

# Massachusetts Service Alliance

*Building Stronger Communities through Service and Volunteerism*



## Summer 2016

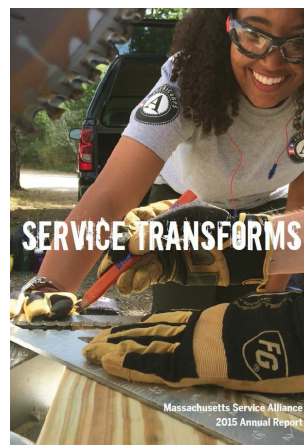
### In this issue:

[MSA's 2015 Annual Report](#) / [MSA Funding Opportunities](#) / [Serve in the Commonwealth Corps - Apply Now!](#) / [Commonwealth Corps Celebration of Service](#) / [Service Enterprise Certifications](#) / [Volunteer Opportunities](#) / [AmeriCorps Graduations](#) / [AmeriCorps Alums Boston](#) / [2016 AmeriCorps Opening Day](#)

### MSA's 2015 Annual Report - *Service Transforms*

We are pleased to share with you the Massachusetts Service Alliance's 2015 Annual Report - *Service Transforms*, which you can read [here](#).

Our exciting new publication highlights the broad impact MSA's support had upon organizations and communities across Massachusetts in 2014-2015. As you flip through each page we hope you enjoy reading some powerful examples of transformation in our communities, within the organizations we support, as well as the personal and professional transformation of Corps members and volunteers giving back.



### MSA Funding Opportunities

MSA is pleased to release the following request for proposals:

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service - Proposals due **Friday, September 9**
- Massachusetts State AmeriCorps - Proposals due **Tuesday, September 13**
- Youth Development Volunteer Initiative - Proposals due **Friday, September 23**



For more information on these funding opportunities, scroll down to the bottom of MSA's homepage [here](#).

### Serve in the Commonwealth Corps - Apply Now!

Spread the word! Commonwealth Corps member positions are still available for an immediate start. Learn more about Commonwealth Corps partners still accepting applications [here](#).

**COMMONWEALTH  
CORPS**  
INSPIRE. UNITE. ACT.

MSA is pleased to partner with 18 host sites for the 2016-2017 program year to help strengthen organizations and communities across Massachusetts and to host 50 Commonwealth Corps members, who will provide direct service and capacity building.

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## Commonwealth Corps 2015-2016 Celebration of Service

On June 20, Commonwealth Corps members and host site staff, MSA staff, and guests gathered at the State House for a celebration of the 2015-2016 Commonwealth Corps program year. The celebration of service featured special remarks from State Representative Marjorie C. Decker, MSA CEO Emily Haber, MSA board member David Roach, Commonwealth Corps members Betsabe Monge Ayuso and Eric Johnson, and Commonwealth Corps alumna Jessica Whitehead.

Commonwealth Corps members and host site staff also shared their highlights. Thank you to our 30+ Commonwealth Corps members and 17 host site partners for contributing over 42,000 hours of service during the 2015-2016 program year!



2015-2016 Commonwealth Corps members and host site staff

**Eric Johnson, 2015-2016 Commonwealth Corps member with the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell (and now a staff member at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell, supervising this year's members):**

*"I took on challenges I did not think myself able to overcome, and gained ample experience implementing educational programs for youth, communicating effectively across diverse groups, and hosting events to involve community members and partners...Looking to the future, I feel confident to face new challenges, and open to new opportunities as they present themselves. I know every service member in this room has an incredibly bright future ahead of them, and our state has been blessed by their commitment to service and making a difference."*



**Betsabe Monge Ayuso, 2015-2016 Commonwealth Corps member with Sociedad Latina:**

*"To say the least, this year of service has given me the confidence to believe in myself, the tools I needed to build my capacity in the area of youth development and parent*

engagement, has re-energized me, and has given me the push I needed to refocus on the next steps in my professional trajectory and where I can continue to make a difference...I have learned and received so much this year and plan to continue to use the skills I acquired during my service year, the resources and contacts to make a difference in my life and that of my community."



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## Service Enterprise Certifications!

Congratulations to our newest certified organizations from the 2015 Service Enterprise cohort:

Falmouth Volunteers in Public Schools

Falmouth Service Center

WE CAN

Salvation Army of New Bedford

YMCA of the South Coast

South Coast Serves/ Leduc Center for Civic Engagement

Women's Fund of Southeastern MA



Each of these agencies participated in 20 hours of training and proved excellence in 7 out of 10 volunteer and organizational management characteristics. In conjunction with the national nonprofit, Points of Light, the Massachusetts Service Alliance partnered with Cape and Islands United Way, Boston Cares, and United Way of Greater New Bedford to deliver the Service Enterprise Initiative to these regions.

For more information about participating in the Service Enterprise Program for Massachusetts, please contact: Shana Lothrop, Program Officer for Volunteer Initiatives, [slothrop@mass-service.org](mailto:slothrop@mass-service.org) or visit <http://www.pointsoflight.org/service-enterprise-initiative> for more information about the national initiative.

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## Looking for volunteer opportunities? Check out some of the latest volunteer postings on Connect and Serve!

ESOL/Adult Literacy Teaching and Curriculum Development Internship

Newton and Brookline Child Assault Prevention (CAP) Programs Seeking Volunteers

Tabling at various farm fairs and events

Serve Dinner to our youth!

Edward M. Kennedy Institute Education & Visitor Experience Volunteer

Development Assistant (Intern or Volunteer)

Practice Interviewers NEEDED! September 2nd, 16th, 23rd and 30th!

New School Year, New Opportunities! Become an Academic Mentor



CONNECT & SERVE

Arts and Crafts Instructor Volunteer

Volunteer Open House

Run Wild 5K

Join the American Cancer Society to help finish the fight against breast cancer!

See more on MSA's Connect and Serve volunteer portal [here!](#)

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## AmeriCorps Graduations

This summer, MSA's AmeriCorps State programs had graduations for members serving throughout Massachusetts. More than 1,500 AmeriCorps members from 23 different programs completed their service. Congratulations, AmeriCorps members!



*Graduates of the 2015-2016 Barnstable County AmeriCorps Cape Cod program and special guest, Director of AmeriCorps Bill Basl*

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## AmeriCorps Alums Boston Begins 2016-2017 Board Term

AmeriCorps Alums Boston just welcomed 7 new board members to kick off the 2016-2017 board term! Jeff Moyer, Claribette Del Rosario, Brian Whitney, Nelhai Mallebay-Vacqueur, Jake DeMasi, Rob Hendrickson, and Lisamarie Indovina joined the returning board of Megan Baker (co-chair), Allison Rogers (co-chair), Divya Amladi, Grace Boal, and Elizabeth Way to bring the board to full capacity!

AmeriCorps Alums Boston will be hosting a table at the Riverfest at Assembly Row on Saturday, September 10th, and will be hosting social events to watch the debates this fall-stay tuned for more information at <https://www.facebook.com/ACAlumsBoston/?fref=ts>.



### Spotlight: Welcome, Gayle!

Gayle Schechter served in Rochester AmeriCorps and moved to Boston a few years ago. She's currently working on her MS at Simmons College.

Gayle has been managing the upkeep of the newly launched AmeriCorps Alums Boston website, writing grants for service project proposals, managing internal and external communications, chapter events management, and coordinating logistics for board operations. AmeriCorps Alums Boston is excited to continue working with her!



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**Save the Date! 2016 AmeriCorps Opening Day**

Friday, November 4, 2016 at 10:00 am

Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center

Registration will open at the end of September



**Massachusetts Service Alliance**

100 N. Washington St, 3rd Floor

Boston, MA 02114

617.542.2544

[www.mass-service.org](http://www.mass-service.org)

