



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.



2010 Global Youth Service Day Mini Grant Application

1. Contact Information

Contact Name: Julianna Grabianowski

Email youthcoord@volunteerpartners.org **Phone:**402-435-2100

Organization (legal applicant name: Volunteer Linc

Address: : 215 Centennial Mall, Suite 340 Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Youth Contact Person: Julianna Grabianowski

Age: _________ **Email:** youthcoord@volunteerpartners.org

2. Project Details

Organization Type: (Select all that apply)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faith-based | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-profit | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

Which pool of funding are you applying for:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disability Inclusion Youth Service | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Service |
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Community Served: Lincoln, Nebraska

Description of Youth Population (ages, demographics): age 18 + University of Lincoln students, and youth ages 12 – 18 who have Community Service as a probation requirement.

Expected Number of Volunteers: 45

Number of Youth (age 5-25) anticipated out of expected volunteers: 40

3. Please describe your Youth Service Day Project plan and how it is applicable to the “YOUth Can!” theme:

The youth will be asked to paint out graffiti at six or more designated sites around the city of Lincoln, Nebraska. The graffiti sites will be selected from the list of graffiti cases that are reported to the Lincoln Police Department and the Graffiti abatement coordinator at the Lincoln Lancaster Health Department. Preference will be given to addresses that are located in lower to low/moderate income areas. These areas seem to be hit with the most graffiti, and the residents in these areas can least afford to clean it up by themselves.

This project will demonstrate that “YOUth Can!” make a difference in improving the appearance of their surroundings. They can help to deter the crime of graffiti vandalism by painting it out. Research shows that continually painting over or abating graffiti lets the vandals



know that graffiti is not wanted there, and they may give up and stop their activities. Owners of buildings, where graffiti is painted over within 24-48 hours, report that usually graffiti is not put on the property again. Sometimes a second occurrence happens but rarely a third. The students can gain self-confidence in seeing a job “well done”, and an improved appearance in neighborhoods throughout the city of Lincoln.

4. Project Location (Complete Address): The students will gather at the StarTran building at 710 J Street to sign in, get instructions and supplies. The volunteers will do the painting at various designated sites through out the city.

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

If yes, please describe: At least minimally the youth will receive information on the harmful effects of graffiti on citizens and the neighborhoods where it is located. Information on volunteerism and its benefits will be provided to the students.

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:

Given that University students spend most of their time in classes, studying and possibly working students may not have the time or the opportunity to volunteer. Many students may not know of volunteer opportunities in Lincoln because they are from other places. This University sponsored volunteer day gives students the opportunity to participate in a variety of community projects thereby giving back to this community.

The youth on probation most likely do not get asked to volunteer very often. Many of these youth don't have opportunities given to them that would require them to volunteer their time. I have found that many of these youth are only volunteering their time just to be done with the requirements; they do not plan to get anything out of their time spent on a project. Perhaps working along with the University students can show the youth that people volunteer because they want to, not because they have to. It may also motivate them to think about College as a future option, they might not have considered so far.

8. How will your project meet the needs of your community: Graffiti vandalism is an ongoing problem in the city of Lincoln. Because of budget restraints the city does not have the resources to physically or financially address the problem of eliminating graffiti in the city.



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

10. How will you recruit volunteers for this project: The University of Nebraska student volunteers will be recruited by the University of Nebraska as participants in their “Big Event” Service day. The youth on probation will be recruited from the eligible youth on probation through the Juvenile Probation Office.

11. How will you involve youth in leadership roles: I know the University involves youth in leadership roles by having students become team leaders for each community project. These leaders handle contact with the community project coordinator to work out the details for the project. On the day of my project I will have the volunteers divided into teams for each painting site, they will self select a team leader who will be responsible for signing in, recording hours, getting the site location and any specific details for the site, get the team to and from the site, return supplies and sign out.

12. How many youth are involved in the planning of this service project: the Big Event, which is a volunteer service day for the University of Nebraska is all student planned

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

If yes, which one(s) and with whom:
the “Big Event” which is a volunteer service day for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

14. What supplies or resources will be necessary to complete this project: paint and painting supplies such as rollers, roller covers, brushes, roller pans, paint can openers, scrapers, also plastic gloves and bottled water. Paint is already available through the Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful, through their latex paint exchange. This cooperation is beneficial because residents in Lincoln have a place to get rid of their unwanted paint, the paint exchange gives the paint to Lincoln Under Care (volunteers who paint over graffiti) thus they do not have to pay to recycle it; and Lincoln Under Care has paint to paint over graffiti.

15. What is the plan for participant and volunteer transportation to the project location?
Volunteers will supply their own transportation to the central site, car pooling will be used to transport people to the individual sites. Permission will be obtained from the parents of minors so that they can be transported in cars.

16. How will you track numbers of volunteers and volunteer service hours: All of the volunteers will begin at a central location, sign in at the beginning, and when they return supplies at the end of the project they will record volunteer hours.

17. What will the end result of your project be: There will be less graffiti on structures in Lincoln. There will be less vandalism because the graffiti was covered thus deterring the vandals. The



students will learn of the negative effects of graffiti, and see how much work there is in cleaning up graffiti. The students will learn the positive results of volunteering along with organizational skills, leadership skills, and team building. The student volunteers will be recognized on the Volunteer Partners website

18. How will you know your project was a success: There will be less graffiti in Lincoln, Nebraska, and there will have been an effort to stop graffiti vandalism.

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
paint	\$0.00	\$240.00	Paint Exchange	\$240.00
painting supplies	\$150.00	\$50.00	businesses	\$200.00
<i>Sub-Total</i>	\$150.00	\$290.00		\$440.00

Travel (mileage, food costs):

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
"Research" miles	15.00	\$18.00	Volunteer Partners staff	\$33.00
"Day of" Event miles	15.00	\$4.80	Volunteer Partners staff	\$19.80
<i>Sub-Total</i>	30.00	\$22.80		\$52.80

Other:

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
staff	\$71.10	\$71.10	Volunteer Partners Staff	\$142.20
bottled water	\$0.00	\$10.00	business donation	\$10.00
<i>Sub-Total</i>	\$71.10	\$81.10		\$152.20

Total:	\$251.10	\$393.90		\$645.00
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2. Budget Narrative: Please describe why the requested funds are necessary for the success of this project.

While much of this project is being supported by in-kind donations from Volunteer Partners, such as staffing and mileage, and paint is donated from the Household Hazardous Waste Latex Paint Exchange which is sponsored by Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department, there is the need for painting supplies to carry out the graffiti paint out. The funds will be used to purchase the needed painting supplies for the volunteers to use in their efforts to abate some of the graffiti in Lincoln and paint two murals.