



2020 Maryland State Service Plan

Mission

The [Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism's](#) (GOSV) mission is to change Maryland for the better through service and volunteerism.

State Service Plan Overview

The Maryland State Service Plan is a roadmap for national service and volunteerism in Maryland. It outlines priorities and strategies for 2020 through 2022. It was developed by the State Service Plan work group which consists of [Commissioners](#) and the [GOSV staff](#). The plan outlines the effort to reach more communities, organizations, and individuals with meaningful, effective service and volunteerism by focusing on two overarching goals: raising the profile and resource of the GOSV, and expansion of the GOSV's purview.

Priorities

Priority 1: *Expand and Improve [AmeriCorps Programs](#) in Maryland*

STRATEGY: Through targeted outreach, grantmaking and grantee support, the GOSV will support development of new AmeriCorps programs, the growth of existing AmeriCorps programs and the reach of AmeriCorps resources into communities throughout all regions of Maryland.

ACTION STEPS:

- A. Develop a statewide outreach strategy that provides information about national service to nonprofits, schools and government agencies, including small grassroots and faith-based organizations.
- B. Identify organizations that have the capacity to apply for AmeriCorps program operating grants and provide information and support.
- C. Identify organizations and communities that can benefit from other national service resources (VISTA, NCCC, Senior Corps, hosting individual AmeriCorps members, AmeriCorps planning grants, etc) and connect them with those resources.



D. Support existing AmeriCorps operating grant recipients in maintaining and further developing high quality program design, deep community engagement, and robust infrastructure.

E. Support existing AmeriCorps operating grant recipients in applying for and retaining competitive AmeriCorps funding and/or scaling up to increase the reach of their programs and the number of AmeriCorps opportunities throughout all regions of the state.

Priority 2: *Increase [Volunteer Engagement](#) and [Recognition](#)*

STRATEGY: The GOSV will serve as the hub for volunteer recognition in Maryland through its signature events and, pending funding, will launch a volunteer engagement platform, allowing the GOSV to serve as a statewide volunteer connector.

ACTION STEPS:

A. Launch statewide volunteer engagement platform, connecting it to local volunteer engagement platforms throughout the state.

B. Collaborate with Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Maryland Department of Education, Maryland VOAD and other partners and stakeholders to ensure that platform engages a wide range of volunteers, including disaster volunteers.

C. Host events and programs the Governor's Volunteer Recognition Day at the Maryland State Fair, the Baltimore Ravens' Honor Rows, the Governor's Service Awards, the GOSV Youth Service Awards, and the Black History Month Leadership and Service Awards.

Priority 3: *Increase Corporate and Community Partnerships*

STRATEGY: The GOSV will facilitate relationships between corporate entities and communities that enable a wide range of stakeholders to develop resources and initiatives to address community needs.

ACTION STEPS:

A. Use the platform of the GOSV to organize meetings and networking opportunities that connect corporations with community initiatives they can support.

B. Facilitate ongoing corporate/community partnerships to meet community needs.



Priority 4: *Broaden Collaborations between GOSV and Service Stakeholders*

STRATEGY: The GOSV will collaborate with other streams of service and volunteerism (volunteer centers, NCCC, AmeriCorps VISTA, Senior Corps, the United Way, K-H institutions and others) to provide service opportunities to individuals to meet community needs.

ACTION STEPS:

- A. Host meetings and events, including training, networking and professional development events, that are open to all national service participants and/or program staff in Maryland.
- B. Refer interested individuals and organizations to national service opportunities such as VISTA, NCCC, RSVP, Foster Grandparents.
- C. Collaborate with and support local volunteer organizations, including service learning organizations, K-H institutions and community organizations, by promoting their opportunities and having a presence in their communities.

Crosscutting Priority 5: *Increase Service and Volunteerism opportunities and engagement for people over 55*

STRATEGY: The GOSV will focus on opportunities for individuals over 55 as it implements its strategies in each priority area, endeavoring to increase over 55 participation in volunteerism and all streams of service.

ACTION STEPS:

- A. Provide training and support to existing and new AmeriCorps program staff in recruiting and placing individuals over the age of 55 to serve as AmeriCorps members.
- B. When it launches, use the statewide volunteer engagement website to connect individuals over the age of 55 with volunteer opportunities throughout the state and in a wide range of activities.



C. Collaborate with other streams of service, especially Senior Corps and local volunteer centers, to provide opportunities for Senior Corps Project Directors and volunteer managers to convene, network and share best practices.

D. Ensure that at all times the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism has at least one Governor-appointed commissioner who has knowledge of and experience in engaging individuals over the age of 55 in service and volunteerism.