



Community  
HealthCorps



# Community HealthCorps

Statewide Impact Report  
(2009-2010)

Tennessee



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 community's struggle for better health and economic independence.

## 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.



*Members volunteer within their community*



"There's nothing like really seeing the people that you tell your friends and family you're moving across the country to help. The entire Vulnerability Index experience was great and really made me miss the shelters back home, but it also inspired me and reaffirmed that I'd made the right choice in moving to Nashville as an AmeriCorps member."

-2010-11 United Neighborhood Health Services Member, Katie Paczkowski

*Team member, Courtney Bottoms volunteering for the Vulnerability Index*

## We're everywhere, including Tennessee!

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, United Neighborhood Health Services will host 10 members at 2 placement sites in Tennessee. To learn more about United Neighborhood Health Services, visit their website at [www.unitedneighborhood.org](http://www.unitedneighborhood.org).



"Our team recently went into the underserved housing projects of Napier, Sudekum and Cayce communities near our Southside clinic and distributed red ribbons and condoms to the residents there in support of World Aids Day. It was amazing. This service is the kind that I signed up for! Giving back to the community that surrounds you is amazing and opens your eyes to the variety of ways that people are living from one block to the other. I will never forget that World Aids Day.

-2010-11 United Neighborhood Health Services Member, Jacklyn McNeil



*Members volunteer at a variety of service events throughout the year, including health fairs, homeless shelters, and more!*



## A Quick Look at Community HealthCorps in Tennessee 2009 to 2010

- 22,419 Encounters for sharing information about health issues, health insurance plans, & health services/programs, including eligibility determination
- 624 Enrollments in health insurance plans, & health services/programs
- 125 People using preventive & primary health care services two or more times in the program year
- Members in Tennessee generated 19 volunteers who volunteered a total of 49.5 hours
- 14,636 combined hours served among 13 members worth \$269,156.04 in 2009\*  
(\*Tennessee State Dollar Value of a Volunteer Hour (\$18.39 per hour—<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)

Follow us!



[www.facebook.com/  
communityhealthcorps](http://www.facebook.com/communityhealthcorps)



[www.twitter.com/  
commhealthcorps](http://www.twitter.com/commhealthcorps)



[www.youtube.com/  
communityhealthcorps](http://www.youtube.com/communityhealthcorps)



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
Community Health Centers

National Association of Community Health Centers  
7200 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 210  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814