



Community  
HealthCorps



# Community HealthCorps

Statewide Impact Report  
(2009-2010)

## District of Columbia



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
Community Health Centers





## Introduction

Founded in 1995 by the National Association of Community Health Centers, Community HealthCorps is the largest health-focused, national AmeriCorps program whose *Mission* is to improve health care access and enhance workforce development for community health centers through national service programs. Members (AmeriCorps participants) provide a variety of health services/programs for patients and community frequently serving as community health workers (CHWs). Members also serve to improve the capacity of health centers to provide quality health services and programs to medically underserved people. The *Vision* of Community HealthCorps is to serve as a national service pipeline for careers in community health centers that is improving access to necessary primary and preventive care services for the medically underserved.

The cover of this brochure depicts just one of the many activities our members participate in. Here, you can see Krystal Kekula teaching a young girl how to plant a garden. Community HealthCorps members not only provide guidance to communities on how to navigate the health care system, but they also help educate communities on healthy ways of life.

## Members Reflect & Work in Underserved Communities

Community HealthCorps members serve rural and racially/culturally diverse urban communities and suburban, as well as migrant farm worker, homeless and public housing populations. Members are as racially, ethnically and economically diverse as the communities they serve. Educational attainment varies from high school and some college to graduate degrees. In addition, some members are active or retired health and social service professionals.

No matter their background, Community HealthCorps members become part of a person's struggle for better health and economic independence.



*Members volunteer within their community*

## Members are Highly Trained and are known as "Agents of Change"

Community HealthCorps\* AmeriCorps members acquire new skills and knowledge that enhance their effectiveness and value to patients and other individuals through pre-service orientation, in-service and advanced trainings.

In addition, Community HealthCorps\* VISTA Members alleviate poverty by improving the capacity of health centers to provide quality health services and programs to medically underserved people.



"I am learning a lot about mental health access and behaviors, and how it can be a challenge to keep someone engaged unless you are able to get the patient into services right away."

-2009-10 DC Primary Care Association  
Member, Ellie Gutowski

*Community HealthCorps members from DC Primary Care Association participate in a wide variety of national and local service events. For MLK Day 2011, members engaged youth in activities to promote physical activity.*

## We're everywhere, including Washington, D.C.!

For program year 2010-2011, nearly 500 Community HealthCorps\* National and VISTA members will serve full-time through nearly 40 partner organizations and three affiliate organizations at more than 150 delivery sites across 19 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

This year, DC Primary Care Association will host 11 full-time members at 10 placement sites. To learn more about the DC Primary Care Association, visit their website at [www.dcpca.org](http://www.dcpca.org).



*Community HealthCorps members served at the NBC4 Health and Fitness Expo at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. This is the largest free consumer health event in the country, with close to 200 exhibitors and 87,000+ attendees*

## A Quick Look at Community HealthCorps in Washington, D.C. 2009 to 2010

*"This was a good [service] project, not only because it allowed us to do something good for a very reputable organization, but also because it allowed us the opportunity to see other ways people are positively impacting our communities beyond the health care field."*

*-2009-10 DC Primary Care Association Member, Brittany Odom*

- 54,258 Encounters for sharing information about health issues, health insurance plans, and health services/programs, including eligibility determination
- 138 Enrollments in health insurance plans, and health services/programs
- 11,592 People using preventive and primary health care services two or more times in the program year
- Members participated in 17 health fairs and 159 service days/events, therefore benefitting 26,939 people
- Members generated 687 additional community volunteers who volunteered a total of 1,239 hours
- 15,848 combined hours served among 14 members worth \$518,863.52 in 2009\*  
(\*Washington, DC Dollar Value of a Volunteer Hour: \$32.74 per hour according to latest available data [2008] — <http://www.independentsector.org>)



To learn more about our organizations, please visit:

**Community HealthCorps**  
[www.communityhealthcorps.org](http://www.communityhealthcorps.org)

**NACHC**  
[www.nachc.com](http://www.nachc.com)

**AmeriCorps**  
[www.nationalservice.org](http://www.nationalservice.org)

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