



## AMERICORPS ALUMS AND HANDSON NETWORK ACTION CENTERS

### HandsOn Network

Through its network of more than 250 HandsOn Action Centers, HandsOn Network allows citizens to find volunteer projects and programs that connect a volunteer's passion with real needs in local communities. From training to become a volunteer leader to using a volunteer's professional skills to get local non-profit organizations on track, the options are endless. Its Action Centers are in more than 250 communities across the country and 11 international locations. HandsOn Network reaches 83% of the population, facilitating more than 30,000 projects a month. Its network also includes more than 70,000 nonprofit, faith, education and community-based organizations. In 2008 alone, HandsOn volunteers delivered more than **30 million** hours of service valued at \$615 million! The call to engage in your community is stronger than ever. Don't miss out on your opportunity to Be The Change. We are here to help!

HandsOn Network falls under the umbrella of Points of Light Institute, as does AmeriCorps Alums, and presents a natural and logical partnership opportunity for us to utilize. Partnering with HandsOn Network action Centers will provide your chapter with the foundation necessary to build from the ground up.

### **Examples of AmeriCorps Alums Chapter & HandsOn Affiliate Collaboration**

#### In general:

- Coordination and implementation of service projects (i.e. D.C. Servathon)
- Coordination with and engagement into affiliate initiatives & programs (i.e. Volunteer 300)
- Affiliates utilized as fiscal agent of associated chapter in order to monitor grant funds allocated by AmeriCorps Alums to respective local chapters
- Utilization of Hands On affiliate liaison for chapter occurrences & events (i.e. Metro Volunteers)
- Alumni engaged as part-time/full-time AmeriCorps members of affiliate AmeriCorps programs
- Staff Representation on Chapter Boards (i.e. D.C. Cares)

#### Specific Examples

##### **1) Portland, OR (Oregon Chapter & Hands On Portland)**

- Coordinates with Hands On Portland to organize and set up our service projects.
- Hands On Portland provides office for meeting space
- Hands On Portland acts as fiscal agent to monitor Oregon Chapter

##### **2) Atlanta, GA (Atlanta Chapter & Hands On Atlanta)**

- Atlanta Chapter of AmeriCorps Alums coordinates with Hands On Atlanta to engage alumni in organizing and participating in Hands On Atlanta Day & MLK, Jr. Day
- ATL Chapter partners with *East Atlanta Kids Club* mentoring program through HOA
- Hands On Atlanta provides meeting space for the Atlanta Chapter of AmeriCorps Alums
- Atlanta Chapter provides alumni as resources/speakers to help train current AmeriCorps members

As a local AmeriCorps Alums chapter leader you can advance your chapter's cause and make a difference in your community by inspiring national service alumni and mobilizing them for change. Use AmeriCorps Alums as your training ground for future success by connecting with our chapter specialists.

### 3) Denver, CO (Denver Chapter & Metro Volunteers)

- Metro Volunteers provides discount costs for alumni to participate in leadership training and Board training programs.
- Metro Volunteers provides storage & office support (use of affiliate address, copies, & archives)
- Metro Volunteers manage Denver Chapter grant and acts as fiscal agent
- Denver chapter provide alumni to participate in panels/community forums and service projects
- Denver chapter collaborates strategically by engaging Metro Volunteers staff liaison in chapter meetings

### 4) Washington D.C. (D.C. Chapter & Greater D.C. Cares)

- AmeriCorps Alums DC participates in a yearly joint event with D.C. Cares (Servathon)
- D.C. Cares provides one representative to serve on the Board of AmeriCorps Alums DC and participates in one joint event with the chapter
- Each chapter member is encouraged to go through orientation and register as a “DC Cares Volunteer”
- AmeriCorps Alums DC adopts a D.C. Cares calendar project and assigns a Project Coordinator (PC) to manage the project for the year
- DC Cares markets DC Chapter events to its database of nonprofits who may have alumni staff
- Director of programs sits on the AmeriCorps Alums-DC founding board

## II. Potential Collaboration Opportunities

- AmeriCorps Recruitment
  - Canvassing of local universities/high schools by alumni
- Citizen Academy
  - Facilitation of Community Discussions by alumni
  - Position alumni to be champions around respective affiliate focus areas
  - Tap into the minds of alumni for Citizen Academy programming ideas (Birmingham)
- Volunteer Leaders
  - Train the Trainer Events available throughout the year
- AmeriCorps Member Development Training (for affiliates with AmeriCorps programs)
  - Integrate AmeriCorps Alums into *Life After AmeriCorps* Training

### AmeriCorps Alums Funding Opportunities

Funding is available to chapters through grants to the HON affiliate that is acting as the fiscal agent. It is up to the affiliate and the chapter to determine how the funds are allocated.

- General administration grants (not every year) to chapters. In 2005, seven \$5,000K grants were issued.
- Martin Luther King Jr Day of Service and National Youth Service Day grants may be available at \$500-\$1,000 in 2007.
- Grants for education and youth programming in chapters of may be available in 2007.
- Grants for chapter leaders providing training to alumni on being a volunteer leader may be available in 2007.
- Chapters may receive a percentage of profits AmeriCorps Alums receive from merchandise sales in area of purchase.
- Chapters may receive compensation for training for AmeriCorps Alums or through the HON Leadership Faculty.

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#### Online Resources

AmeriCorps Alums website at [www.lifetimeofservice.org](http://www.lifetimeofservice.org) (stand alone site from Hands On Network)

AmeriCorps Alums Online Community provides:

- Access to Searchable Database of nearly 3,000 alums & growing
  - Hands On Affiliate Profile Indicator*: Indicates dual associations (AmeriCorps alumnus & affiliate volunteer/collaborator)
- Career Postings, Ed Award matches, Event postings
- Access to Alums Chapter Homepage

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