AmeriCorps Information Session

Monday, July 20, 2015
Iowa Transportation Museum

Agenda

I. <u>Project Overview</u>

- Introductions & Acknowledgements
- Background
  - About ICVS
  - Grant Background
  - The Grant Application and Approved Funding
- The Project – *Grinnell AmeriCorps Partnership*
  - Overview
  - Budget
  - Involvement Opportunities
  - Timing/Next Steps

II. <u>Host Site Application Process</u>

I. Program Overview

About ICVS www.volunteeriowa.org;

- The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service (ICVS), Est. 1994
- ***Mission***: Improve lives, strengthen communities and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering
- ***Vision***: Create an Iowa where all citizens are empowered through service to meet community challenges and make lives better
- ***Activities***: Develops state service plan. Awards and administers the state's AmeriCorps programs
  - 2 designated staff liaisons to support our project

Grant Background

- How we learned about the grant
  - Iowa Council of Foundations meeting Oct, 2014

- Why we applied
  - ✓State contacts recommended Grinnell apply
  - ✓Experience with cohort model based on Apprenticeship in Nonprofit Management Program
  - ✓Strong community support for Grade Level Reading already in place
  - ✓Could meet the eligibility requirements

Grant Eligibility/Funding Priorities

- **Community-based program** "…in particular ….programs that use the principles of collective impact to work together with other stakeholders to address a common problem."

- **Underserved areas of the state including Rural Areas**. "The ICVS will prioritize programs that aim to make members available to …underserved areas through intermediary models."

Funding Priorities (cont'd)

4.2.16 Multi-Focus Intermediaries. A model wherein one non-profit serves as the "lead" organization and oversees the implementation of an AmeriCorps program that engages multiple organizations (consortium) that individually do not have the necessary capacity to apply for and run and AmeriCorps program independently. In cases where the organizations work to address community needs holistically, the organization may have different focus areas. For the purpose of this application, CNCS refers to the "lead" agency as a multi-focus intermediary. In general, these organizations primarily serve communities with limited resources and organizational infrastructure (i.e., rural and other underserved communities).

Funding Priorities (cont'd)

Made a case for:

- Rural, Underserved
- Multi-Focus Intermediary
  - Wide-spread community support
  - "Backbone" "Multi-Focus
- Education Focus
  - Strong data already available
  - Two community-based initiatives already underway
    - Grade Level Reading (all kids read at grade level by 3rd grade)
    - Skills Gap Initiative (graduates have skills for workforce)

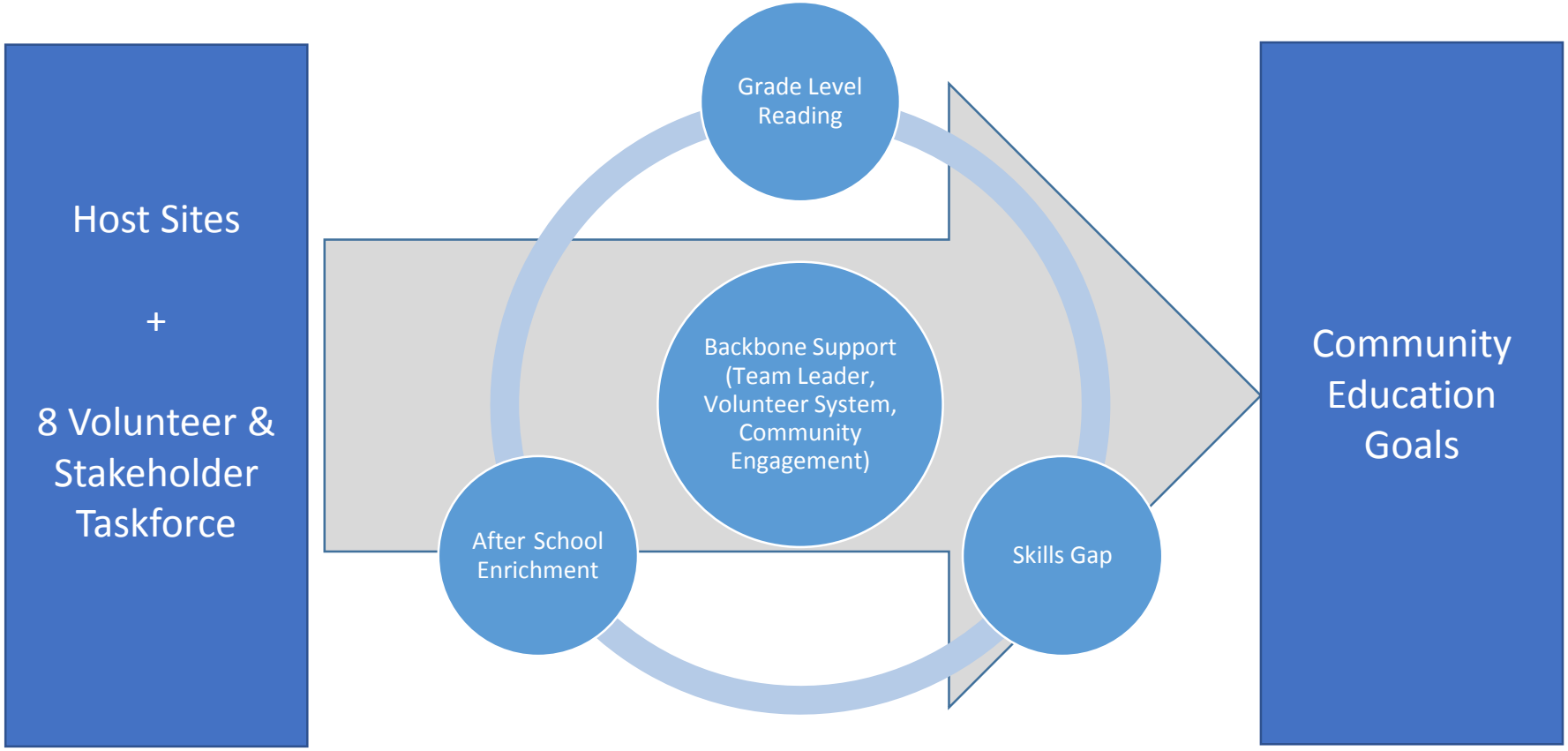
What Was Funded?

- **What**: One-year grant, renewable up to 3 years
  - Includes hiring 14 AmeriCorps Team Members in one-year service positions
  - Focus on Grade Level Reading, Skills Gap, and After School interventions
  - Grinnell College serving as “Backbone” organization
- **When**: Service Year begins 9/1/2015
- **Goal**: Using a “collective action” network framework, maximize and better align existing resources to support community education priorities.

What's Funded

GLR: PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION	**Member #1** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #2** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #3** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #4** FT (1700 hr)	
	Summer Learning	Attendance	School Readiness	Healthy Readers	
	Host Site TBD	Host Site TBD	Host Site TBD	Host Site TBD	
SKILLS GAP: PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION	**Member #5** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #6** FT (1700 hr)			
	Skills Gap				
	Host Site TBD	Host Site TBD			
PARTNERSHIP: BACKBONE SUPPORT	**Member #7** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #8** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #9** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #10** FT (1700 hr)	**Member 11** FT (1700 hr)
	Family & Community Engagement		Volunteer Infrastructure		Team Leader
	Host Site TBD	Host Site TBD	Host Site TBD	Host Site TBD	Grinnell College
AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT: DIRECT SERVICE	**Member #12** QT (450 hr)	**Member #13** QT (450 hr)	**Member #14** QT (450 hr)		
	Afterschool Enrichment at Grinnell's 3 existing after-school programs				
	Host Site TBD	Host Site TBD	Host Site TBD		

Program Structure



Budget Overview

Estimated Program Costs			Estimated Funding Sources	
Section I: Overall	$46,930		IA Commission for Volunteer Service	$171,000
Staff Travel	$3,650		Grinnell College	$27,000
Supplies: Member Logo Gear	$700		Host Sites	$12,500
Member Training (Materials & Supplies)	$525		Site 1: Summer Learnng	$1,000
Program Evaluator	$7,000		Site 2: Attendance	$1,000
Other: Member Timekeeping System	$210		Site 3: School Readiness	$1,000
Other: Member Housing	$34,320		Site 4: Healthy Readers	$1,000
Other: Background Checks	$525		Site 5: Graduate Skills Gap	$1,000
			Site 6: Graduate Skills Gap	$1,000
Section II: Member Costs	$173,454		Site 7: Family/Community Engagement	$1,000
Living Allowance	$140,830		Site 8: Family/Community Engagement	$1,000
Support (FICA, Workers Comp, Health)	$32,624		Site 9: Volunteer Infrastructure	$1,000
			Site 10: Volunteer Infrastructure	$1,000
Program Budgets for Working Groups	$50,000		Site 11: Overall Coordination	$1,000
			Site 12: After School (1)	$500
Total	$270,384		Site 13: After School (2)	$500
			Site 14: After School (3)	$500
			External Grants	$60,000
			CDAF	$10,000
			Other	$50,000
			Total	$270,500

Getting Involved

1) AmeriCorps Team Member
2) Funder
3) Taskforce Member
4) Host Site

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Member Benefits

1) Living Allowance

- $12,530 FT, $1,000 QT stipend for the service year (paid monthly)

2) Education Award

- $5,730 on successful completion of FT service, $1,515.55 for QT service. Good for up to 7 yrs.
- If 55+, can transfer to one child, grandchild, or foster child

3) Health Insurance

- ACA compliant plan available at program's expense

4) Impact

- Ability to make a difference in community education priorities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on EDUCATION AWARD: http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps/segal-americorps-education-award/amount-eligibility-and-limitations-education

Member Job Snapshot

1.) GLR (#1 4)

- FT/12 months, will convene a taskforce around Summer Learning, Student Attendance, School Readiness, or Healthy Readers action areas:
- Develop short and long-term action plans
- Implement one (1) pilot program in their area

2.) Skills Gap (#5 6)

- FT/12 months, will convene a taskforce on skills gap initiative:
- Develop short and long-term action plans
- Implement one (1) pilot "CAPS-style" program

3.) Backbone (#7 11)

- FT/12 months, provide "backbone" support for this collective-impact effort:
  - Community/Family Engagement (Awareness Campaign)
  - Volunteer Infrastructure
  - Team Leader

4.) After School (#12 14)

- QT/450 hr. total:
- Integrate district learning goals into existing after-school programming

Member Eligibility

MEMBER ELIGIBILITY: (found in the Regulations SEC. 137 [42 U.S.C. 12591])

- **Ability**. Can accomplish the program tasks
- **Age**. Is 17 years of age +
- **Education**. Has received a HS diploma or equivalent (or agrees to attain one before using an education award or is already enrolled in an institution of higher learning on an ability to benefit basis). [Note: the individual may not drop out of school to become a member.]
  - Can be a currently enrolled college or university student
- **Citizenship**. Is a citizen of the United States or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States
- **Background Check**. Pass background check excluding anyone:
  1. convicted of murder with malice aforethought as defined by 18 U.S.C. § 1111.
  2. listed, or required to be listed, on a sex offender registry.
  3. who refuses to undergo the National Service Criminal History Check.
  4. who makes a false statement in connection with a program's inquiry concerning the individual's criminal history.

➢ If interested, contact: communityenhance@grinnell.edu by Sept 4, 2015

Getting Involved

1) AmeriCorps Team Member
2) **Funder**
3) Taskforce Member
4) Host Site

Funder Opportunities

<u>Who Can Give?</u>

- Any organization or individual interested in supporting the project's success through financial support

<u>How Will Funding be Used</u>?

- Will support the taskforce working groups with program budgets

➢ If interested, contact: communityenhance@grinnell.edu by Sept 4, 2015

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8 Taskforce Groups

Summer Learning	• Action Plans • Pilot Project
Student Attendance	• Action Plans • Pilot Project
School Readiness	• Action Plans • Pilot Project
Healthy Readers	• Action Plans • Pilot Project
Skills Gap	• Action Plans • CAPs-Style Class pilot
Family/Community Engagement	• Family Awareness • Community Awareness
Volunteer Infrastructure	• Volunteer Database • Volunteer System

Taskforce Participants

- **Qualifications**. Any interested organization or individual with interest and expertise in the taskforce area, committed to serving a 12-month term
- **Responsibilities**
  - Attend monthly taskforce meetings
  - Contribute to short- and long-term action plans
  - Help implement taskforce pilot project

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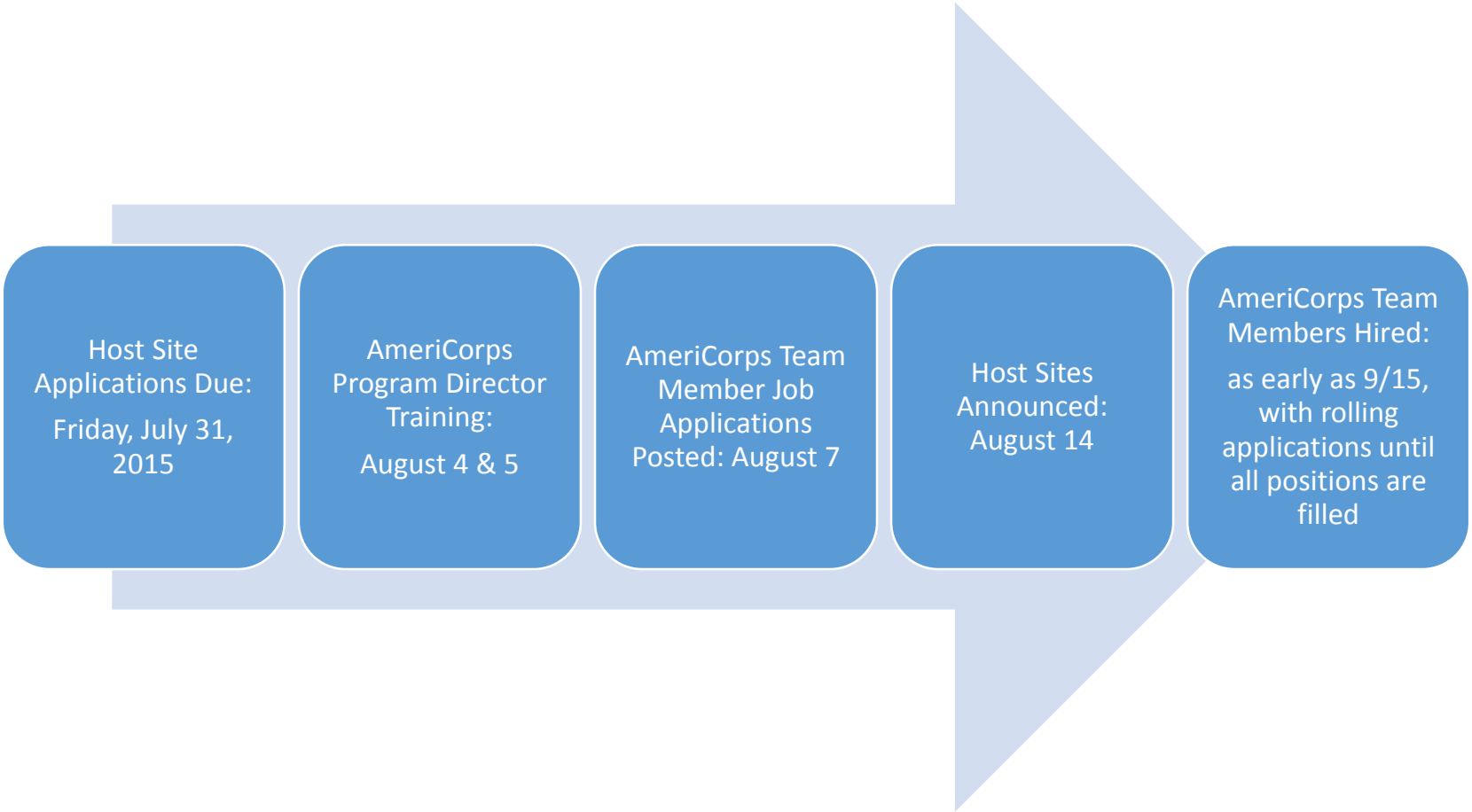
Timing/Next Steps



Questions?

For More Information:

AmeriCorps Program Managers
Monica Chavez and Melissa Strovers
Grinnell College
Office of Community Enhancement
communityenhance@grinnell.edu
(641)269-3900

II. Host Site Information

Maximum 14 Host Sites

GLR: PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION	**Member #1** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #2** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #3** FT (1700 hr)	**Member #4** FT (1700 hr)	
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Host Site Benefits

1.) Capacity

- Affords dedicated **staffing** to focus on community education priorities.

2.) Connectivity

- Widens channels for new **collaborations** among interested organizations.

3.) Engagement

- Offers a way to be further **engaged** with education initiatives without further taxing existing staff resources.

4.) Awareness

- Increases awareness **opportunities** for your organization.

Host Site Responsibilities

1.) Supervision

- Provide consistent supervision of the AmeriCorps member
- Contribute to a positive Member Experience

2.) Collaboration

- Attend group orientation and update meetings.
- Contribute toward common program goals utilizing your unique subject knowledge for the taskforce work.

3.) Compliance

- Comply with AmeriCorps timekeeping and reporting requirements.

Host Site Eligibility

- **Qualifying Agency.** Non-profits and governmental agencies
- **AmeriCorps Compliance.** For AmeriCorps requirements
  - Must not displace/duplicate workers or volunteers
  - Not engage in prohibited activities
- **Adequate Staffing.** Provide a dedicated staff person (must pass required background check) who will supervise and support the development of the AmeriCorps Team Member(s)
- **Adequate Workspace**. Designate in-office workspace, office equipment, etc.
- **Cost Share:**
  - $1,000 for full-time (1700 hr) position
  - $500 for quarter-time (450 hr) position

➢ May apply to host more than one AmeriCorps Team Member

Host Site Selection

Will select host sites based on:

1. Subject knowledge (previously demonstrated content expertise)

2. Community knowledge and collaboration

3. Supervisory experience to guide the AmeriCorps team member's work

4. Existing data-collection mechanisms for the focus area in question (if at all possible)

Member Placement

Recruiting

1. Program Managers will post all member job descriptions and collect applications
2. Host Sites will use their networks to promote their opening

Hiring

1. Program Managers will conduct initial screening
2. Host sites will interview and jointly make hiring decisions

Host Site Application

GRINNELL COLLEGE

Grinnell AmeriCorps Partnership

Host Organization Application

Non-profit and governmental agencies are invited to apply as a host site for the 2015-2016 Grinnell AmeriCorps Partnership program. In this program, an AmeriCorps Team Member(s) will be selectively matched with an organization in a one-year position beginning as early as September 15, 2015. Using a "collective action" network framework, this program will maximize and better align existing resources to support community education priorities.

How to Apply
Please complete this application to describe your organization's interest and qualifications for hosting one or more AmeriCorps Team Member(s). Organizations may apply to host more than one team member.

Application Process
Submit completed applications to:
Office of Community Enhancement & Engagement
Grinnell College, Old Glove Factory
733 Broad Street
Grinnell, IA 50112
communityenhance@grinnell.edu

Application Timing
Applications must be received by July 31, 2015. Host organizations will be selected and notified by August 14, 2015.

Eligibility
Local non-profit and governmental agencies in good standing, meet AmeriCorps basic eligibility requirements, and have the capacity to host and provide a positive member experience for one or more AmeriCorps team member(s).

Host Selection
Host sites will be selected by the Grinnell College Program Management team. Site visits may be requested. All host sites must meet AmeriCorps eligibility requirements. Preference will be given to organizations with: 1) Previously demonstrated content expertise; 2) Community knowledge and collaboration; 3) Supervisory experience; and 4) Existing data collection mechanisms (if applicable).

Cost Share
Host organizations are required to contribute to the cost of the program. Hosts for full-time members have a cost share of $1,000 per member. Hosts for part-time members have a cost share of $500 per member.