

9/11

Day of Service Report

Sept. 2012

Sponsored by:



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Report assembled by: Hannah G. Reed

About Serve Colorado

Overview

Serve Colorado strives to build healthy, sustainable communities one volunteer at a time. Serve Colorado works under the leadership of a board of 15 commissioners to distribute and administer Colorado's allocation of AmeriCorps*State funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). The current program portfolio consists of 16 programs working to meet a variety of local needs throughout Colorado communities, including environmental stewardship, academic tutoring, youth mentoring, healthy futures, economic opportunity, and more! Additionally, Serve Colorado promotes volunteerism and service as a means to strengthen Colorado communities through days of service, special initiatives, and community partnerships.

Goals

- To effectively distribute AmeriCorps*State resources to address the needs of Colorado communities;
- To advocate for service and volunteerism as essential components in sustaining healthy Colorado communities;
- To create mechanisms which facilitate greater cooperation, communication and partnerships around service;
- To promote service and volunteerism as an integral component of education at all levels;
- To increase public awareness, appreciation, support and participation in service and volunteerism.
- To increase financial and in-kind support for volunteer initiatives from a broad range of public and private sources.



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9/11 Day of Service

On April 21, 2009, President Barack Obama signed legislation officially establishing Sept. 11 as a federally recognized National Day of Service and Remembrance. The day of service provides a way for Americans and others to forever honor and remember the 9/11 victims, survivors and many others who rose in service in response to the 9/11 tragedy, including first responders, recovery workers, volunteers, public safety officers and members of our military.

During the week of Sept. 11, 2012, Coloradans pledged to volunteer and engage in other forms of charitable service, thus rekindling the remarkable spirit shared by so many in the aftermath of the attacks. Organizations and volunteers helped to create a fitting, enduring and historic legacy through service.

Serve Colorado—Governor's Commission on Community Service would like to express their thanks to everyone who helped in supporting and observing the 3rd Annual 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance. Serve Colorado would like to recognize the extraordinary dedication of Xcel Energy on this day of service. More than 1,200 Xcel Energy employees and their family members completed 42 projects in the state. Your service and all you did is invaluable to our state.



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RESPONSIBLE BY NATURE®

Day in and day out, Xcel Energy employees diligently work on conserving energy and promoting energy efficiency. But when they are not making the country more energy efficient, they spend their time volunteering and giving back to their community. On

Sept. 8, 2012, more than 1,200 Xcel Energy employees and their family members completed 42 projects throughout the state of Colorado. Projects included improving landscapes at various locations, as well as painting murals and helping community members with every-day tasks. But the main goal of all the projects was to honor the victims and responders of 9/11. Their patriotism for our country made for a very successful day of service. Ten of the projects are highlighted below.

Attention Homes

Xcel Energy

Xcel Energy employees and family members volunteered at Attention Homes' "Chase House" to beautify the backyard. The group of 31 volunteers spread more than 40 cubic yards of mulch in areas previously engrossed by weeds and rebuilt a 250-square-foot paver patio that had been cracked and unsightly. The day was packed with teamwork and laughter and in the end, Attention Homes was left with a beautiful backyard and a wonderful spot for the kids and staff to relax, barbecue and unwind after a long day. Attention Homes runs two facilities in Boulder, Colo., for at-risk youth with the goal of helping them become productive members of the community. The organization provides overnight shelter, residential care, drop-in day services and street outreach along with many other services.



Breckenridge Outdoor Educational Center

Xcel Energy

On Sept. 8, the Silverthorne Service Center volunteered with 10 employees and family members at the Breckenridge Outdoor Educational Center (BOEC) to beautify the outdoor cabin area. Volunteers spent time weeding, digging and placing landscape rock around the perimeter and deck. They also built a handicap accessible flower bed which allows individuals in wheel chairs to garden without getting out of their chair. All the volunteers thought this was a great idea for people who like to garden but are not able to easily maneuver. The team had a successful day and the BOEC was very thankful for all of their help and time. The BOEC was established in Breckenridge, Colo., in 1976 to provide outdoor experiences for people with disabilities and to train the instructors who work with special populations. The BOEC strives to integrate disability with ability, providing outdoor experiences to all. They welcome people of all abilities from around the world to spectacular natural classrooms in the Rocky Mountains and beyond.



Broomfield's Veteran's Memorial Museum

Xcel Energy

Broomfield's Veterans Memorial Museum partnered with Xcel Energy to help make their work load easier. Xcel employees were able to help the community volunteers at the museum create spreadsheets to track donations coming in and to prevent losses. Another large part of this service project was to help prepare the museum for the holidays. This small, community-run museum has



the ultimate goal of honoring those people who have served, past and present. They are able to achieve this by hand-making 3,000+ cards to send to servicemen and women across the globe, as well as local veterans. With the tremendous help of the Xcel Energy volunteers, 300 cards were made. Every project completed on this day of service honored a serviceman or woman in some way and it showed them they're appreciated, not only on 9/11, but throughout the year.

Clayton Early Learning Center (CEL)

Xcel Energy

Clayton Early Learning is dedicated to improving and providing early care and education during the critical prenatal to 5-year-old period for all children, especially those of limited opportunities. They impact almost 8,000 children annually. A team of 44 Xcel Energy employees, their family and friends and 20 CEL staff, volunteered their time and muscle to improve the Discovery Gardens on this historic 20-acre campus. The gardens are geared to the



young citizens that CEL serves with things that are small and engaging. Together, the volunteers cleared weeds from 10 gardens, laid weed barrier and installed edging, mulch and sod. Their efforts continued with the permanent addition of benches, bird houses and a child-size bridge. Having such a dedicated volunteer team work so hard to make the campus safe, beautiful and engaging embodies the spirit of America and honors the victims, their families, and the emergency responders of 9/11.



Clothes for Kids

Xcel Energy



Clothes to Kids Denver's mission is to provide new and quality used clothing to low income, school-aged children in Denver County free of charge. Each student who goes to Clothes to Kids to shop receives five tops, four bottoms (pants, shorts or skirts), one dress (for girls), five new pairs of underwear and socks, one pair of shoes and one jacket. Eligible students may return to the organization twice a year to shop.

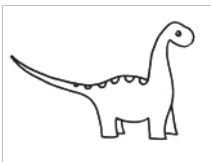
On Sept. 8, Xcel Energy volunteers served as personal shoppers to assist the clients in making their clothing selections and shopping experience a pleasant one. With the volunteer support coming from Xcel Energy on this day of service, Clothes to Kids was able to open an additional Saturday during their busiest time of year and they made up to 50 additional appointments than they normally do.



Columbine Bridge Project

Xcel Energy

Columbine Bridge Project's mission is to provide educational opportunities for children living in Denver's public housing neighborhoods so they graduate from high school, attend college or learn a trade. The middle and high school students of the project know how important it is to promote these goals and objectives. That's why on Sept. 8, they led a group of Xcel Energy volunteers in designing and painting a mural that spans an entire interior wall of the organization's building. The mural uses a bridge concept to connect all aspects of the Columbine Bridge Project's mission. This artistic endeavor provides confidence and a feeling of accomplishment in youths, and results in a feeling of ownership of their space. It also shows them the significant impact they have on the organization and their community.



Friends at Dinosaur Ridge

Xcel Energy



Dinosaur Ridge is an educational, mostly outdoor, museum along the ridge of the foothills. Fossilized prints of dinosaurs and geological incites as to how things came to be are just a few things visitors get to see along the way when they walk along the ridge.



Every month Dinosaur Ridge hosts a "free day," where families are able to come explore the ridge free of charge. For their free day in Sept., 12 Xcel Energy employees and their families from the Evergreen Service Center volunteered and assisted in pitching pop-up canopies for a variety of activities to entertain and educate visitors of all ages. Xcel Energy volunteers manned the booths with experienced volunteers to show people how to pan for gold, use a metal detector, paint ceramic dinosaur tracks, dig for fossils and sell food. The free day is a wonderful way for families

that normally are not able to afford an outing of this kind to enjoy some fun and educational time with the family. It was a day well spent with families and friends honoring the victims and responders of 9/11.

Grand County Hospice

Xcel Energy

The Heart of the Mountains Hospice, Inc. strives to create options with dignity and integrity in providing high quality home hospice and respite care for individuals and their support systems within the communities of Grand County. The organization's primary goal is to uphold the



Heart of the Mountains Hospice, Inc. mission of providing in-home supportive care to the terminally ill. A generous group from the Xcel Energy offices in Silverthorne and Granby, Colo., volunteered by baking goods and helping out at the annual Grand Lake Swim Event in Grand Lake, Colo. This was one of the first events for the 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance. The six volunteers helped with registration, the bake sale and checked swimmers in. Baked goods such as apple pies, sweet breads, and cookies were collected from employees in Silverthorne, which raised \$250 just on baked goods

alone! The locals in Grand County repeatedly thanked all the volunteers and were amazed that all the baked goods came from the Summit County Xcel Energy employees! The amazing team spirit is what made this fundraising event a huge success.

Wetland Loop Trail Restoration

Xcel Energy



The Aurora Park System's Morrison Nature Center is a 200-acre preserve that is part of the Sand Creek Regional Greenway, a trail system that follows the South Platte River and Sand Creek through Aurora, Denver and Commerce City. Morrison Nature Center has wetlands, ponds and multiple trails used by hikers daily. On Sept. 8, Xcel Energy volunteers worked on trail maintenance at the ranch. The 30 energetic volunteers were able to repair one-fourth mile of trail by spreading

new gravel and removing invasive species. These projects

are vital to the overall health and safety of the Greenway, for trail users and native species alike. Thanks to all the volunteers' hard work, the trail not only looks great, but is now safe for hikers to use and explore on.



Southside Children's Center

Xcel Energy

The Southside Children's Center in Pueblo provides daycare services to 68 low-income children ranging from 12 months to 12 years old. On Sept. 8, 23 Xcel Energy employees from the Comanche power plant and the gas distribution center in Pueblo lent a helping hand to paint, clean, and provide minor maintenance at the facility. The team of volunteers felt this was a great opportunity to share and give back to the Pueblo community by completing necessary work and services to the Southside Children's Center. The volunteers went home feeling great about the work they completed.



Senior Resource Center

Xcel Energy

Senior Resource Services is a local community non-profit providing person-focused, coordinated services to enhance independence, dignity and quality of life for seniors. Some of these services include intensive transportation, adult day care and respite services, in-home care services, mental health check-ups, and many more, including an "Adopt a Grandparent" program helping seniors. Volunteers from Xcel Energy's Fort Collins and Greeley service centers came together this year for their annual day of service and made 45 blankets to put into holiday baskets that will be distributed to seniors throughout the Northern Colorado community.



Additional Xcel Energy Service Projects

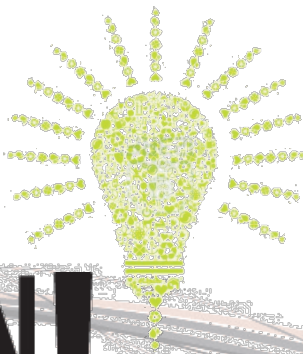
Although not all of the amazing work done by the Xcel Energy employees, their families and the other volunteers is highlighted in this report, here are some great memories that were had while volunteering and giving back to their community. The list of the additional Xcel Energy service projects is on the following page.



Doing Your Part
To help the environment



service, structure, share, instruction, training, kids, literacy, community, volunteer, time, give, adult, learn, network, reading, investment, library, teens



WE CAN!
Make a DIFFERENCE

Additional Xcel Energy Service Projects

Adams County

- Arising Hope
- International Hearing Dog

Arapahoe County

- Bennie Goodwin Center
- Project Cure
- Ronald McDonald House

Denver County

- Action Center
- Anchor Center for the Blind
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver
- Boys Hope Girls Hope
- Colorado Gerontological
- Denver's Children's Home
- Denver Inner City Park Parish
- Denver Parks and Recreation
- Florence Critteron
- Food Bank of the Rockies
- Girls, Inc.
- Health Center at Franklin Park
- Mi Casa Resource Center
- Mile High Montessori
- Mount St. Vincent Home
- RAFT
- Salvation Army
- Third Way Center
- Volunteers of America
- Work Options
- Youth Biz

Jefferson County

- Butterfly Pavilion
- Family Tree

Weld County

- Alzheimer's
- Windsor Food Bank

Various Counties

- West Metro Foundation



Xcel Energy®



WE CAN!

Make a DIFFERENCE ■

Remembrance for 9/11 at Civic Center Park

City and County of Denver

In the wake of Colorado's summer wildfires and the Aurora tragedy, Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, Denver Mayor Michael Hancock, Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan and men and women in uniform came together to remember 9/11 and pay tribute to the heroic efforts of the nation's first responders. This event not only served to commemorate the lives lost 11 years ago, but it also paid tribute to the resiliency that the victims, the first responders and the community have demonstrated throughout this challenging year. The day's events included a live musical performance by Hazel Miller, a display of World Trade Center artifacts, a remembrance ceremony and a military/first responder procession with bag pipes and drums. Volunteers assisted with registration, escorting groups and assisted in a march with military and law enforcement. Throughout the day, the state of Colorado came together to honor and remember the men and women who lost their lives in the line of duty and to thank those who are still serving.



9/11 Freedom Rally

Colorado Charity Alliance

The 2nd Annual 9/11 Freedom Rally, produced by Colorado Charity Alliance, took place Sept. 7-9 at the Arapahoe Park Race Track in Aurora. The rally hosted several events that honored the fallen and supported veterans and families of the fallen. On Saturday 9/8, The Travis Marion Foundation presented the first 9/11 Heroes Run at the Aurora Reservoir at 8 a.m. and at 10:03 a.m.- the time United Flight 93 crashed in Pennsylvania on 9/11/01 over 2,000 motorcycles started the 2nd Annual Coloradan's Fallen Heroes Memorial Ride; an 80 mile ride to honor all Coloradans who have lost their lives in military or emergency service. Throughout the event, 10,000 American flags were on display. These flags represented all who died on 9/11/01 and those who have lost their lives since in military or emergency service. This year, the memorial display also included 13 Colorado flags dedicated to the victims of the July 20, 2012 shooting in Aurora as well as a flag dedicated to the heroism and actions of Aurora's first responders that day.





Brighton Shares the Harvest

Peppers and green beans and squash. Oh my! That was only part of what Brighton Shares the Harvest collected and donated to Calvary Chapel Food Pantry and His Hands Food Cupboard. Brighton Shares the Harvest is an organization that aims to train the community about the benefits of fresh produce and how to grow fresh fruits and vegetables in their home gardens. The two service projects they completed for 9/11 are highlighted below.

Greater Brighton Neighborhood Volunteers

The first service project was held at Azadore's Mexican Restaurant on Sept. 8, where Greater Brighton Neighborhood Volunteers purchased fresh produce. All of the fresh produce was donated to His Hands Food Cupboard. The 10 members from the Greater Brighton Neighborhood Volunteers, as well as the help from others, were able to provide 30 bags full of fresh, healthy and locally grown produce to help the clients of the food pantry.



Happy Belly Farm

The second service project was held on Sept. 11, where Brighton Shares the Harvest partnered with Happy Belly Farm to harvest fresh produce. Happy Belly Farm was started three years ago by Brighton attorney, Bill Peters. He donates all of the fruits and vegetables he grows to area food pantries. Continuing in that same spirit, Brighton Shares the Harvest also donated all of the harvested produce from that day to Calvary Chapel Food Pantry, a smaller area food pantry in Brighton. Since food pantry clients are not able to easily access fresh produce, Brighton Shares the Harvest wanted to donate as much fresh produce as they could. The four dedicated volunteers that day were able to provide the food pantry with more than 300 pounds of freshly harvested, locally grown, chemical-free produce for their clients, most of whom are senior citizens.



Community Gardens Clean Up & Remembrance

Senior Hub/RSVP Denver

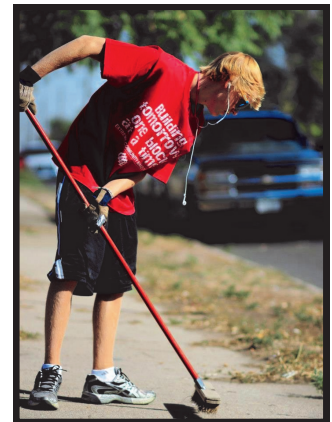
Adams Community Gardens CO-OP, located in the North-Metro Denver area, partnered with their surrounding communities for their 9/11 service project. The community gardens' service project focused on living a healthy lifestyle by harvesting fresh produce and vegetables for four area food banks and pantries. With the helping hands of more than 30 volunteers, an estimated 250 pounds of fresh produce was harvested and donated to area food banks and pantries. This made 1,000 servings of food they were able to distribute! At the end of the day, all the volunteers felt great about being able to get fresh produce to families while also giving back to their own community.



Extreme Community Makeover Work Day

Extreme Community Makeover

Extreme Community Makeover is very involved throughout their whole community, hosting multiple "Work Days" each month. In their regular rotation of scheduled Work Days, they dedicated one of the Work Days to a 9/11 service project. All 65 volunteers actively partook in the removal of graffiti, alley clean ups and home improvement projects throughout the Barnum and Elyria neighborhoods in Denver. Extreme Community Makeover partnered with Boulder County K-Life, God's Grace Community Church, Valor Christian High School Tennis Team, Barnum Recreation Center and Colorado Miners to complete a successful day by cleaning 19 alleys of graffiti and trash, painting two houses, and completing repairs and trimming a tree at two other homes. All the homeowners were greatly appreciative of the volunteers' hard work throughout the day.



Denver Hope for the Homeless Collection

Serve Colorado - Governor's Commission on Community Service

With the winter months nearing, Serve Colorado knows not all of the homeless and disabled veterans are properly prepared for the chilling weather. To help them out, Serve Colorado partnered with the Colorado Division of Veteran Affairs, Disabled American Veterans and American Furniture Warehouse to host a collection drive on 9/11 to prepare for Denver's Homeless Veteran's Standown. Standowns are designed to transform the hopelessness into the momentum necessary to get the veterans into recovery and back on their feet. Veterans are given access to free medical checkups, haircuts, legal help and employment referrals. They are also provided a warm meal, clothing and outdoor gear for the winter. One collection site was at 9News in Denver, another at American Furniture Warehouse in Thornton, and the third one was at Disabled American Veterans in Lakewood. All locations attracted the attention of many people. Heavy winter coats for men, women and children, toiletries, warm socks and even a stack of hand-knitted blankets with a personalized thank you note attached to each one were all donated. By the end of the day, three whole American Furniture Warehouse truck loads of donated clothes and amenities were collected for the standown in November.



Denver RSVP Supports the Troops!

Volunteers of America and Denver RSVP Program

As part of their service project, Denver RSVP partnered with American Military Family, a local group that coordinates sending letters and care packages to servicemen and women overseas. The 20 volunteers collectively wrote letters of support and thanks to send to active members of the military. They also brought donations to be included in care packages that will be sent with the letters. At the end of the day, the volunteers wrote more than 80 letters and made 35 care packages. The letters will mean a lot to the servicemen and women, as well as the care packages. Job well done team!



Garden of the Gods Restoration Project

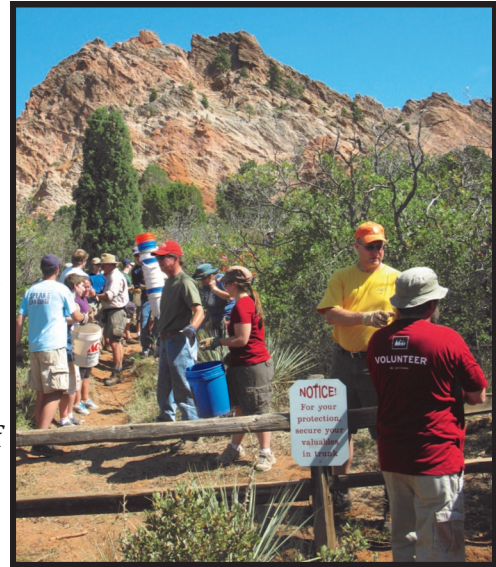
Rocky Mountain Field Institute

Garden of the Gods has been one of Rocky Mountain Field Institute's program sites for more than 10 years. This year, they partnered with the City of Colorado Springs to complete their service project. During the event, the 26 volunteers closed and restored social trails along Spring Creek. Restoring social trails in the Garden of the Gods helps keep members of the public on established trails, and closes social trails which can become a channel for water and increase sediment runoff into nearby creeks. Volunteers also moved rock to construct check dams that will prevent sediment loading



in nearby Fountain Creek. As a result of all the volunteers' hard work, 48 cubic feet of check dams were constructed,

three truck loads of dirt were moved, 800 square feet of social trails were restored, 25 native plants were transplanted, and two erosion control structures were constructed. The Garden of the Gods trails are clear of debris and ready for its annual 1.7 million local, national and international visitors.



Everbridge Emergency Notifications

High County RSVP



High Country RSVP partnered with Garfield County Senior Programs to register the at-risk population, such as seniors and the disabled, for emergency notification systems for their 9/11 service project. In the event a wildfire, flood, road closure or



evacuation occurs, these systems will deliver messages to VoIP phones, cell phones, emails, etc. to alert these people so they are aware and prepared. Volunteers from RSVP and Senior Programs assisted in educating more than 500 people about the system and helped in the online registration of 36 individuals.

Book On Into Reading Book Drive

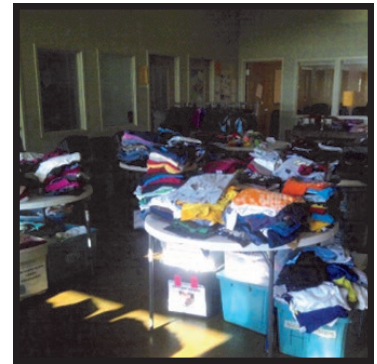
AARP and Serve Colorado

AARP Colorado and Serve Colorado-Governor's Commission on Community Service announced their 2nd Annual Book On Into Reading Book Drive for their 9/11 service project this year. The book drive is designed to help ensure all Colorado children become successful



readers by the time they finish 3rd grade. Larimer County's Homeless Gear was one host in Larimer County. They provide services for the homeless population including a monthly distribution event where supplies such as outdoor gear, toiletries and children books are provided. Riverside Education Center was the second host in Mesa County. They provide structured after-school tutoring and enrichment activities for students K-12 to inspire and improve academic achievement. This book drive gives families who are unable

to buy books, the opportunity to own their own books. Last year, more than 500 books were collected. This year more than 1,900 books were collected! All of the books that were donated will find their way into elementary school children's hands.



Operation Paintbrush

Pueblo Community College AmeriCorps

The Pueblo Community College AmeriCorps members chose to partner with NeighborhoodWorks of Pueblo's Operation Paintbrush for their service project. NeighborhoodWorks of Pueblo is a private nonprofit that assists families with homeownership. They also have a mission to restore homes that are past their prime to give lower-income families a chance to own a quality home. Operation Paintbrush, which is a part of NeighborhoodWorks, is in its 30th year and has already painted more than 450 homes. With the help of 23 AmeriCorps members, they were able to be a part of the restoration effort on a



homeowner's house. As the members' inner Van Gough came out, they saw the house come back to life. It was a day well spent.

“WE MADE A DIFFERENCE!”

-Pueblo Community College



Acknowledgments

Serve Colorado would like to thank the following individuals for all their hard work and dedication to their service projects. Without their amazing contributions and project coordination, this 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance would not have been as successful as it was. A BIG thank you to...

Carol Wright

Xcel Energy

Dan Allen

Rocky Mountain Field Institute

Tom Rapp

Senior Hub/RSVP

Patty Daniells

High Country RSVP

Linda Young

Brighton Shares the Harvest

Cathy Lasnik

AARP Colorado

Angela Bomgaars

Extreme Community Makeover

Crystal Yates-White

Volunteers of America - Northern Colorado

Christine Trujillo

Department of Veterans Affairs

Vicki Voss

Pueblo Community College AmeriCorps

Dan Glavin

RSVP, Volunteers of America

Thank you for all the effort you have put into your projects.
All the work you do day-in and day-out is greatly appreciated.
See everyone next year!



AmeriCorps*State Programs

Interested in learning more about AmeriCorps or becoming an AmeriCorps*State Member? AmeriCorps*State programs, funded by Serve Colorado, have programs spread out all over the state of Colorado with multiple difference service categories. The following are 2012-2013 AmeriCorps*State programs:

Boomers Leading Change in Health

Contact: Barbara Raynor | *Website:* www.BLCiH.org

Colorado HIPPYCorps

Contact: Melissa Kelley | *Website:* www.CPCFonline.org

Colorado Reading Corps

Contact: Adeeb Kahn | *Website:* www.UnitedWayDenver.org

Colorado Youth Corps

Contact: Jennifer Freeman | *Website:* www.CYCA.org

Community Building Partnership for Youth in Transition

Contact: Laura Mulvey | *Website:* www.CBPYTAmeriCorps.org

DPS Urban Education Team

Contact: Roxanne Nice | *Website:* www.DPSAmeriCorps.wordpress.org

La Puente Home AmeriCorps

Contact: Lance Cheslock | *Website:* www.LaPuente.net

Mesa County AmeriCorps Project

Contact: Angie Bertrand | *Website:* www.HTop.org

Mile High Conservation Corps

Contact: Kelly Causey, Ph.D. | *Website:* www.MileHighYouthCorps.org

President's Leadership Program at Pueblo Community College

Contact: Rachel Anderson | *Website:* www.PuebloCC.edu/AboutUs/Foundation

Regional Substance Abuse Prevention Partners (RSAPP)

Contact: Cathy Cowles | *Website:* www.RSAPP.org

Saguache United Methodist Church AmeriCorps Program

Contact: Yvonne Morfit

The School-Based Mentoring Program

Contact: Michelle Petrix | *Website:* wwwPartnersRouttCounty.org

United Way Larimer County AmeriCorps

Contact: Amanda Helfer | *Website:* www.UWAYLC.org

Weld County Youth Conservation Corps (WCYCC)

Contact: Tami Grant | *Website:* www.co.Weld.co.us





Serve Colorado - Governor's Commission on Community Service

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