Dear Friends,

We are proud to present the Volunteer NH 2014 Annual Report, and pleased to share the successes and vision of Volunteer NH and New Hampshire’s volunteers.

As the designated State Service Commission, Volunteer NH administers AmeriCorps programs, and trains and engages volunteers. We sustain existing relationships while forging to build new partnerships with community, nonprofit, and business groups throughout the State. Our focus is to enhance the tradition of service in New Hampshire, and empower volunteers and community organizations to meet critical unmet human needs. There is a place for everyone to engage with Volunteer NH!

This was a year of moving and shaking for Volunteer NH. In fulfilling our vision of a total community approach we increased collaboration among nonprofit agencies, further developed and forged new private sector partnerships, and successfully executed our very first signature fundraiser, the Volunteer NH Charity Golf Tournament. With service peers and business partners around the state we delved deeper into researching and sharing best practices in Volunteerism. In partnership with New Hampshire Businesses for Social Responsibility, we hosted a series of Business Roundtables focused on corporate volunteerism, and put one of the best practices we learned to action in the form of a corporate, community volunteer fair. NH communities have long embraced the value of service to others, and partnering with community focused groups and individuals gives Volunteer NH its strength and success.

Moving forward in 2015, Volunteer NH will work to increase accessibility to our resources statewide and focus our efforts to share the tools and resources we can offer to nonprofits, business, and volunteers. We will continue to utilize and build partnerships, strengthening the critical infrastructure needed to support volunteering and programs, and share this model with other states.

Please celebrate and embrace the tradition of volunteerism with us. It is every volunteer, partner, and advocate for service that moves us and New Hampshire residents towards strengthening our communities and serving as examples for the nation.

Gretchen Berger-Wabuti
Executive Director

Volunteer NH is New Hampshire’s state commission for community service and volunteerism. Our mission is to promote the tradition of service in New Hampshire through training, engaging, and recognizing volunteers. VNH administers the Corporation for National and Community Service AmeriCorps programs and NH Citizen Corps emergency services programs. Volunteer NH, founded in 2001, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
“Strong connections among citizens set the Granite State apart and allow us to work together to strengthen our communities. Day in and day out, Volunteer NH brings people together to realize our strong sense of community, boosting the Granite State’s rich tradition of volunteerism and civic engagement. Volunteer NH serves those who serve us, and I am glad to work with them to engage NH.”

GOVERNOR MAGGIE HASSAN
CONNECTING volunteers

Volunteer NH offers a free statewide online matching database for New Hampshire nonprofit organizations and volunteers. Having the ability to search opportunities brings volunteers to where their skills are needed — to nonprofit organizations in communities all over New Hampshire. Use VRrecruiter to share and search for opportunities in your area.

FOR YOUR NONPROFIT
Post your volunteer needs and opportunities.

FOR YOUR BUSINESS
Engage your employee volunteers, or perform team-building service activities.

FOR VOLUNTEERS
Find volunteer opportunities right for you and your interests, engage your skills and learn some new ones.

In 2014, VRrecruiter:
Hosted 486 Opportunities for 560 nonprofit organizations and 6,000 volunteers!

“Volunteers are a big part of what makes Granite United Way successful. Through its partnership with Volunteer NH, Granite United Way has been able to expand its Day of Caring throughout the state, making it the largest service project in the New Hampshire, and engage more of our stakeholders in strategic ways that advance the common good. Through the Day of Caring we engage more than 1,100 volunteers in an investment of service time worth $101,112.”

Patrick Tufts President and CEO Granite United Way

Find VRrecruiter online
volunteernh.org

Contact
info@volunteernh.org
(603) 271-7200
NEW HAMPSHIRE stats

28.1% of residents volunteered formally and 67% informally
(A volunteer’s time has value: $22.86 per hour!)
288,490 residents contributed 32.2 million hours of service estimated at a total value of $736.1 million

Volunteer NH helps make service happen

Administered 4 AmeriCorps Programs with 150 members who performed 255,000 hours of service – worth a value of $5,829,300

Connected over 1,500 volunteers with service

Trained 183 volunteer professionals and over 500 volunteers

Facilitated communication with various service organizations including the NH VOAD (NH Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) managing hundreds of volunteers

Recognized 109 individuals and groups for service

Coordinated three major national services days and partnered on the United Way Day of Caring

Consulted with 40 businesses on employee volunteerism
Volunteer NH engages businesses across the state to support volunteerism.

Tapping into the power of business resources, Volunteer NH increased private sector partnerships and promoted VRecruiter as a tool to engage corporate volunteers. Beginning in December 2013 and continuing through June 2014, Volunteer NH and New Hampshire Businesses For Social Responsibility (NHBSR) hosted four corporate roundtable discussions. The discussions connected Volunteer NH to 40 business leaders who left with new ideas and best practices to assist their companies in engaging employees in volunteer service, and Volunteer NH gained valuable insight into corporate volunteerism, a growing force in New Hampshire. Volunteer NH has begun to provide more services to employee volunteer programs, and has included corporate volunteer sessions into the training curriculum for the annual Governor’s Conference on Volunteerism. Volunteer NH staff learned from New Hampshire companies and was able to successfully replicate a model for an employee volunteer fair that will be utilized throughout the State.

Strengthening ties with our supporters, Volunteer NH developed new and long term partnerships in 2014. Bellwether Community Credit Union committed to a five-year Legacy Sponsorship of the Spirit of New Hampshire awards. The Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare Foundation developed a new relationship with Volunteer NH and sponsored the 2014 Community Pillar Reception honoring the Grappone Family. Fidelity Investments contributed to Volunteer NH and received support to match their employee volunteers with local opportunities. Our partnership with Citizens Bank recognized 10 “Good Citizen” volunteers at their local branches, where each recipient received a contribution, provided by Citizens Bank, to their favorite charity.

The 2014 Volunteer NH Charity Golf Tournament was a huge success. Normandeau Associates was our gold sponsor for this event, and 25 new business partners joined Volunteer NH for our very first signature fundraiser. Seventy-two golfers enjoyed perfect weather at the Wentworth By The Sea Country Club and everyone had an excellent time, in support of service. Given the great success of the first tournament, Volunteer NH will continue this event, growing our capacity and strengthening partnerships each year.
To express our gratitude and demonstrate our support for volunteers, and to inspire New Hampshire citizens to become or remain civically engaged, Volunteer NH recognizes service.

The 2014 Spirit of New Hampshire Awards was the largest to date! In its twelfth year as a statewide volunteer recognition program, the Awards received a record number of nominations. Volunteer NH presented 109 awards to individuals of all ages, and to groups, businesses, and nonprofits for their commitment to their communities. A diverse group of volunteers shared their successes, and the evening was filled with positive, community-transformative energy from volunteers and supporters of service.

SERVICE SPOTLIGHT
Doug Moorhead, Police Chief of Lincoln-Woodstock, received the prestigious Spirit of New Hampshire Award for his outstanding service. Doug can be found lending a hand all over Lincoln-Woodstock. During the holidays, Doug led efforts that secured over three tons of food, toys, and clothing. He organizes fundraisers, events for seniors, and Special Olympics winter games.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT
The Community Pillar Award recipient is selected by the Volunteer NH Board of Directors and is awarded to a person, business or organization who goes above and beyond in service and civic engagement. The 2014 Community Pillar Award was given to the Grappone Family and accepted by Amanda Grappone-Osmer on behalf of the family at the Community Pillar Reception. The reception and awards ceremony brought community leaders, volunteers, and Volunteer NH staff and board members together to celebrate the rewards of service in the state, and to reinforce the commitments to volunteers and community.
GOVERNOR’S CONFERENCE ON VOLUNTEERSISM
May 20, 2014 marked the 31st Annual Governor’s Conference on Volunteerism. This volunteer management training conference had a strong local focus. Wendy Brock, of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, delivered the keynote address, reflecting on her career with volunteers in New Hampshire. Over 150 conference attendees chose from twenty-two sessions, from recruiting veterans as volunteers to using social media. Governor Maggie Hassan recognized Lauren Kochakian of the UpReach Therapeutic Riding Center with the Outstanding Volunteer Manager of the Year Award.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING
At Volunteer NH our disaster response programs include: NH Citizen Corps, CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), NHDART (NH Disaster Animal Response Team) and NHVOAD (NH Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster). We continue to recruit faith-based and service response organizations and grow volunteer capacity throughout the State with training focused on shelter operations for humans and pets. During disasters, these trained volunteers provide invaluable services to people displaced as a result of damage to their homes.

2014 TRAININGS
• NH Emergency Preparedness Conference
• NH Integrated Volunteer Training Conference
• 6 local DART trainings
• 6 local CERT trainings

Top: Lauren Kochakian accepting the award for Outstanding Volunteer Manager of the Year with: Governor Maggie Hassan, Volunteer NH Board Chair Pam Hall, Volunteer NH Executive Director Gretchen Berger-Wabuti and Fidelity Investments Vice President of Public Affairs Joe Murray.
Bottom: Volunteer NH training mannequins
Volunteer NH leverages the power of volunteers to prepare for, and respond to, disasters in the Granite State.

**Citizens Corps** creates opportunities for individuals to volunteer to help their communities prepare for and respond to emergencies by bringing together local leaders, citizen volunteers and the network of first responder organizations. There are 26 registered NH Citizen Corps Councils in NH.

**CERT** (Community Emergency Response Teams) provides training in emergency preparedness and in basic response techniques to local trainers who in turn train citizens, enabling them to take a more active role in personal and public safety within their community, regionally, or state-wide. There are 26 registered CERT programs in NH with over 800 active volunteers.

“Creating a strong base of active volunteers and embedding the CERT program into the Nashua Office of Emergency Management has created a strong and secure foundation for the program to expand over the next few years.”

Justin Kates, Director of Emergency Management, City of Nashua

**VOAD** (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), NH’s statewide network of service and faith based response organizations, allows communication, collaboration, coordination and cooperation between 40 organizations managing hundreds of trained volunteers.

“The strength of the VOAD lies within the volunteers affiliated with our member organizations. They are ready to respond during times of emergency to support their neighbors across the state.”

Maria Devlin, CEO American Red Cross NH/VT

**NHDART** (NH Disaster Animal Response Teams) provides a coordinated effort in preparation, prevention, response and recovery phases for any disasters or significant public emergencies involving animals including pet friendly shelters.

“The evolution of NHDART from an idea to an effective operation over a few short years fills a critical need in the protection of NH residents during disasters”.

Dr. Crawford, State Veterinarian
City Year’s community based teams, in partnership with New Hampshire schools, seek to ensure NH’s youth make healthier choices in their lives, remain academically engaged, and increase their performance and accomplishments.

46 members at 6 sites:
Saw 346 students to the completion of an AmeriCorps Education program
Engaged 110 students in mentoring or tutoring programs
Increased the academic performance of 235 students

Program Contact: Megyn McClure
(603) 218-5126, mmcclure08@cityyear.org

SCA New Hampshire Corps serves NH’s lands and community by protecting natural areas through extensive conservation projects, and by providing educational and interpretative programming to promote environmental understanding and stewardship.

29 members at 51 sites:
Improved 70 miles of trails and 48 acres of public land and parks
Educated 4712 individuals on environmentally conscious practices and 1093 in energy efficiency

Program Contact: Bryan Blankenstein
(603) 485-2191, bblankenstein@thesca.org

AmeriCorps Victims Assistance Program collaborates to expand the network of services available to victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence by partnering with agencies across New Hampshire.

27 members at 21 sites:
Provided health education to 2543 clients
Assisted 873 survivors in completing the restraining order process

Program Contact: Marie Linebaugh
(603) 224-8893, marie@nhcadsv.org

Granite State Education Corps Members, placed in schools and nonprofits, serve students in Title 1 and failing schools both in and out of the classroom through mentoring programs, academic support, service learning, and outreach in rural and urban communities.

38 members at 15 sites:
Engaged 409 students with services
Saw 240 students to the completion of an AmeriCorps education program
Increased the academic performance of 87 students

Program Contact: Scott Dupee
(603) 223-0603, scott.dupee@goodwillnne.org

“Volunteer NH is a hub, a connector for service. Volunteer NH develops the grassroots movement of volunteerism and service throughout the state at all different levels, as well as provides resources and opportunities for training.”

Marie Linebaugh, AVAP Program Director
In 2014, Volunteer NH Service Alliance planned and implemented four events in cities across NH – uniting AmeriCorps State, National, and Senior Corps programs in service to NH communities. These events draw attention to service and make a concentrated impact with 150 or more members participating on a given day.

MLK DAY January 19
“Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve.” 176 AmeriCorps members gathered to learn, and perform service in Manchester to honor the legacy of service of the great Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

AMERICORPS WEEK March 14
187 members assembled to be recognized and complete 12 service projects throughout the cities of Concord and Manchester NH.

A DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE September 11
To honor the tragedies of 9/11, 140 AmeriCorps National Service members joined 700 volunteers across the state to participate in the United Way’s Day of Caring. The volunteers completed 130 service projects in different regions of NH.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICORPS CELEBRATION September 12
145 members recited their service pledge at the Manchester City Hall, during a live stream from the White House led by President Obama, former Presidents Bush and Clinton, and Corporation for National and Community Service CEO Wendy Spencer.

Volunteer NH serves as the State Service Commission for the Corporation for National and Community Service, and administers approximately $1.6 million of federal funding to AmeriCorps programs in the Granite State.
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