



Mini-Grant Application

“YOUth Can!”

Due March 15, 2010

Presented by



Coordinated by the Nebraska InterCorps Council
a collaboration of AmeriCorps members in service in Nebraska





YOUth Can!
Global Youth Service Day Mini-Grant Application:

Thank you for your interest

What: ServeNebraska, the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission, is making funding available to organizations, schools, programs and institutions to develop, coordinate and implement small projects that will engage Nebraska youths in service to their local communities in conjunction with Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25, 2010. Applications should address this year's theme: "YOUth Can!" Our goal is to include as many youth as possible and help them build a strong service and service-learning foundation. Details on Global Youth Service Day can be found here: <http://gysd.org/>

Your application should support Nebraska youth in local one-day or continuous service projects with a service-learning component. Please submit a full application (attached), including a detailed proposed budget and project description. The complete application should not be longer than five (5) pages.

There are two pools of funding available – one for efforts benefiting any Nebraska youth and the other specifically focused on engaging youth with disabilities. Please state which pool of funds you are applying for within your application. ***The mini-grant awards for both pools will be capped at \$500.00.***

Deadline: To apply for a ServeNebraska Global Youth Service Day mini-grant, please complete and return the attached application form no later than **Monday, March 15, 2010 at 5:00 pm CST** to Greg Donovan at greg.donovan@nebraska.gov . If email submission is not an option, hard copies by fax [402-471-6249] or delivery/mail to:

Greg Donovan
ServeNebraska
6th Floor/State Capitol Building
PO Box 98927
Lincoln, NE 68509-8927

Selection Criteria: Projects may be chosen based on the following criteria: number of engaged youth volunteers; cost-effectiveness; location; and proposed impact. Preference will be given to projects with multiple funding sources; projects that engage and/or serve individuals with disabilities, particularly children; projects that occur in central - and/or western - Nebraska; and projects that have a cost-per-youth ratio of \$1.00 per 1 youth or better. Applicants are encouraged to provide matching funds (cash and/or In-kind). Please provide information in the budget portion of the application about intended match resources. ServeNebraska reserves the right to award partial funding based on the applicants proposed budget and project description.

Allowable use of funds: Funds are limited and meant to be used for direct programming needs. Allowable uses of funds are project materials, transportation for participants, food, beverages and other necessary refreshments, venue or material rentals. Funds may not be used to cover personnel costs.

Reporting: If you are chosen for a mini-grant award you will be required to provide service data, including the number of youth engaged, number of service beneficiaries, and items created as applicable. Additionally, you will be required to submit a one-page project summary narrative at the conclusion of the Global Youth Service Day activity.



The United Methodist Ministries Global Youth Service Day Project is designed to bring youth from the metro-Omaha and surrounding rural areas together to accomplish one significant group service project. The goal is to engage youth in a fun project that will foster a mindset of continued service and potential community needs that they can make an impact on immediately. The day of service includes a justice component as participants are asked to look deeper at the systemic issues of the community and identify ways that they can as an individual or group foster change in how the local, national and global communities address specific problems.

United Methodist Ministries believes strongly that youth leadership is key to making broad change on community issues. Youth in service have a passion for change and when given the opportunity can lead and educate others on building effective methods of continued service to the community. It is that belief that has led to the incorporation of a justice component into the Global Youth Service Day model. Through Global Youth Service Day, United Methodist Ministries has the opportunity to train youth to identify community problems and determine solutions to those problems. This training focuses on empowering them to become effective agents of community change.

4. Project Location (Complete Address): **Hanscom Park United Methodist Church
(starting location)
4444 Frances Street
Omaha, NE 68105**

5. Does your project include a Service-Learning approach: **Yes** **No**

If yes, please describe:

In order to have a lasting impact on the volunteers they need to be able to understand the importance of the work and be challenged to identify the community needs the project or agency meets and other needs that the project or agency can potentially meet. Participants will learn about local and global community issues, cultural and economic differences in their communities, power of creative thinking, ecological responsibility and teamwork. All site leaders will be responsible to engage the participants in discussions surrounding these specific issues as well as challenge the participants to think of other methods to meeting more needs through community changing projects and agencies.

6. If your project includes youth with disabilities or focuses on serving those with disabilities, describe how:

7. Does your project plan to engage youth not normally asked to serve: **Yes** **No**

If yes, please explain:

Global Youth Service Day is open to all youth and will include youth from underserved neighborhoods and communities who are normally not asked to participate in community-wide activities. This includes youth who attend the Pearl and Clair Community Centers that do not receive the opportunities to leave their neighborhoods and rarely are asked to participate in a fun community service activity. Participants will also be recruited from the Hispanic communities. These youth are normally isolated from community work due to the language barrier but since some of our volunteers are bi-lingual these youth will have the opportunity to participate. Another target group is youth from rural communities who rarely receive the opportunity to serve in a metro atmosphere and are limited by geography.



8. How will your project meet the needs of your community:

All participants will be working at agencies and with projects that serve those that are living at or below poverty level. Due to the current economic situation these agencies are seeing an increased need for their services and need assistance in meeting the number of requests received. The youth participating in Global Youth Service Day will be able to assist these agencies immediately by completing projects such as building community garden beds, stocking pantry shelves, filling food bags and sorting donations. The educational component helps the participants recognize where the need exists in the community and identify opportunities to engage others in a long-term process.

9. Day(s) completing service: April 23 April 24 April 25 Other: _____

10. How will you recruit volunteers for this project:

Youth will be recruited through United Methodist Church Junior/Senior high youth groups, after-school programs at community centers such as the Hispanic Ministries Community Center, Clair Community Center and Pearl Community Center, and statewide United Methodist Youth events such as Confirmation Day. In addition, youth from other denominations and community agencies will be invited to participate in an effort to continue to provide an opportunity for service to those not normally included.

11. How will you involve youth in leadership roles:

Young adults over the age of 18 will be assisting with Global Youth Service Day as site leaders. The site leaders will instruct the teams on the work that needs to be completed and engage the teams in discussions regarding the impact of project or agency on meeting community needs, observations about the neighborhood and food security issues. These site leaders will serve as role models for the teams in terms of leadership and community activism.

12. How many youth are involved in the planning of this service project: _____

13. Is this project a collaboration with another service day: Yes No

If yes, which one(s) and with whom:

14. What supplies or resources will be necessary to complete this project:

The United Methodist Ministries Global Youth Service project will need composting soil, work gloves, tools, bus transportation and lunches for participants.

15. What is the plan for participant and volunteer transportation to the project location?

United Methodist Ministries will be renting buses for transportation to all project sites from the central meeting location.

16. How will you track numbers of volunteers and volunteer service hours:



Volunteers will be asked to pre-register for the day and all participants will meet a central specified location prior to breaking into teams and following the work day. Each site will also have an adult site coordinator who will be responsible for recording the number of youth and the hours completed.

17. What will the end result of your project be:

The end result of this project will be the participation of at least 150 youth in service at agencies that address local food security needs. The participants will have a grasp of the issues of food security poverty and have identified ways to advocate, educate and take action to solve problems within the local, national and global communities. It will also create a personal connection for the youth involved with the service project with these agencies as a whole so that they will no longer be one time volunteers but continued volunteers.

18. How will you know your project was a success:

The project will be a success gauged on the number and diversity of the youth involved; the exposure of the youth to different and unique neighborhoods, community needs and opportunities to create change; and the completion of the assigned service. We will also ask participants to complete a brief written post-event evaluation.

Budget Summary (Be as detailed as possible)

1. Please present the full budget for the project, highlighting other sources of funds.

Materials/ Supplies:

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
Work Gloves/Tools	100	200	The Big Garden	300
Composting Soil	100	800	The Big Garden	900
<i>Sub-Total</i>				

Travel (mileage, food costs):

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
Lunches	200	600	United Methodist Ministries	800
Bus Rentals	100	300	United Methodist Ministries	400
<i>Sub-Total</i>				

Other:

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST



<i>Sub-Total</i>			

Total:	500	1900	2400
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2. Budget Narrative: Please describe why the requested funds are necessary for the success of this project.

The United Methodist Ministries Global Youth Service Day project works in partnership with other agencies and projects. One partnership is with the Big Garden, a community garden initiative in the metro-Omaha area. The request for composting soil will help the youth participants create the raised garden beds at the sites for use by the surrounding neighborhood and volunteers. Each raised bed created will be a garden plot for an individual or family to grow their own fresh vegetables. Work gloves purchased for Global Youth Service Day will then be used throughout the growing season at the respective sites.

United Methodist Ministries will be renting a minimum of two school buses to transport the volunteers to the service sites. The buses will eliminate the need for the volunteers to have access to their own transportation and will ensure that the volunteers arrive at the sites in a timely manner.

Healthy sack lunches will be provided for each participant and the mileage is for the delivery of those lunches to the sites. The lunches are to be prepared by volunteers from Dietz United Methodist Church Brown Bag Lunch Program that provides lunches to the homeless on a weekly basis. The youth participants will then have another opportunity for learning about the community issue of homelessness.