

# SERVICE YEAR

## Impact Communities



Service Year Alliance is committed to supporting communities in their efforts to build and/or scale local service year opportunities. Just imagine the power of service years scaled in your city, town, or neighborhoods working day after day against a defined challenge.

The Service Year Impact Community initiative is looking for a diverse group of communities who demonstrate a willingness to grow the number of local service year opportunities and improve the quality of existing service year programs. Service Year Alliance works directly with local leaders to bring stakeholders together and build the infrastructure necessary to host and support service years at unprecedented levels, while enhancing the service year experience and increasing coordination across the community.

Service Year Impact Communities are recognized as leaders and innovators in the service movement and inspire other communities to step up and lead. By demonstrating the local impact of service year corps members, the selected communities have the opportunity to serve as models for others across the country.

## How to Apply

Please email Raabia Budhwani, Director of Place-Based Growth, at [raabia@serviceyear.org](mailto:raabia@serviceyear.org) if you have questions or if you would like application instructions or additional materials.

### Impact Community Spotlight: Flint, Michigan

In 2013, Flint leaders committed to service as a core community value and set a goal to scale service years in the city. Because of these early planning efforts to use service years for community development, Flint was prepared when the crisis hit, with service year corps members hitting the ground first to help residents. Flint's early partnership with Service Year Alliance has enabled the community to scale the number of corps members from 30 to more than 200 since 2014 and has highlighted the vital role service years can play in times of community distress and recovery.



# What is expected of a Service Year Impact Community?

## Service Year Impact Communities commit to:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to dramatically increase the scale (1 position per 300 residents) and quality of service year programs in their community.
- Set or reaffirm a target to expand by at least an additional 100 positions but are encouraged to set a more aggressive near term goal (1 position per 300 residents) by 2019. Communities are also encouraged to set a longer term goal that demonstrates their long term commitment to serving as a Service Year Impact Community.
- Document and elevate best practices and lessons learned and enhance the potential for replication in other communities.
- Utilize the Service Year Exchange for recruitment by actively working to get all service year programs in a community registered with Service Year.
- Be an active part of a network of communities working to realize service years at scale by participating in peer learning and networking.

## What benefits will a Service Year Impact Community receive?

- Recognition and national visibility.
- Access to a unique peer network and community of practice consisting of other communities identified through this initiative.
- Invitations to Service Year Alliance meetings and events.
- Guidance and support such as feedback on service year growth strategies.
- Connections to learning opportunities and promising practices.
- Web-based training opportunities and online tools and resources.
- Customized recruitment page on the Service Year Exchange at a discounted rate.
- Recruitment resources such as promotional packets and graphic design support for regional recruitment campaigns.
- In some instances, intensive consulting, on-site technical assistance and/or funding opportunities may be awarded through a competitive process.

## Applicant Eligibility

Due to the nature of the initiative, activities are likely to be carried out by a variety of organizations and organization types. Eligible applicants for Service Year Impact Community initiative are: units of local government, nonprofit organizations, or community foundations, etc.