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Maine Commission for Community Service Among Eight States Selected to Receive Afterschool Grants from ASC, Mott Foundation

New program development initiative will expand afterschool opportunities through AmeriCorps in Maine



Augusta, ME — Maine will be better poised to expand out-of-school time opportunities for youth at a statewide level, thanks to new funding that has been awarded to the Maine Commission for Community Service (MCCS) from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation in partnership with America's Service Commissions (ASC).

The Mott Foundation awarded a \$250,000 grant to ASC in September for a multi-year initiative to identify how the state service commission network can expand afterschool opportunities through national service, such as AmeriCorps.

As part of the initiative, ASC has selected eight state service commissions, including the Maine Commission for Community Service, to receive \$12,500 mini-grants. Funding will support staff and consultant time to develop a better understanding of the local afterschool landscape and identify potential paths for developing national service programming that will expand the quality and quantity of afterschool opportunities in their respective states.

In addition to Maine, the following states were selected to receive this funding include:

- **Idaho:** [Serve Idaho](#)
- **Indiana:** [Serve Indiana](#)
- **Iowa:** [Volunteer Iowa](#)
- **Kansas:** [Kansas Volunteer Commission](#)
- **Maine:** [Maine Commission for Community Service](#)
- **Rhode Island:** [Serve Rhode Island](#)
- **West Virginia:** [Volunteer West Virginia](#)
- **Wisconsin:** [Serve Wisconsin](#)



Here in Maine, the funding will allow MCCS to develop National Service programs with Maine After School Network and allow them to access CNCS resources. Ultimately MCCS's goals are to move AmeriCorps programming into the more rural areas of the state and to increase school readiness and increase adoption of service-learning in youth serving organizations.

MCCS will also receive support from America's Service Commissions, through monthly learning community calls, ongoing coaching, and a yearly convening for the states receiving grants.

"We are honored to have been selected for this important afterschool initiative," said Maryalice Crofton, Executive Director of MCCS. "With ASC's backbone support and Mott Foundation's strong connections to afterschool networks, we are confident that we can make a real difference for a lot of young people in Maine through AmeriCorps and national service programming."

"We are excited to partner with the Maine Commission for Community Service on this effort, and to help support the future expansion of afterschool opportunities and AmeriCorps programming In Maine," said ASC CEO Kaira Esgate.

In addition to supporting states, ASC will work with the National Network of Statewide Afterschool Networks and other key stakeholders to develop new strategies around afterschool program development over the next two years.

Through this effort, ASC believes that the project will lead to an increased understanding between state service commissions and statewide afterschool networks about how to leverage national service and AmeriCorps resources in support of high-quality afterschool opportunities nationwide.

For more information on this initiative, visit statecommissions.org/afterschool.

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About America's Service Commissions

America's Service Commissions (ASC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing and promoting the 52 state service commissions across the United States and territories with the mission to lead and elevate the state service network. State service commissions are governor-appointed public agencies or nonprofit organizations made up of more than 1,000 commissioners, private citizens leading the nation's service movement and administering 80 percent of the federal AmeriCorps funds to address pressing community needs. Learn more at statecommissions.org.

About Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, established in 1926 in Flint, Michigan, by an automotive pioneer, is a private philanthropy committed to supporting projects that promote a just, equitable and sustainable society. It supports nonprofit programs throughout the United States and, on a limited geographic basis, internationally. Grantmaking is focused in four programs: Civil Society, Environment, Flint Area and Education. In addition to Flint, offices are located in metropolitan Detroit, Johannesburg and London. With year-end assets of approximately \$2.7 billion in 2016, the Foundation made 405 grants totaling more than \$121 million. For more information, visit www.mott.org.