

## Child Welfare Research and Training Project

### AmeriCorps Partnering to Protect Children

*Purpose: Members strengthen families and protect children by building capacity of local communities to implement evidence-informed and evidence-based prevention strategies.*

<b>What Members Do</b>	<p>AmeriCorps Partnering to Protect Children (APPC) members build capacity for local Community Partnerships for Protecting Children (CPPC) and allied agencies to support families and children who face risk of abuse and neglect. They engage local stakeholders in rural and underserved areas at selected sites throughout Iowa to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering in alignment with the mission of Volunteer Iowa</li> <li>✓ Increase capacity to deliver a coordinated response to prevent child abuse and neglect</li> <li>✓ Create new or improved tools, processes, and procedures to increase effectiveness</li> <li>✓ Create outreach tools and processes to engage and improve connections among community stakeholders, service providers, and parents/caregivers</li> </ul>
<b>Services Provided</b>	<p>Members serve at host sites in Iowa to provide capacity building support to achieve locally-identified goals within the four CPPC strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Shared decision making</li> <li>✓ Neighborhood networking</li> <li>✓ Individualized Course of Action</li> <li>✓ Policy and Practice Changes</li> </ul>
<b>Skill Development Opportunity Examples</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Teamwork and communication</li> <li>✓ Organization and networking skills</li> <li>✓ Volunteer engagement and management</li> </ul>
<b>With Whom Members Interact during their Service Year</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Local agency host site supervisors and staff</li> <li>✓ Community members and leaders</li> <li>✓ Service providers and families/caregivers</li> <li>✓ Iowa Department of Human Services staff</li> <li>✓ APPC members</li> <li>✓ ISU's APPC leadership</li> </ul>
<b>Benefit for AmeriCorps Members</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Learn effective ways to collaborate with local communities</li> <li>✓ Participate in valuable personal and professional development</li> <li>✓ Build solid networks</li> <li>✓ Develop an appreciation for community service</li> <li>✓ Receive a stipend and educational award</li> </ul>
<b>Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Annual grant from Volunteer Iowa and cost match from the Iowa Department of Human Services Bureau of Child Welfare and Community Services</li> </ul>