



Community
HealthCorps



Community HealthCorps

Statewide Impact Report
(2009-2010)

Massachusetts



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.



"Every Saturday afternoon, one of the Boston Health Care for the Homeless AmeriCorps Members organizes and hosts an activity for the people living in the Barbara McInnis House. Having stereotypes broken is always an interesting and eye-opening experience; going to McInnis that Saturday was definitely one of those experiences for me."

-2010-11 East Boston Neighborhood Health Center Member, Meredith Newby

Members from Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers met with US Surgeon General Regina Benjamin to discuss her "Vision for a Healthy and Fit Nation"

We're everywhere, including Massachusetts!

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, 3 (three) operating sites will host over 30 members at over 20 placement sites in Massachusetts alone. These operating sites include:

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center
(Boston, MA)
www.ebnhc.org

Boston Health Care for the Homeless
(Boston, MA)
www.bhchp.org

Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers
(Boston, MA)
www.massleague.org



Members from East Boston educate their community about physical education and healthy nutrition habits during MLK Day 2011



A Quick Look at Community HealthCorps in Massachusetts 2009 to 2010

- 68,509 Encounters for sharing information about health issues, health insurance plans, and health services/programs, including eligibility determination
- 9,094 Enrollments in health insurance plans, and health services/programs
- 10,330 People using preventive and primary health care services two or more times in the program year
- Members participated in 73 health fairs, 195 service days/events, and 27 disaster preparation and response events, therefore benefitting 39,468 people
- 54,190 combined hours served among 33 members worth \$1,426,280.80 in 2009*
(*Massachusetts State Dollar Value of a Volunteer Hour: \$26.32 per hour according to latest available data [2008]—
<http://www.independentsector.org>)

"I find myself extremely satisfied when I know that I've been able to at least get a couple of patients to make their appointments, because at least I know I've managed to make maybe just one persons health care a little better and I realize that all my hard work does pay off!"
-2010-11 East Boston Neighborhood Health Center Member, Romeena Lee



To learn more about our organizations, please visit:

Community HealthCorps
www.communityhealthcorps.org

NACHC
www.nachc.com

AmeriCorps
www.nationalservice.org

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