

NOVEMBER 2011



# Youth Ambassadors IN SERVICE



## Awarded Again! CGI AmeriCorps Youth Ambassador Program

Connecting Generations has been awarded a competitive AmeriCorps Grant for \$125,000 for the second year in a row! Like last year the grant is being used to support 10 AmeriCorps members to serve as Mentor Coordinators in schools in New Castle County and Capital School District. The mentor coordinators, called Youth Ambassadors (YAs), help to recruit, place and train mentors. The members then support those mentors in partnering site-based programs. The grant was developed in partnership with Communities in Schools of Delaware, and both organizations are committed to making this program a success and promoting an ethic of service in communities throughout the state.

The 2010-2011 Youth Ambassadors were able to set a substantial amount of ground work for the 2011-2012 mentoring year. For the 2011-2012 year Connecting Generations will be using the grant award to enroll 10 new AmeriCorps members for another year of service. So far we have placed 9 new AmeriCorps members, and we are looking to place our 10<sup>th</sup> member soon.

### **2011-2012 Sites**

Bayard Middle School\*  
Booker T. Washington Elementary\*  
Central Middle School\*  
Dover High School  
Fairview Elementary School  
Newark High School  
Richardson Park Elementary School  
South Dover Elementary School\*  
Stanton Middle School\*  
Towne Point Elementary School  
William Penn High School\*

\*Returning sites



*2011-2012 Delaware's AmeriCorps  
Members at Legislative Hall after the  
AmeriCorps Swearing-In Ceremony*

## What is AmeriCorps?

AmeriCorps is a federal volunteer program where AmeriCorps members commit to serve as a full-time volunteer for a full service year (11 months).

Fulltime AmeriCorps members must serve 1700 service hours to successfully complete their term of service. To meet that goal our AmeriCorps members serve a minimum of 40 hours a week.

During their term of service members receive a modest living allowance, health coverage, a child care allowance (if eligible) and an opportunity to make a difference in their communities. After successfully completing their service year AmeriCorps members are eligible to receive a \$5,500 Education Award.

For more information go to:

[www.americorp.gov](http://www.americorp.gov)

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# 2010-2011 Wrap-Up IN SERVICE



(Above) 2011-12 YAs Margo Price and Waleed Floyd recruiting at Wilmington's Fall Festival (Below) 2011-12 YA Dionta Cox recruiting at Proctor & Gamble in Dover, DE



## Save the Date

### 2012 Mentoring Works! Mentor Summit

On **January 31, 2012** Connecting Generations will host the Mentoring Works! Mentor Summit at the Dover Sheraton. The Mentor Summit brings together mentors, mentor coordinators and mentor supporters from around the state to network, and to provide innovative ways to grow mentoring programs and to encourage more effective mentoring relationships.

### Become a Mentor!

If you have 30 minutes to an hour once a week consider changing the life of a child! It only takes a little time to make a world of difference in the life of an elementary, middle or high school student!

Also, consider making a donation of gently used books, games, etc. Go to:

[www.creativementoring.org](http://www.creativementoring.org) for details.

## 2010-2011 Highlights

Last year the Youth Ambassadors were able to make significant strides for mentor programming at their sites. A few highlights included:

- During the 2010-2011 year Youth Ambassadors participated in over **200 mentor recruitment events**
- Coordinated support of almost **300 mentors** who mentored for **412 mentees** for **4,225 hours!**
- In schools where there was a full-time Youth Ambassador **74%** of the mentored students **improved or maintained their grades** and **64%** **improved or maintained their attendance.**
- In schools where there was a full-time Youth Ambassador **100%** of **mentors reported that they enjoyed their mentoring experience.**

I want to thank the 2010-2011 members for all of their service! Thank you all for helping to make the year a success!

## 2011-2012 Scheduled Events

- \***Stuff the Bus**- 10/03- 11/08 (BTW)
- \***CIS "Film Trip"** - 11/9
- \***Basket Brigade**- 11/16 (Fairview)
- \***AmeriCorps CERT Emergency training**- 12/12 & 12/13
- \***Holiday Card and Craft Family Activity**- 12/6 (Central)
- \***National Mentoring Month**- January
- \***Martin Luther King Day of Service**- 1/16
- \***Mentor Summit**- 1/31
- \***"Shoes-to-Share" Drive**- 11/1-01/31 (Bayard)

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## Meet the 2011-2012 Youth Ambassadors!

### **Waleed Floyd**

Bayard Middle School\*

Service and the value of education has always been a prevalent part of my life. I served 7.5 years in the Navy and then decided that my true passion is to serve others as a medical professional. As a youth I received the support of a mentor, so while I am working to obtain my medical degree I wanted to have the opportunity to return that gift by being a mentor while also helping to support others.

### **Christina Saadeh**

Richardson Park Elementary School

Hi! I am a recent UD graduate, and I spent the past 2 summers coordinating community service activities through YouthWorks. Now I am using all I learned to coordinate mentor programming at Richardson Park, and I couldn't be happier! My faith is the most important thing in my life, and I wouldn't be where I am today without God! My goal is to ensure that students feel truly loved and cared for by their mentors.

### **Sheryl Hill-Dyer**

Booker T. Washington Elementary School\*

I am originally from Brooklyn, New York and graduated from Johnson and Providence Wales University in Rhode Island. I am a mother of two and I enjoy reading, traveling, jazz music, cooking and bargain shopping. My goal for this year is to recruit 35 new mentors for my site and serve the Delaware AmeriCorps programs well as a member of the DEIC council.

### **Gail Garner\*\***

Central Middle School\*

I was born in Colorado and then moved to Maryland shortly before turning 9. I have been involved in education for 29 years. My personal goal for my second year as a YA is to coordinate a school-wide, district-wide and county-wide service project.

\*Returning sites

\*\* Returning members

### **Margo Price**

Stanton Middle School\*

I am serving my second term of service with AmeriCorps. Having finished my first term as a VISTA Family Services Coordinator in Arizona I decided to return to my hometown of Wilmington to serve as a YA. I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. My motto is: "In a world where you can be anything, be yourself".

### **Anda Roberts-Bryant\*\***

South Dover Elementary School\*

I am a mother of 3 beautiful young ladies. I enjoy traveling and volunteering. Currently I am a full-time student studying Behavioral Science at Wilmington University. My personal goal is to graduate with my undergraduate degree and start the Masters of Social Work degree at UD. I am serving a second term as a YA.

### **Adib Rushdan**

William Penn High School\*

I am a proud alumnus of William Penn High School graduating with honors in 2001. In 2006 I graduated from UD with a bachelor's degree in Medical Technology, and shortly thereafter I graduated from Walden University with a Masters in Public Health. My future goal is to serve the community as a physician and to live a purposeful life.

### **Dionta Cox**

Towne Point Elementary School

I am a Baltimore native and a graduate of St. Augustine's College in North Carolina with a Major in Mass Communications. Currently I am looking to earn my Masters degree in Education. My goals for this year are to recruit 30 new mentors, to conduct 2 school-wide service projects and to increase parent involvement.

### **Natalie Way**

Fairview Elementary School/ Dover High School

I am a second year AmeriCorps member. I am a mother of two and the grandmother of two. I graduated from Caesar Rodney High School, Del. Tech. and Delaware State University. I love to travel and meet people from diverse cultures. My personal goal for this year is to continue doing what I love.

**IN SERVICE TO DELAWARE, GETTING THINGS DONE FOR AMERICA.**

# Youth Ambassadors **IN SERVICE**

In Service to Delaware,  
Getting Things Done For America.

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