12.5 MSY) – Opportunity
The Family & Community Services POWERcorps provides recreational, social and leisure activities to teens and adults with Developmental Disabilities, working to bridge the gaps in the lives of individuals by providing them with information on community activities created and implemented by AmeriCorps members. POWERcorps increases the opportunity for socialization for individuals with disabilities in the greater community, the feeling of being connected and the ability to give back to their community.

First Grace United Church of Christ ($193,176.00; 15 members; 15 MSY) – Opportunity/Veterans
AmeriCorps Wellness 360 members engage community members in programs that promote better health choices. Members will provide community health education sessions including topics such as: access to care, health literacy, mental health services, childhood and adult immunizations and disease prevention education. Members and volunteers will address the nutrition aspects of health through structured community gardening education for adults and youth. Participants will be educated on growing, caring for, harvesting and healthy food preparation.

Literacy Cooperative ($259,971.00; 24 members; 20 MSY) – Education
NEO Literacy Corps helps bridge literacy service delivery gaps by placing full and part time AmeriCorps Members at nonprofits in Cuyahoga County that provide a broad range of literacy services. Members serve in direct service and volunteer coordinator capacities, enabling host organizations to expand their reach by offering new programs and serving more clients. The role that literacy plays as a determinant of an individual's success in life cannot be overemphasized or underestimated.

Montgomery County Educational Service Center ($259,993.00; 20 members; 20 MSY) – Education
The Mentoring Collaborative of Montgomery County (MCMC) with the oversight of the Montgomery County Educational Service Center (MCESC) will design and implement a program, that will address the AmeriCorps priorities of helping children and youth achieve success in school and prevent them from dropping out before high school graduation. The objective of the new initiative will be to increase the number of at risk youth (mentees) receiving mentoring services in Montgomery County.

National Church Residences ($129,999.00; 13 members; 10 MSY) – Environmental Stewardship
National Church Residences Building Better Communities AmeriCorps Program Members will serve low income family sites focusing on youth education through after-school and summer programs, targeting environmental and civic engagement education. Through NCR's AmeriCorps Program, Members coordinate educational, community, and volunteer programs which are structured to bring long term stability to the lives of residents at seven of NCR's Columbus communities.

Ohio Historical Society ($272,320.00; 21 members; 21 MSY) – Opportunity
The Ohio Historical Society and its statewide partners developed the Ohio History Service Corps to promote sustainable community development and job creation. Ohio History Service Corps consists of three components: Civil War 150: to initiate educational programming & regional special events; Tech Corps: to provide digitization of historic resources; and Historic Preservation Corps: to inventory historic buildings, support community revitalization, and assist local preservation initiatives.

***Ohio State University** ($50,000.00; Planning Grant) – Opportunity
Ohio is one of the "hardest hit" states in the country for mortgage delinquencies and foreclosures, indicating the large number of homeowners at risk of losing their home. While foreclosure is a problem statewide, the fastest growth in foreclosure rates is found in Ohio's rural areas. Our objective for this grant application is to provide housing counseling designed to improve the long-term security of economically vulnerable homeowners and new homebuyers in rural Ohio.

Ohio University ($260,000.00; 20 members; 20 MSY) – Health
The ComCorps program's AmeriCorps members and volunteers implement activities that promote health, prevent disease and improve access to medical care. ComCorps along with site partners address unmet health needs, specifically to increase access to evidence-based nutrition education, increase access to healthy fresh food, and increase access to preventative and primary health care services and programs with an end outcome to reduce or maintain BMIs in school-aged children, and protect children from childhood illness and reduce barriers to learning.

***Partnerships Make a Difference, Inc.** ($107,878.00; 25 members; 8.13 MSY) – Education
"Growing Together" is designed to support K-12 school improvement/reform, enhance student success, increase the number of civically engaged youth, and address critical local and global issues and needs. This will be accomplished through the expansion of service-learning, a highly effective instructional strategy that connects community service with the school curriculum.

Rural Action, Inc. ($170,169.00; 14 members; 14 MSY) – Environmental Stewardship
Rural Action seeks to build on a successful two year AmeriCorps program in Appalachian Ohio's acidmine damaged waterways and their communities called the Ohio Stream RestoreCorps. AmeriCorps members will focus on four persistent issues in watersheds -- dead streams, a trash filled environment, lack of access, and long term stewardship by residents. AmeriCorps members can energize residents who have lost hope and make resource restoration a bigger part of the region's renewal.

United Way of Greater Toledo ($388,564.00; 41 members; 30 MSY) -- Education
United Way AmeriCorps is a collaborative effort to assist the critical problem of children at risk of not graduating. Members will serve as Graduation Coaches and Volunteer Mobilizers in resolving barriers to graduation by directly supporting the students and their network in the implementation of individualized graduation plans, participation on the Graduation Action Team, and the recruitment of volunteers for opportunities directly related to education mobilization goals.

Urban Appalachian Council ($296,213.00; 36 members; 27 MSY) -- Education
The Urban Appalachian Council's Project ACE provides educational opportunities to inner city residents of Cincinnati. Working in partnership with twelve other community-based organizations, Project ACE recruits and prepares AmeriCorps members to bring their commitment and unique talents to address critical educational and human needs in areas where illiteracy and dropout rates are devastating, and joblessness is stubbornly high. Programmatic areas include adult education and after-school tutoring, health education and environmental education.

YWCA of Columbus ($224,317.00; 25 members; 17.5 MSY) – Opportunity
YWCA Columbus is dedicated to eliminating racism and empowering women. Our AmeriCorps Program addresses two critical problems that our community faces: a 30% increase in demand for the emergency shelter of homeless families, 70% of which are African-American, and an elevated need for anti-racism/anti-bullying programs to combat these often co-occurring incidents. AmeriCorps Members will serve YWCA Family Center Youth Programs, Aftercare, Volunteer Support, and Race Against Racism areas.

(*) represents a new program

Table 2: Recommended for Formula Funding

Organization	Grant Request	Match Contribution	Ed. Award Value
American Red Cross of Greater Columbus	$351,000.00	$257,977.00	$149,850.00
*Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Central Ohio	$266,000.00	$84,002.00	$111,000.00
*City Year, Inc. Columbus	$325,000.00	$325,000.00	$137,500.00
Council on Rural Service Programs, Inc.	$266,000.00	$88,300.00	$111,000.00
Columbus Housing Partnership, Inc.	$207,318.00	$151,578.00	$88,800.00
Family & Community Services, Inc.	$161,702.00	$153,712.00	$69,375.00
First Grace United Church of Christ	$193,176.00	$93,602.00	$83,250.00
Montgomery County Educational Service Center	$259,993.00	$157,136.00	$111,000.00
National Church Residences	$129,999.00	$118,661.00	$55,500.00
Northeast Ohio Literacy Cooperative	$259,971.00	$144,999.00	$111,000.00
Ohio Historical Society	$272,320.00	$124,407.00	$116,550.00
Ohio University	$260,000.00	$256,692.00	$111,000.00
*Partnerships Make a Difference, Inc.	$107,878.00	$63,930.00	$45,121.50
Rural Action, Inc.	$170,169.00	$129,024.00	$77,700.00
United Way of Greater Toledo	$388,564.00	$176,235.00	$166,500.00
Urban Appalachian Council	$296,213.00	$328,667.00	$149,850.00
YWCA of Columbus	$224,317.00	$136,139.00	$97,125.00
*Ohio State University Extension	$50,000.00	$16,429.00	-0-
*City of Warren	$45,720.00	$14,157.00	-0-
Total	**$4,235,340.00**	**$2,820,647.00**	**$1,792,121.50**

Note: Ed. Award Value ($5,550 for full-time service) assumes all members complete their term of service.
Note: * new program for the 2011-12 program years.

Table 3: Organizations Applying, but not recommended, for Formula Funding

Organization	Funding Request
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Cincinnati	$319,883.00
Community Properties Impact Corporation	$50,000.00
Greene County Vocational School District	$50,000.00
National Youth Advocate Program, Inc.	$37,721.00
Mercy Health Partners	$259,230.00
Unified Health Solutions	$238,257.00
University of Cincinnati	$260,000.00
Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation	$50,000.00
Total	**$1,265,091.00**

The following organizations were funded through the national competitive process; all programs remain in the Ohio portfolio and are administered through the Ohio Community Service Council. These programs were approved to be forwarded to the national competition at the January 2011 OCSC meeting.

AMVETS Career Center ($259,979.00; 24 members; 20 MSY) – Veterans/Military Families
The AMVETS Career Center AmeriCorps program engages AmeriCorps members and volunteers to translate their technical skills and leadership abilities to gain employment; educate employers about the benefits of hiring veterans; and assisting veterans with career assessments, training opportunities, and developing tools such as resumes, cover letters, job search techniques, and interviewing skills.

Children's Hunger Alliance ($272,735.00; 30 members; 21.12 MSY) – Healthy Futures
The Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities (HKHC) AmeriCorps program addresses the needs of at-risk children in Ohio to improve their nutritional intake, decrease food insecurity, reduce obesity rates and increase health related education. Members teach nutrition education and physical activity programming to children attending afterschool programming in Akron, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus and Dayton as well as assist with expanding access to nutritious foods through USDA Child Nutrition Programs.

City Year, Inc. Cleveland ($625,000.00; 50 members; 50 MSY) - Education
City Year Cleveland is a full-time, team-based AmeriCorps program serving 1,200 students in five public schools in Cleveland through in- and out-of-school programs. The 50 members, ages 17-24, provide targeted and school-wide interventions in literacy, math, attendance, and behavior to students identified as at-risk to drop out. 200 below-grade level students will be enrolled in our targeted Academic Program and 50% of those who complete will demonstrate improvement in their academic performance.

Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks ($380,873.00; 30 members; 30 MSY) – Opportunity
The Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks grant supports the HarvestCorps program. HarvestCorps members fight "food insecurity" – hunger – by connecting Ohioans in need to critical support programs such as SNAP (Food Stamps) and the EITC, as well as increasing capacity at Ohio's Foodbanks to serve the ever-growing numbers of those in need.

Ohio College Access Network ($779,826.00; 60 members; 60 MSY) – Education
The Ohio College Access Network (OCAN) is comprised of local college access organizations operating in nearly every area of Ohio. The goal of the network is to position local organizations through funding, advocacy and support to provide economic opportunity through college completion for Ohio students. OCAN proposes to boost local member organizations' ability through AmeriCorps members serving as college access advisors to low-income, minority, and first-generation college students in Ohio.

Public Allies, Inc. ($518,505.00; 40 members; 40 MSY) – Opportunity
Public Allies advances new leadership to strengthen communities, nonprofits and civic participation. Public Allies seeks to change the face and practice of leadership in Cincinnati by identifying talented young adults from diverse and under-represented backgrounds who have a passion to make a difference, and help them turn that passion into a viable career path. Members serve in full-time nonprofit apprenticeships working to address Cincinnati's most challenging educational and economic issues.

The Ohio State University ($197,707.00; 90 members; 19.26 MSY) - Education
OSU Kid Corps is designed to help at risk preschoolers enter school prepared to succeed. The program focuses specifically on enhancing preschoolers' cognitive development for pre-literacy competence and on providing experiences that foster the positive interactions with other children that are needed for the development of pro-social skills and the ability to control one's own behavior. The program is also designed to support families' involvement in their children's educational experiences.

Table 4: Organizations Funded through National Competitive (remain in Ohio portfolio)

Organization	Funded	Match Contribution	Ed. Award Value
AMVETS Career Center (2)	$259,979.00	$86,788.00	$111,000.00
Children's Hunger Alliance (8)	$272,735.00	$213.409.00	$117,216.00
City Year, Inc. Cleveland (9)	$625,000.00	$554,246.00	$277,500.00
Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks (3)	$380,873.00	$405,776.00	$166,500.00
Ohio College Access Network (4)	$779,826.00	$297,729.00	$333,000.00
Ohio State University (KidCorps) (7)	$197,707.00	$120,944.00	$106,893.00
Public Allies, Inc. Cincinnati (9)	$518,505.00	$461,384.00	$222,000.00
Total	**$3,034,625.00**	**$2,140,326.00**	**$1,334,109.00**

Note: Ed. Award Value ($5,550 for full-time service) assumes all members complete their term of service.

Ohio Community Service Council

AmeriCorps Grant Review Process

This outline of the peer/staff review of Ohio AmeriCorps applications is offered to provide greater insight into the process and how decisions are made. The Ohio Community Service Council (OCSC) received new, recomplete, and continuation applications for operational funds and new applications for planning grant funds. The review process is generally the same for all applications, with exceptions noted, below. Questions about the OCSC grant review process should be directed to Ryan J. Schmiesing, Ph.D. – Director of Programs 614.728.5179 or ryan.schmiesing@ocsc.state.oh.us

1. Applicant submits a complete proposal, including budget and budget narrative by the stated deadline, following directions for the appropriate grant (new/recomplete; continuation; planning).

2. Applications are reviewed by the Director of Programs to ensure that they have met the minimum qualifications to move to the next stage in the process. Three primary areas are reviewed: (1) minimum of 20 MSY's are proposed; (2) budget does not exceed the maximum cost per MSY of $13,300.00 ($50,000.00 total for planning); and (3) all narrative sections, budget, and budget narrative are complete.

3. Operational grant applications are grouped by focus/priority areas and assigned to a panel of peer reviewers. A panel generally consists of two to three individuals with expertise, experience, and/or knowledge in the field of the proposed focus/priority area and/or service, volunteerism, community development, etc. Planning grants are reviewed by one peer reviewer.

4. All grant applications (operational and planning) are reviewed by staff of the Ohio Community Service Council (OCSC), including (at minimum) the Director of Programs, two Program Officers, and Grants Officer.

5. Peer reviewers convene on a conference call at a designated time to discuss each application, in detail. The call is facilitated by a staff member of the Ohio Community Service Council (staff have submitted their feedback prior to the calls). Discussion is summarized and is included with individual peer review feedback for each grant applicant.

6. The Ohio Community Service Council staff convenes to discuss each application and provide strengths and weaknesses.

7. Based upon all information collected, strengths and weaknesses are identified, applications ranked, and a presentation is made to the Ohio Community Service Council at their public meeting. The Ohio Community Service Council members have the opportunity to discuss each application and vote to approve or not approve the recommendations presented.

8. Important considerations: (a) scores on applications are one factor in the overall decision-making process, not the determining factor; (b) comments and written feedback, beyond the score, carry significant weight in the process; (c) compliance with regulations and policies by current grantees does not automatically mean continued funding; and (d) clarification requests are made of applicants before final submission to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).