

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**United Way  
Community Services  
of Monroe County**

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**AREA NONPROFITS TO BENEFIT FROM AMERICORPS VISIT**

**BLOOMINGTON, Indiana –**

On September 9, eight members of AmeriCorps\*National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) from Denver, Colorado arrived in Bloomington to help several area nonprofits complete important projects. The team is hosted by United Way Community Services of Monroe County.

After attending the United Way kickoff as guests of Indiana University, the team began work Monday on 15 physical improvement projects in 6 local agencies. Renovating a gym roof and creating safe outdoor play areas for children are just a few of the projects that will benefit Amethyst House, Girl Scouts, Girls Incorporated, Harmony School, Monroe County United Ministries, and United Way.

“These AmeriCorps Members bring skills and experience to some of the most persistent issues faced by local nonprofits,” said Barry Lessow, United Way Executive Director. “The impact of their work will be felt for years. This progress would not be possible without the help of AmeriCorps\*NCCC.”

Thanks to the help of the Monroe County Apartment Association, AmeriCorps Members will be provided complimentary housing by Elkins Apartments and Renaissance Rentals during their 7-week stay in Bloomington. Long’s Landing, Cinergy, Opie Taylor’s, Macri’s Deli, and the IU Auditorium are also providing support for the team’s visit.

To support the national hurricane relief efforts, several members of the Monroe County team will be deployed temporarily to the hurricane impact zone. They will be rotating in and out of Monroe County during this period.

The entire AmeriCorps team will leave October 27 and return back to Denver to complete their year of service.

Former AmeriCorps\*NCCC member and team leader Megan Miller, now a graduate student in the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs, developed the application for the visit while serving as a member of the SPEA Service Corps at United Way.

Founded in 1994, AmeriCorps\*NCCC is a full-time, residential, national service program in which 1,200 18- to 24-year-olds serve each year. During their 10-month term, AmeriCorps Members work on teams of 8-12 on projects that address compelling, self-identified community needs. These projects, usually lasting six to eight weeks each, improve the environment, enhance education, increase public safety, address unmet human needs, and assist with disaster relief. The Central Region campus in Denver, Colo., is one of five regional hubs in the United States and serves 17 states in the central part of the country.

The other campuses are located in Perry Point, Md., Washington, D.C., Charleston, S.C., and Sacramento, Calif.

In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps Members receive \$4,725 to help pay for college, or to pay back existing student loans. Other benefits include a small living stipend, leadership development, team building skills, increased self-confidence, and the knowledge that, through active citizenship, people can indeed make a difference.

AmeriCorps\*NCCC is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service. For more information about AmeriCorps\*NCCC, visit the website at [www.americorps.gov/nccc](http://www.americorps.gov/nccc).

The mission of United Way Community Services is to improve people's lives by mobilizing the caring power of our community. Through its Community Care Fund, it allocates resources to 25 member agencies that address the most pressing human service needs in Monroe County. You can find more information at [www.monroeunitedway.org](http://www.monroeunitedway.org).

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